

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
HELD ON 16th JANUARY, 2020
AT NELSON TOWN HALL**

PRESENT –

Councillor M. Iqbal (Chairman – in the Chair)

Councillors

N. Ahmed

D. Clegg

S. Cockburn-Price

M. S. Foxley

P. J. Foxley

M. Goulthorp

Y. Iqbal

A. Mahmood

B. Newman

J. Nixon

M. Sakib

D. M. Whipp

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J. Henderson)

Also present:

Councillor N. McGowan

Councillor K. Turner

Officers in attendance:

Dean Langton

Chief Executive

Philip Mousdale

Corporate Director

Craig Finn

Financial Services Manager

Jane Watson

Head of Democratic Services



The following people attended the meeting and spoke on the items indicated:

Steve Moore

Lodge at Walton Lane Cemetery, Nelson

Minute No. 130(a)

Barbara Moore

Jim Fitzpatrick

Andrew Hubbard

Milton Roberts

Land at Lenches Road, Colne

Minute No. 130(b)



117.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the requirements of the Member Code of Conduct concerning the declaration of interests.

118.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if votes made tonight could be included in the minutes. It was explained that the Council's Constitution did not allow for this and therefore votes would not be recorded in the minutes.

119.

MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 21st November, 2019 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

120.

GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2020/21

The Chief Executive submitted a report on the Revised Budget for 2019/20 along with the draft Base Budget for 2020/21 for initial consideration.

The report also provided an update on the key issues relating to the development of the Budget for 2020/21 and the Medium Term Financial Plan. Committee were asked to give consideration to the development of a budget for 2020/21 and the Medium Term Financial period to 2022/23.

RESOLVED

- (1) That in view of the seriousness of the Council's forecast financial position over the medium term, the report be shared with all Councillors so that they were fully aware of the position.
- (2) That the Revised Budget for 2019/20 be approved.
- (3) That the issues arising from the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement for 2020/21 be noted and the draft response in relation to the consultation, attached at Appendix A to the report, be approved.
- (4) That the draft Base Budget for 2020/21, the forecast Medium Term Financial Plan and the current assumptions underpinning both be noted.
- (5) That the budget position of the Pendle Leisure Trust and the proposals they had proposed, as shown in Appendix F attached to the report, noted.
- (6) That the financial planning assumption of a Band D Council Tax increase of 1.99%, in accordance with the Council Tax Referendum Principles included in the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement for 2020/21 be noted.
- (7) That as part of the development of the Committee's Budget Strategy for 2020/21:
 - (i) it be noted that the outline savings proposals shown in Appendix I attached to the report, along with the emerging budget strategy for 2020/21 and the Management Team's budget proposal for the year will be presented to Committee at its meeting in February, 2020;
 - (ii) in the context of the Council's forecasted budget deficit over the medium term, undertake a review of the draft Base Budget for 2020/21 to identify any areas where further savings proposals might be brought forward for consideration as part of the budget process.
- (8) That the timetable for the remainder of the budget process, as set out in the report, be noted.

REASON

To continue with the implementation of the Council's Financial Strategy and to inform the development of the Council's budget for 2020/21.

**121. DEVELOPING THE MEDIUM TERM CAPITAL PROGRAMME
2020/21 TO 2022/23**

The Chief Executive submitted a report which provided an update on the Capital Programme in the current year and outlined the initial Capital Programme for 2020/21 to 2022/23.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the projected position on the Capital Programme for 2019/20, as shown in Appendix A attached to the report, be noted.
- (2) That it be noted that the capital bids submitted for 2020/21 exceeded the projected resources available by £987k and were therefore unaffordable.
- (3) That in view of (b) above the draft Capital Programme for 2019/20, as shown in Appendix C attached to the report, be noted pending a further report to this Committee in February, 2020.
- (4) That the intention to submit an updated strategy for the flexible use of capital receipts in the February cycle of meetings to enable the Council to benefit from this flexibility in 2020/21 be noted.
- (5) That a further report on land disposal be submitted to a subsequent meeting of this Committee.

