

REPORT BY THE LEADER ON THE WORK OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The attention of Members is drawn to the following items which have been discussed by the Policy and Resources Committee since the last ordinary meeting of the Council:-

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE 16th DECEMBER, 2021

- **Planning Applications**

We agreed a Permission in Principle for application 21/0389/PIP Permission in Principle: Erection of up to 9 dwellings on land off Cob Lane and Old Stone Trough Lane, Kelbrook.

We also refused the following planning applications:

21/0608/HHO Full: Erection of a two storey side and rear extension at 181 Regent Street, Nelson

21/0760/HHO Full: Erection of a two storey rear extension at 24 Reedyford Road, Nelson

- **Council Taxbase Budget**

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Taxbase England) Regulations 2012 the amount calculated by the Council as its Council Taxbase for the year 2022/23 was agreed at 23,940.6.

We deferred consideration of the Taxbase for parished areas until there was clarity in relation to the changes to the parish boundaries which was agreed by Full Council on 9th December, 2021 and delegated authority was granted to the Chief Executive, in consultation with Group Leaders, to agree this Taxbase.

- **Household Support Fund**

The Committee agreed the Council's Household Support Fund scheme, as submitted. We also granted delegated authority to the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to allow the local scheme to be flexed so that all funds allocated to the Council could be distributed in accordance with the Funding Guidance by the deadline of 31st March, 2022.

- **Bankhouse Road Site, Nelson**

Following the award of £200,000 from the One Public Estate Brownfield Land Release Fund we agreed that Housing 21 and PEARL Together be invited to submit proposals for an Extra Care scheme. A report would be submitted to a future meeting detailing those proposals.

- **Regulation of Skin Piercing Activities**

We recommended Council adopt Sections 14 to 17 of Part VIII of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 which had been further amended by the Local Government Act 2003 within the administrative area of the Council. This was to regulate persons carrying out skin-piercing activities of acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis. We also approved the proposed draft bylaws as set out in the appendix attached to the report relating to businesses and persons providing acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis.

- **Land at Ravenscroft Way, Barnoldswick**

The Committee accepted an offer of £343,000 to purchase the above land, subject to the purchaser obtaining planning permission for the change of use of the land to additional customer

and staff parking for a business adjoining Unit 1 Ravenscroft Way, Barnoldswick, within a maximum period of 6 months from the date of this meeting.

- **Alkincoats Local Nature Reserve (LNR)**

We agreed a request from the Friends of Alkincoats Local Nature Reserve to extend the LNR as shown on the plan attached to the report.

- **TPO Trees**

At a meeting of the West Craven Committee on 2nd November, 2021 the Committee received a report on the process when a Tree Preservation Order was reported. The Committee felt that there needed to be more transparency and the public made aware of the repercussions when a breach of a Tree Preservation Order was reported. We agreed that reports be submitted to the Area Committees, for information, advising of breaches to Tree Preservation Orders.

- **Car Park, Railway Street, Nelson**

The Committee accepted an offer of £18,000 for a 125 year lease on the car park, Railway Street, Nelson and granted authorisation for the Chief Executive to negotiate the other terms.

- **Measures to restrict access to Broadway and other car parks in Nelson Town Centre**

We agreed a supplementary estate of £8,560.00 for the erection of height barriers, including additional works (e.g., signage) on the following car parks in Nelson:

- Booth Street
- Broadway
- New Brown Street
- Palace
- Stanley Street

- **Capital Programme 2021/22**

The Committee considered a request from the West Craven Committee for a £12k contribution towards the full resurfacing of West Close Lorry Park from the central pot. They also requested that Lancashire County Council be asked to match this amount, leaving a £2k contribution from the West Craven Committee. We subsequently refused the request but the decision was called in.

- **Cemetery Lodge, Keighley Road, Colne**

Following a recommendation from Colne and District Committee at its meeting on 2nd December, 2021 we agreed to declare the Cemetery Lodge, Keighley Road, Colne along with an additional area of the Council's land (identified on a plan attached to the report) surplus to requirements in order for it to be sold on the open market, subject to:

- Potential access from Sagar Fold being explored;
- Suitable electric gates being installed or the existing cemetery gates being altered to electric opening to allow for controlled vehicular access and 24 hour pedestrian entry/exit to the cemetery;
- A condition being imposed to ensure that no further development was carried out on the land,

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager has also been authorised to apply for planning permission for the additional area of land to be used as a garden and parking for the property.

- **Problem Sites**

We also requested that a report be submitted to a future meeting on options available for the redevelopment of a site in West Craven, including the possible Compulsory Purchase.

