

MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of a **MEETING** of the **COMMUNITY POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP**
held on 28 January 2020 at 2.15 pm

Present Councillors

W Burke, Mrs C P Daw, J M Downes,
B Holdman, E G Luxton, C R Slade and
L J Cruwys

Apologies Councillor(s)

Mrs M E Squires

Also Present Officer(s):

Lee Chester (Leisure Manager), Rob Fish (Principal Accountant), Clare Robathan (Scrutiny Officer) and Carole Oliphant (Member Services Officer)

55 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (00.49)

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs M E Squires.

56 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT (01.01)

There were no declarations of interest made.

57 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (01.17)

There were no members of the public present.

58 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (01.23)

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th December 2019 were approved as a correct record and **SIGNED** by the Chairman.

59 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS (01.57)

The Chairman had no announcement to make.

60 DRAFT BUDGET (02.02)

The Group had before it the *draft budget report from the Deputy Chief Executive (S151).

The Principal Accountant explained that the budget gap was currently calculated at £234k and that it had risen due to the changes to the car parking charges proposals made by the Cabinet which would see a £57k reduction in projected income.

He gave further detail on the following:

- Budget proposals for 2020/2021 and the Capital Programme
- Advance payment of the next 3 years pension deficit
- The revised Medium Term Plan
- The proposed revision of the minimum General Reserves (General Fund) limit to £2m

The Group gave consideration to the following:

- Clarification required of the flower beds to be removed
- The reduction of income due to the changes to the car parking charges in Tiverton and how the income was to be replaced
- Clarification of the how the reduction in the public convenience budget was to be achieved
- Clarification of the proposals for bin emptying on the Canal

The Group discussed the removal of the weed team and it was explained that the Homes PDG had made a recommendation to the Cabinet that the weed team be retained. The Group **AGREED** to endorse the recommendation of the Homes PDG.

(Proposed by Cllr Mrs C P Daw and seconded by Cllr L Cruwys)

Note: *draft budget report previously circulated and attached to the minutes.

61 **FINANCIAL MONITORING (28.00)**

The Group had before it and **NOTED** the *Financial Monitoring report presented by the Principal Accountant giving an overview of the income and expenditure to November 2019 and explained.

He explained that the variance had moved £148k and was now £243k in November.

He gave the Group an overview of the main areas of movement between the October and November monitoring reports and consideration was given to:

- Revenues and Benefits – Housing Benefit overpayments recovery
- Planning – Income was less than forecast in this demand lead services
- NNDR – Business Rates were lower than forecast following successful appeals.

Note: *Financial Monitoring report previously circulated and attached to the minutes

62 **SHOWER FACILITIES AT LORDS MEADOW LEISURE CENTRE (33.02)**

Following a request at the previous meeting for information, the Leisure Manager explained to the Group that the poolside communal changing block at Lords Meadow Leisure Centre had been updated and additional signage had been installed which informed users who was permitted to use the facilities.

He informed the Group that sliding shower screens could be installed at the cost of circa £500 and that the budget would be found through the Property Services Budget.

63 IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING (38.46)

Members requested that the Leisure Manager provide details of the business case for the spread of classes across different demographics in his 6 monthly update in June 2020.

(The meeting ended at 2.56 pm)

CHAIRMAN