

FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 8 JULY 2021

Present: Councillor G Marshall, Chair

Councillors: E Cubley
S Easom
D Grindell (substitute)
T Hallem (substitute)
E Kerry
P Lally
P J Owen
J C Patrick (substitute)
M Radulovic MBE
P D Simpson
P Roberts-Thomson
E Williamson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S J Carr, B C Carr and S Paterson.

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors S Easom and D Grindell declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda items 4.3 and 6. Minute number 3.3 and 5 refer.

2 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 March 2021 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3 REFERENCES

3.1 HOUSING COMMITTEE

The Committee were advised of the Green Homes Grant (Local Authority Delivery Phase 2) and of the proposal which had been submitted to upgrade the energy efficiency of dwellings in the Council owned stock.

RESOLVED that an additional £724,850 be included in the 2021/22 capital programme for heating replacements and other energy efficiency works on the Council's housing stock funded from the Green Homes Grant (LAD Phase 2).

3.2 JOBS AND ECONOMY

The Committee considered the submission of a bid to the Levelling up fund for both Eastwood and Kimberley Towns.

RESOLVED that the inclusion of £20,000 in the 2021/22 budget for capacity funding to develop bids for the first stage of the Levelling up fund be approved.

3.3 POLICY AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

Members were updated on progress with the Leisure Facilities Strategy and the latest position on the Bramcote site options, the options for a leisure centre in the north of the Borough, and the latest position with negotiations with EMET regarding Kimberley School joint use agreement.

RESOLVED that expenditure of £30,000 be used to complete the recommissioning work in the north of the Borough and £30,000 be used to establish the client side leisure capacity be approved.

4 URGENT ITEM

The Committee considered the proposal that £25,000 be allocated to capital repairs at Durban House Eastwood as part of the preparation for the Levelling Up bid for the town.

RESOLVED that the addition to the 2021/22 capital programme as set out above be approved.

5 STAPLEFORD TOWNS DEAL FUND

The Committee considered an allocation within the 2021/22 General Fund revenue budget for costs associated with developing a full business case and external assurance of the project in line with the Stapleford Town Fund bid.

RESOLVED that a supplementary revenue estimate of £66,000 be included in the 2021/22 General Fund revenue budget for costs associated with developing Full Business Cases and Assurance for the Stapleford Towns Fund and met from the Council's General Fund balance.

6 BRAMCOTE LEISURE CENTRE - REPAIR OF FLAT ROOF OVER THE GYM AND ESSENTIAL LIFT REPAIRS

Members considered the proposal that £25,000 be allocated to replace a section of the flat roof over the gym at Bramcote Leisure Centre, and £7,000 for lift equipment replacement.

It was noted that the Council, not Leisure were responsible for capital repairs costing over £5,000.

RESOLVED that the additions to the 2021/22 capital programme as set out above be approved.

7 LEVELLING UP FUND

Members considered a proposed allocation within the 2021/22 General Fund revenue budget for costs associated with developing a project bid for submission to the Levelling Up Fund for Kimberley and Eastwood Towns.

RESOLVED that a supplementary revenue estimate of £40,000 be included in the 2021/22 General Fund revenue budget for costs associated with developing a bid to the Levelling Up Fund and met from the Council's General Fund balance be approved.

8 KIMBERLEY DEPOT GARAGE DOORS AND FLOOD PREVENTION

The Committee consider that capital funding be allocated to replace the garage and store doors at Kimberley Depot, along with measures to help reduce the risk of flooding to the garage.

The fitting of electrically operated roller shutter doors would assist in reducing the ergonomic effort required to operate them and contain the residual heat more effectively would potentially reduce gas consumption. The new doors would also assist with flood prevention due to their design. The estimated cost of new roller doors is £18,000 (£12,000 for the garages and £6,000 for the stores).

RESOLVED that the addition to the 2021/22 capital programme as set out above be approved.

9 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS UPDATE AND OUTTURN POSITION 2020/21

Members were updated on the revenue and capital outturn position for 2020/21 and were provide an update on progress with the preparation of the draft annual statement of accounts for 2020/21.

RESOLVED that:

- 1. The accounts summary for the financial year ended 31 March 2021 subject to audit, be approved.**
- 2. The revenue carry forward requests outlined in section 2 of appendix 1 be approved and included as supplementary revenue estimates in the 2021/22 budget.**
- 3. The capital carry forward requests outlined in appendix 2b be approved and included as supplementary capital estimates in the 2021/22 budget.**

10 TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS - ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Committee note the progress made toward the treasury management activity and the actual prudential indicators for 2020/21.