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE 20th JANUARY, 2022

- **Planning Applications**

We approved planning application 21/0769/OUT Outline: Major: Residential development (access only) on land to the west of White Leys Close Earby and requested that detailed schemes required under conditions 9, 18 and 19 be considered by the West Craven Committee as part of the approval process. The planning application 21/0756/HHO Full: Erection of dormers to the front and rear roof slopes at 59 Hargreaves Street, Nelson was approved and planning application 21/0676/REM Reserved Matters: Erection of 14 dwelling houses (appearance, landscaping and layout) for outline permission 18/0821/RES on land opposite the Barn, Ben Lane, Barnoldswick was refused.

- **Levelling Up Fund**

The Committee noted the programme management arrangements; agreed that PEARL Together be selected as the developer for the Market Hall site, Colne, subject to the signing of a Development Agreement; agreed that PEARL Together act as agent for the Council in seeking planning permission for the Market Hall/Bus Station site, Colne and undertake any demolition and site preparation works that were required to ready the site for development; and that a further report be submitted to Committee at an appropriate time to confirm the boundary of the site to be disposed of to PEARL Together and terms of a Development Agreement.

- **Joint Venture Procurement – Agreement to Award a Contract**

We agreed the appointment of Brookhouse Group Limited as the Council's Joint Venture Development Partner who would work with the Council to support delivery of the Nelson Town Deal. We also granted delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with Group Leaders, to finalise terms for the development of a Joint Venture arrangement between the Council and Brookhouse Group Limited.

- **Gambling Act 2005 – Pendle Borough Council Policy 2022-2025**

The Council's Gambling Act 2005 Policy for 2022-2025 was adopted.

- **Parks and Sports Grounds Public Spaces Protection Order**

The Committee approved the renewal of the Orders; agreed a new provision for both Public Spaces Protection Orders that an offence was committed on failure to provide a name and address, or to give a false name and address, when requested by an authorised officer or agent of the Council on observation of another offence under the same Public Spaces Protection Order; noted the amendments to Schedule 1 of the Parks Public Spaces Protection Order to include Blacko Park and Higham Park; noted amendments to Schedule 1 of the Sports Grounds Public Spaces Protection Order to include the Cricket Ground and Playing Field at Foulridge; discussions were also taking place with Earby Town Council in respect of Birley Fields and Barnoldswick Town Council regarding Victory Park, Valley Gardens and Letcliffe Park.

- **Pendle Council Equality Objectives 2022-2026**

We agreed to adopt the Equality Objectives for the period 2022-2026.

- **Potential Housing Compulsory Purchase Order**

The Committee agreed with the recommendations in the report.

SPECIAL BUDGET POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE 10th FEBRUARY, 2022

- **Planning application**

We refused planning application 21/0768/HHO Full: Retrospective application for the erection of a close boarded fence to the North elevation (max 2.4m in height) erection of close boarded fence to Eastern and Southern boundaries (max. 2.5m in height) and two sets of entrance gates to the Western elevation at 251 Hibson Road, Nelson.

- **General Fund Revenue Budget 2022/23**

We referred the Budget to the Special Budget Council meeting on 24th February, 2022 and recommended:

- subject to consideration of the saving proposals for 2022/23 agree to use Council Reserves to pay off the outstanding debt owed by Pendle Leisure Trust (PLT) to release the revenue saving back to the Council by reducing the PLT Management Fee;
- approve introducing a Band D Council Tax for 2022/23 of £281.50, being an increase of £5.49 (1.99%) on the current level of Council Tax;
- require each Service to operate within its budget for 2022/23 once approved and that these budgets be cash limited and subject to regular monitoring and control.

- **Capital Programme 2022/23**

We referred the Capital Programme to the Special Budget Council meeting on 24th February, 2022 and recommended:

- that the forecast outturn position on the Council's Capital Programme for 2021/2022 be noted;
- consideration be given to the proposed Capital Programme for 2022/2023 (Appendix B attached to the report);
- grant delegated authority to the Chief Finance Officer to determine the most appropriate method of financing the Capital Programme for 2022/2023 to ensure the use of resources was optimised by the Council;
- the Prudential Indicators (Appendix C attached to the report) be noted.

- **COVID Omicron Grant and Additional Restrictions Grant Scheme**

We noted the details of the Additional Restrictions Grant Scheme (Pendle Borough Council Round 6) which had been agreed under the Exercise of Urgent Powers.

Councillor N. Ahmed,
Leader,
Pendle Borough Council