

MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING Thursday, 21st July 2016

PRESENT: Councillor June West (In the Chair); Councillors Boriss, Burke, Furlong, Joinson, Martin, Rowbotham, Smith, Wardle, Donna Williams and Peter Williams

OFFICERS: M Robinson (Assistant Director Planning & Development) J Butterworth (Economy Directorate) S Reay, G Beverley, N O'Neill, L Mason and C Albison (Neighbourhoods Directorate), C Clarkson and C Denyer (Resources Directorate)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Inspector MacDiarmid (GMP) and Dr Jiva

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Bell, Councillor Neil Emmott, Councillor Susan Emmott and Councillor Robinson

MINUTE'S SILENCE

15 The Committee observed a period of silence in respect of those who have lost their lives in recent tragedies both at home and abroad.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

16 There were no declarations of interest.

MIDDLETON COMMUNITY VOICE

17 The Township Committee received a presentation regarding the future of Health and Social Care Devolution in Middleton from the Chair of the Heywood, Middleton and Rochdale Multispecialty Community Provider (HMR MCP) Dr Mo Jiva MBE.

Dr Jiva outlined the reasons why it was important that the local health care providers become part of the proposed Local Care Organisation so that patient services are commissioned locally.

The Committee was advised that volunteers to join Middleton Community Voice would be welcomed from Members of the Committee and the public.

**DECIDED – That (1) the presentation be welcomed and noted; and
(2) Councillors Joinson and Donna Williams be nominated to join the Middleton Community Voice group.**

OPEN FORUM (6.15-6.45PM)

18 The following matters were raised in the open forum –

a) Your Place – Langley

In response to a question from Mr Ettenfield regarding the Your Place project the Committee was advised that consultation had been undertaken with Riverside tenants' representatives and Ward Councillors and that performance reports would be provided on a quarterly basis. The Committee was further advised that any residents concerns or complaints should be addressed to Riverside for consideration.

b) Lighthouse Project

In response to a question from Mr Roach regarding a Business Rates demand received by the newly relocated Lighthouse Project the Assistant Director Planning & Development advised that Council is legally obliged to levy business rates been based on valuation officer instructions. A business rates officer had visited the premises regarding the correct exemptions to be applied but that the Landlord of the premises would be required to contact the Valuation Office to update their records regarding the area being rented by the project.

c) Spilt Paint on Long Street Pavements

In response to concerns regarding the spilt paint on the new street paving on Long Street the Committee was advised that the shops tenants had been spoken to and that advice was being sought as to the most effective way of removing the paint without damaging the paving.

d) Former Conservative Club Premises

In response to concerns raised regarding the current use of the former Conservative Club premises the Committee was advised that a visit had been carried out by a Council Tax Officer who had confirmed that the flat was occupied by a single family. The Committee was further advised that the premises are privately owned and that the Council was not aware of any plans for the change of use of the former bowling green.

e) Traffic calming measures on Mellalieu Street

The Committee was advised that a meeting had taken place with the Fire and Rescue services and that there had no objections to a traffic calming scheme being implemented on Mellalieu Street but that this was not a current Township priority in the current financial year due to the limited funds available.

f) In response to a number of written questions from Mrs O'Mara the Committee was advised that a written response would be sent.

MINUTES - MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

19 The Committee considered the Minutes of the meeting held 26th May 2016. Further to Minute 4(b) – Open Forum – Langley – Environmental Management Scheme - the Committee was advised that the question had been raised by Mr Ettenfield and not Mr Vose as stated in the minutes.

DECIDED – that subject to the amendment detailed above the Minutes of the meeting of the Middleton Township Committee held on 26th May 2016 be approved as a correct record.

MINUTES - MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP DEVOLVED FUNDING AND DEVOLVED SERVICES SUB COMMITTEE

20 **DECIDED – that the Minutes of the meeting of the Middleton Township Devolved Funding and Services Sub-Committee held on 4th July 2016 be noted.**

MINUTES - MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP PLANNING SUB COMMITTEE

21 **DECIDED – that the Minutes of the meetings of the Middleton Township Planning Sub-Committee held on 17th May 2016 be noted.**

ASSET STRATEGY 2016/2019

22 The Township Committee considered the report of the Director of Economy which advised members of the Cabinet's adoption of an amended Asset Strategy for 2016-2019.

The revised Strategy was designed to replace the current Strategy and build on its achievements. It considered the challenges the authority is likely to face over the next three years and how asset management might support service delivery. It sought to establish the benefits the Council wished to achieve from its property and recommended the overall direction of travel for property management activity. The revised Strategy provides a clear framework of objectives to support decisions affecting the management of assets and has identified a series of work streams and actions designed to develop the property portfolio and its contribution to Council objectives during the next three years.

DECIDED – that the approved Asset Strategy, which provides the framework by which the Council intends to manage its property assets during the financial years 2016-2019 be noted.

Eligible for call-in - no

BUDGET 2017/18 TO 2019/20 GUIDELINES AND TIMETABLE

23 The Township Committee considered the report of the Director of Resources which provided details of the budget guidelines and timetable to be used in preparing the detailed 2017/18 budget and provisional budgets for 2018/19 and 2019/20.

The Council is legally obliged to set a balanced budget. The budget setting process is complex and must be undertaken in a planned way. It is equally important that assumptions used in the preparation of the budget are agreed, reasonable and consistently applied by all services.

The budget forecast had been based on a number of assumptions, known levels of expenditure and anticipated levels of resources. Final confirmation of these assumptions will not be received and finalised until November or December 2016. There were a number of areas of the Council's budget where risks to the projections contained within the report have been identified.

DECIDED – that the budget 2017/18 to 2019/20 guidelines and timetable be noted.

Eligible for call-in - no