

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Policy and Finance Committee
held on Thursday 22 February 2018 at 6.30pm
at Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington**

PRESENT: Cllr David Betts
Cllr Sandra Rhodes (for Cllr Maurice Billington)
Cllr Andy Dyer
Cllr Carole Pack (for Cllr Graham)
Cllr Alan Mackenzie-Wintle (Chair)
Cllr Neil Prestidge)
Cllr Nigel Simpson

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk to the Council, Responsible Financial Officer

APOLOGIES: Cllr Alan Graham, Cllr Maurice Billington

17/135 Declarations of Interest: Cllr Dyer expressed an interest in additional item regarding football pitch provision.

17/136 The minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

17/137 Matters Arising.

The committee received an email from CPRE regarding the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway and Growth Corridor. The Clerk to write to the Department of Transport requesting a public enquiry.

The committee received a request regarding the provision of a 3G pitch at Yarnton Road. The committee agreed that there is a need for additional pitches of this kind in Kidlington but that Cherwell District Council are undergoing a review of provision and requirement and that this request needs to be part of that process. Cllr Prestidge to respond to the email explaining the situation.

The committee discussed the insurance renewal and received recommendations from the Clerk and RFO. They **RECOMMENDED**

That a reinstatement valuation be sought for Exeter Hall and the Pavilion.

That the Fidelity Insurance is reduced from £2.2m to £1m.

That Play Grounds, Street Furniture and Other Surfaces are removed from the insurance policy.

The committee discussed the ongoing negotiations with the Bowls Club regarding their licence/lease.

17/138 The committee received the accounts for 9 months to 31 December 2017.

17/139 The committee discussed the change of signatories for the Natwest Bank account. It was **RECOMMENDED** that the signing rules in the current mandate for the account be replaced in accordance with section 4 of the Natwest Bank Mandate form (ie: requiring 2 authorised signatures for all amounts).

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the authorised signatories in the current mandate be changed in accordance with Section 5 of the Natwest Bank Mandate form (ie former Clerk removed) and 6 of the Natwest Bank Mandate form (ie current Chair of Council, Chair and Vice Chair of Policy and Finance to be appointed as authorised signatories).

The committee discussed the cash management implications of the closure of the Kidlington branch of Natwest. The RFO to investigate alternatives for cash management including the possibility of using the Co-operative Bank via the Post Office in Kidlington to pay in and to withdraw cash.

17/140 The committee discussed the Reserves Policy and reviewed a policy from Banbury Town Council. The committee **RECOMMENDED** adopting this policy with the following edits:
Section 4.2 The council will normally aim to maintain general reserves of 4 months of precept. This necessitates the removal of Section 4.3
6.1 The committee **RECOMMENDED** removal of the final sentence. 'Interest earned on the Capital Receipts is taken to ordinary reserves' as the Council has previously agreed to review this annually.

17/141 The committee reviewed the Capital Projects list.

17/142 The committee reviewed the spent and planned expenditure at Stratfield Brake and **RECOMMENDED** accepting the expenditure. The committee asked for regular reviews.

Due to the nature of the business to be discussed the Chairman moved and the committee RESOLVED to go into confidential session for the next item

17/143 The committee discussed the ownership of the land at Morton Close. The Clerk to take steps to regularise the ownership of the land.

17/144 The committee discussed the Council's Risk Assessment register. The register to be updated for signature at next full Council meeting.

17/145 The committee discussed the need for a Kidlington Village Centre Masterplan. Cllr Simpson reported that officers from CDC would be meeting to discuss the requirement for a masterplan.

17/146 The committee discussed representation at the CDC Council Meeting on 26 February at which the Partial Review of the Local Plan would be voted on. It was agreed that Cllr David Betts would be speaking on behalf of the Parish Council. District Councillors, Nigel Simpson, Carmen Griffiths, Neil Prestidge, Alan Mackenzie-Wintle and Sandra Rhodes would be speaking against the proposals in their roles as District Councillors.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Alan Mackenzie-Wintle
26/4/2018

Alan Mackenzie-Wintle 26/4/2018