

# **REPORT BY THE LEADER ON THE WORK OF THE EXECUTIVE**

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

## **EXECUTIVE 21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**

- **Corporate Plan**

We recommended that Council approve the Plan for 2023/2027.

- **Procurement of IT Solution for Waste Services**

The Assistant Director Operational Services has been authorised to create tender documentation for the procurement of software and hardware solutions. We agreed that funding of approximately £108,000 be set aside to cover the procurement and introduction of the chosen IT system. We also agreed that the annual savings based against fuel expenditure in 2022/23 be ringfenced to Waste Services to provide ongoing funding to cover annual management fees and updates of the selected system.

- **Quarter 1 – Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring 2023/24**

The Executive noted the Quarter 1 position on the Council's Revenue Budget and Capital Programme for 2023/24; noted the decision to remain in the Lancashire Business Rates Pool for 2023/24; noted the changes to the 2023/24 Capital Programme, as detailed in the report and referred to Council for consideration; and approved a supplementary revenue estimate for £56,965, to be funded from reserves, in relation to works required as part of the Leisure Review.

- **Colne Market Hall**

We noted the update provided on the design and planning process. A further report would be submitted to a future meeting regarding tenure options for the housing element of the scheme and the switch of delivery vehicle from PEARL Together to PEARL2. We granted delegated authority to the Director of Place to proceed with the transfer of requisite levels of Levelling Up (LUF) funding into PEARL2 to allow for delivery of the scheme and to supervise the project management of the scheme by the employed and sub-contract regeneration team, ensuring suitable controls on time and budget parameters are in place.

- **Nelson Town Deal Report and Review of the Business Resilience and Growth Programme**

We agreed to amend the criteria of the scheme to include all sectors of the business community but the buffer zone not be extended at this time.

- **UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) People and Skills and Business Grants**

The Executive agreed that the funding within the UKSPF Programme for E33, 34 and 35 be allocated to projects by Active Lancashire and Newground Together; that funding within the UKSPF Programme for E37 be allocated to a project by the University of Central Lancashire; and that the capital allocation of E37 be moved into Intervention E1 in order to benefit the public realm schemes.

We also agreed the introduction of a business grant scheme, to be delivered by Pendle Council, which would meet the requirements of the E19 Intervention and delegated authority was granted to the Director of Place, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, in adjusting the grant

intervention level and grant amounts, as required to incentivise applications to come forward and achieve spend of funds within required timescales.

- **Consultation on Planning Reforms**

We agreed to submit the responses suggested by officers as the Councils formal response to the proposed planning reforms.

- **Land at Regent Street, Colne**

We declared this land surplus to requirements in order for it to be sold and the Director of Place was authorised to negotiate terms of a freehold or long leasehold sale to the adjoining owner. We agreed that if the land was to be disposed of on a long leasehold, that it be sold with a restrictive covenant limiting its use as car parking for the adjoining commercial unit.

- **Land and garage site at Essex Street/Colne Lane, Colne**

The Executive agreed for the removal of the garage structures but that the concrete slabs be retained.

- **Liberata Contract Update**

We recommended Council authorise that negotiations continue.

## **EXECUTIVE 19<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2023**

- **Establishment of a Working Group of the Executive**

We set up a Working Group, constituted of both Executive and Non-Executive Members and a total of nine Members (3:3:3). The Group would undertake a review to examine how the three leisure facilities in Colne, Nelson and West Craven could be made to be financially viable through retrofitting and renewal; to consider the mix of features taking affordability into account, and to consider operating models for the future taking account of what was needed to ensure delivery of requirements for each leisure facility. The findings of the Group are to be reported to Council by the end of this calendar year.

- **Pendle Local Plan – Local Green Spaces**

We agreed that the officer recommendations on the designation of sites as Local Green Space be published and made available for a four-week public consultation, to allow interested parties to comment on the Council's recommendations.

- **Proposed Increase in Hackney Carriage Fares**

The Executive agreed to an increase in the hackney carriage fares, as proposed, and that this proposed increase be advertised in accordance with Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and should no objections be received the increase be implemented.