REASON

To consider the development of the Council's Capital Programme for 2020/21 to 2022/23.

122. EXTENSION OF LOMESHAYE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

The Chief Executive submitted a report which provided an update on the development of the extension of Lomeshaye Industrial Estate and sought agreement on a way forward with the development of Phase 2 of the extension.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the progress made with the development of Phase 1 of the extension of Lomeshaye Industrial Estate be noted.
- (2) That delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive, in consultation with Group Leaders to:-
 - (i) subject to (ii) below enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) for Growth Deal grant of £4m;
 - (ii) subject to obtaining adequate security to mitigate the risk of grant clawback from the

LEP, to enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with Pendle Park Ltd., on the basis of the Heads of Terms provided at Appendix B attached to the report.

REASON

To provide the Committee with an update on the development of the Lomeshaye Industrial Estate Phase 1 and to seek agreement on a way forward with the delivery of Phase 2.

123. LAND AT WHITEWALLS DRIVE/GREENFIELD ROAD, COLNE

The Chief Executive submitted a report following receipt of a request via solicitors from the owner of the above site which they acquired from the Council. The transfer contained obligations and restrictions and the request was to remove/vary the restrictions and to give consent for a different use than that permitted by the Development Brief prior to planning permission being obtained.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the request for a variation to the terms agreed in the transfer in 2001 be agreed but a premium be requested.
- (2) That delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive, in consultation with Group Leaders, to negotiate and agree the amount of the premium and in doing so to ascertain from the owner the proposals for the development of the site.

REASON

A precedent had been set previously regarding development of the 'open land' and the benefit of development of the larger site outweighed the benefit derived from enforcement of the covenant or requirements of the Development Brief. The request would enable a more straight forward future sale. The site would also require planning permission but Council's approval would not be needed following planning as prescribed in the original transfer.

124. NELSON TOWN DEAL GOVERNANCE

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager submitted a report requesting approval to the governance arrangements for Nelson Town Deal. This was a requirement as part of the Government's Town Deal funding. The Board would develop a Town Investment Plan and details of its membership and governance were set out in the report.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the establishment of a Town Deal Board be agreed.
- (2) That the revised governance arrangements for developing strategies and funding proposals for Nelson, as set out in the report, be agreed.
- (3) That the Pendle Council Elected Members who were on the current Nelson Town Centre Advisory Group be nominated as the Council's representatives on the Town Deal Board.
- (4) That the draft Terms of Reference of the Town Deal Board be agreed subject to a change to

the membership of the Board in that the Nelson and Colne College representative be from the Youth Council but it be noted that these were still subject to agreement by the Board.

- (5) That Pendle Council act as the Accountable Body for the Towns Fund and provide secretariat support to the Town Deal Board.
- (6) That the Chief Executive be granted delegated authority, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to agree the final membership of the Board.

REASONS

- (1) ***To meet the requirements of the Towns Fund Prospectus.***
- (2) ***To provide clear decision making.***

125. BANKHOUSE ROAD SITE, NELSON

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager submitted a report which sought approval for the Council to work exclusively with Calico Homes for a period of 9 months on proposals for a housing scheme, including Extra Care, for the Bankhouse Road site in Nelson.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Council works exclusively with Calico Homes to:
 - (i) work up the details of a housing scheme including Extra Care for the Bankhouse Road site in Nelson;
 - (ii) develop the legal terms under which the scheme would be developed and delivered.
- (2) That a proposal be brought back to this Committee for agreement by September, 2020.

REASONS

- (1) ***To give Calico Homes the confidence to invest their time and resources into progressing the scheme to the next stage.***
- (2) ***To keep members up to date with progress and to give a defined time period in which to bring back a proposal for the site.***

126. PROPOSED REVISED B-WITH-US ALLOCATIONS POLICY

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager submitted a report on the revised B-with-Us Allocations Policy which had been out for consultation via a survey from 13th December, 2019 until 24th January, 2020.