11 GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET AMENDMENTS 2021/22

The Committee noted the General Fund revenue budget for 2021/22. It was noted that there were a number of revenue budget amendments required associated with business growth, particularly in support of projects associated with Central Government support to the Council, through the Levelling-up fund, the Towns Fund, and the East Midlands interim delivery vehicle. These total £306,065 and would be funded from the General Fund reserves, estimated at £6.8 million in the draft out turn for 2020/21.

RESOLVED that the amendments to the General Fund 2021/22 revenue budget as set out in the appendix be approved.

12 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 UPDATE

The Committee received an update on the revised capital programme for 2021/22. It was noted that there were a number of new capital projects that were required in respect of corporate priorities, including, depot and leisure centre maintenance, transport improvements and increased Housing new build delivery activity.

RESOLVED that the capital budget variations for 2021/22 as set out in the appendix be approved.

13 SECTION 106 ITPS ALLOCATIONS

Members were provided with an update on available section 106 Integrated Transport (ITPS) funds and considered utilising some of these to add additional schemes to the 2021/22 capital programme.

It was proposed to allocate the final £80,000 of the Mushroom Farm allocation toward a jointly funded scheme to provide a footway alongside the A610 leading to the development itself.

It was proposed to allocate £56,000 to path improvements in the Giltbrook area.

A future report would be submitted with further recommendations toward the allocations arising from the Field Farm development.

RESOLVED that the additions to the 2021/22 capital programme as set out in section 4 above be approved.

14 HOUSING DELIVERY PLAN- PROPOSED INCREASE IN HOUSING FEASIBILITY BUDGET FOR 2021/22

The Committee consider the allocation of an additional £400,000 in the 2021/22 capital programme to the new build housing feasibility costs budget to accelerate the delivery of sites.

Three sites have been progressed to date at Willoughby Street, Beeston, Oakfield Road, Stapleford and Ilkeston Road, Bramcote. A further 30 homes were planned on six Housing Revenue Account (HRA) owned garage sites and neighbouring land (both HRA and privately owned) in the Borough between 2021/22 and 2022/23.

RESOLVED that a further £400,000 be included in the 2021/22 capital programme for the new build housing feasibility costs.

15 CITIZENS ADVICE BROXTOWE - GRANT AID 2021/22

The Committee considered a request for grant aid in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Grant Aid Policy from Citizens Advice Broxtowe.

RESOLVED that a grant of £73,750 for the Citizens Advice Broxtowe be approved.

16 GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS, CHARITABLE BODIES AND INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN SPORTS, THE ARTS AND DISABILITY MATTERS 2021/22

The Committee considered the requests for grant aid in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Grant Aid Policy from Rushcliffe CVS, Hope Nottingham and D H Lawrance Music Festival.

RESOLVED that the applications be dealt with as follows:

	£
Rushcliffe CVS	7,000
Hope Nottingham	10,000
D H Lawrance Music Festival	2,500

17 USE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S URGENCY POWERS FOR A CAPITAL GRANT AID REQUEST FROM THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION (BEESTON) SOCIAL CLUB

The Committee were informed of the use of the Chief Executive's urgency powers since the last meeting, in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

An application for capital funding had been received from The Royal British Legion (Beeston) Social Club. This had been considered in accordance with the provisions of the Council's grant aid policy.

The Royal British Legion (Beeston) Social Club had requested grant aid of up to £8,645 towards the full cost of necessary fire safety works at its premises.

The total cost of the fire safety and additional electrical works was around £16,000.

18 ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE BANKING

Members were informed of the position of the Council's banking service providers in respect of the environmental, social and governance (ESG) aspects of investing which have been coming into prominence over the last few years.

19 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REVIEW OF BUSINESS PLAN-SUPPORT SERVICE AREAS - OUTTURN REPORT

Members noted progress against outcome targets identified in the Business Plans for support services areas, linked to Corporate Plan priorities and objectives, and were provided an update as to the latest key performance indicators.

20 WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered the Work Programme.

RESOLVED that the Work Programme be approved, subject to the addition of a report regarding the new telephone system be included.

21 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED that, under Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3, 4, 5, 7 and 12 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

22 PURCHASE OF AFFORDABLE HOMES AT BRAMCOTE

RESOLVED as per the recommendation.

23 HOUSING DELIVERY PLAN -LAND PURCHASE OPPORTUNITY, INHAM NOOK PUB SITE, GREAT HOGGETT DRIVE, CHILWELL.

The Committee noted the report.

24 IRRECOVERABLE ARREARS

RESOLVED that the arrears in excess of £1,200 on national non-domestic rates, council tax, rents, housing/council tax benefit overpayment and sundry debtors as set out in the report be written off and to note the exercise of the Deputy Chief Executive's delegated authority under financial regulation 5.9.

25 RENEWAL OF ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

RESOLVED that Financial Regulations are waived to allow a direct award for the Council's existing EDMS to Northgate Information Solutions Limited.