- **Rediffusion Cables**

We agreed to ask the County Council, as Local Highways Authority, to take urgent action to remove the Rediffusion cables above Frank Street, Barnoldswick, Albert Road, Barnoldswick and Gisburn Road, Barrowford as they were posing a threat to the public.

## **EXECUTIVE 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

- **Quarter 2 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring 2023/24**

We noted the Quarter 2 position for both the Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring reports for 2023/24 and the requirement for a supplementary revenue estimate of £0.377 in respect of contract inflation, which was set out in a separate report.

- **Spring Mill, Bailey Street, Earby**

PEARL Together have been granted a licence for the temporary use of land on Bailey Street, Earby to be used as a contractor car park/compound during the development of the site. We approved the transfer of a landscaped area, to be created as part of the development scheme, fronting onto Chapel Street, Earby subject to terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Place and payment of a commuted sum. We also requested West Craven Committee to enter into discussions with Earby Town Council and any other interested parties to consider an alternative use for the compound area once it was no longer needed and that the developers be advised that the reinstatement of this land may be for something other than a grassed area.

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

We accepted an offer of £197,000 for the property, and the additional areas of the Council's adjoining land, shown cross hatched and hatched on the plan attached to the report, be declared surplus to requirements, in order for them to be included as part of the sale for vehicle access and parking/garden use. The existing cemetery gates are to be altered to electric opening and the works are to be carried out by the Council as soon as practicably possible, but this work should not affect the sale of the property. The opening and closing arrangements for the gates are to allow for controlled vehicular and pedestrian access and 24-hour pedestrian exit, and that there be no breaches to any walls.

- **Carbon Emissions and Carbon Reduction Targets – Review**

We approved the Annual Emissions report and noted progress to date on the 2030 carbon neutral target. We recommended Council agree Option 2 Keep it Carbon Neutral by 2030 funding option to enable effective delivery of an aligned carbon neutral target for the Council. This was subject to the outcome of the Leisure Review and funding being secured.

- **Land fronting 34 Landless Street, Brierfield**

The above site was declared surplus to requirements in order for it to be sold. The Director of Place was granted delegated authority to negotiate terms of a long leasehold sale to the existing tenant of 34 Landless Street with a restrictive covenant that the land be used as a domestic garden only.

- **Land fronting Hurstwood Gardens, Brierfield**

The above site was declared surplus to requirements in order for it to be sold. The Director of Place was granted delegated authority to negotiate terms of a long leasehold sale to the adjoining owner of 7 Hurstwood Gardens, Brierfield with a restrictive covenant that the land be used as a domestic garden only.

- **Land at Cornmill Place, Barnoldswick**

We agreed that the Duchy Solicitor be requested to transfer to Pendle Council, at nil cost, the land in title number LA931725 shown within the red edge, consisting of the public space at Cornmill Place with should have been transferred to the Council when the land was developed as well as the hardstanding area and road, minus the area shown in green, and it subsequently be transferred to Barnoldswick Town Council with the residual S106 funding.

- **Liberata Contract Update**

The Executive noted and confirmed the agreement reached to date with Liberata UK, as set out in the report.

- **Pendle Rise, Nelson**

The Executive noted the updates regarding the Town Deal funded project to redevelop Pendle Rise Shopping Centre. We agreed the purchase of the former Althams building at 1-3 Scotland Road, Nelson by PenBrook Limited requiring a contribution from Pendle Borough Council in line with the PenBrook Shareholders Agreement and it be funded from the New Town Deal Relocation Properties budget. We also agreed to rent the former Althams building from PenBrook Developments Limited for 10 years on the basis of a single advanced rent payment to be funded from the New Town Deal Relocation Properties budget.

The Director of Place was granted delegated authority to develop a Relocation Strategy and agree with PenBrook, on behalf of the Council, which relocation properties are to be purchased and which leased for sub-letting within the available Nelson Town Deal budgets. To include the agreement of financial terms of each property within the funding mechanism outlined in the report.

Councillor A. Mahmood,  
Leader,  
Pendle Borough Council