It was noted that the proposed changes were relatively minor and were highlighted in Appendix 2 attached to the report.

RESOLVED

That subject to any minor changes being made to the Allocations Policy following the consultation exercise, delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive to confirm the Council's acceptance of the new Allocations Policy.

REASON

To ensure that the B-with-Us partnership continues to operate an Allocations Policy that was fully compliant with the legal and regulatory framework for the allocation of social housing.

127. TRANSFER OF SERVICES AND FACILITIES TO TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS

The Corporate Director submitted a report which provided an update on the transfer of parks and responses to the request for a 100% contribution to grounds maintenance; outlined the position on the County Council's proposed upgrade of mainline route bus shelters; sought approval for the transfer of a piece of amenity land to Barrowford Parish Council and considered further the future programme of transfers to Town and Parish Councils.

The Committee received an update on the transfer of Barrowford Memorial Park and Pendle Heritage Centre to Barrowford Parish Council and the contributions to grounds maintenance from other Town and Parish Councils.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the position on the responses to the request for 100% parks grounds maintenance contributions and on future transfers be noted.
- (2) That the position on the County Council refurbishment of mainline route bus shelters be noted.
- (3) That the transfer of amenity land at Dickey Nook to Barrowford Parish Council be approved.
- (4) That the future programme be discussed further with parish and town councils.
- (5) That the Corporate Director be asked to arrange meetings, as necessary, with relevant Town and Parish Councils to discuss future parks transfers and grounds maintenance contributions with all party representation (2:2:2).

REASON

To continue the programme of transfers to town and parish councils.

128. PENDLE ARTS AND CULTURE STRATEGY

The Chief Executive submitted a report on Pendle's Arts and Culture Strategy "Arts, Culture and Creativity in Pendle 2020-2030. From a Fist Full of Mist."

The strategy provided a framework to unlock potential future investment for arts and culture in Pendle. An action plan would be developed and a workshop to develop the plan was scheduled for

29th January. The Pendle Health and Wellbeing Partnership and the Arts Council had already indicated an interest in funding aspects of the emerging plan.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council be recommended to support the Pendle Arts and Culture Strategy and the partnership approach to its development and implementation.

REASON

To maximise and strengthen Pendle's creative offer to help deliver a vibrant and connected Pendle.

129. TENDERS

The Corporate Director submitted, for information, a report on tenders which had been received and accepted.

130. MATTERS REFERRED FROM AREA COMMITTEES

(a) Nelson Cemetery Lodge, Walton Lane, Nelson

At a meeting of the Nelson Committee on 2nd December, 2019 it was resolved:-

- "(1) That the Policy and Resources Committee be recommended not to declare Nelson Cemetery Lodge and the additional area edged black on the map attached to the report surplus to requirements.
- (2) That subject to agreement to (1) above the Policy and Resources Committee be recommended to agree that an application be made to the Secretary of State for the demolition of Nelson Cemetery Lodge."

The report considered by the Committee was submitted for information.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the demolition of Nelson Cemetery Lodge be not pursued.
- (2) That further consideration be given to achieving the maintenance of all the listed building elements of Nelson Cemetery to as high a standard as possible and a report on all options be submitted to a future meeting.
- (3) That a report on remaining cemetery capacity in the Borough be submitted to this Committee.

REASON

In the interests of the local heritage of the area.

(b) Land at Lenches Road, Colne

At a meeting of the Colne and District Committee on 5th December, 2019 it was resolved “that the Policy and Resources Committee be recommended to decline the request for the removal of the various restrictive and positive covenants covering five parcels of land fronting and to the rear of Lenches Road, Colne.”

The report considered by the Committee was submitted for information.

RESOLVED

That the request for the removal of the various restrictive and positive covenants covering five parcels of land fronting and to the rear of Lenches Road, Colne be declined.

REASON

To maintain the current position.

Chairman _____