

Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 10 October 2018 at 10:00am in the Council Chamber of Beccles Town Hall

PRESENT: R Stubbings (Chair and Deputy Mayor)
E Brambley-Crawshaw (Mayor)
N Brooks (Deputy Chair)
G Elliott
J D Harris
R Kathurla
A Lever
J B Walmsley

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs C Boyne, Town Clerk

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC: 0

1. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There was an apology for absence from Councillor Birrell.

2. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OR ANY REQUESTS FOR THE GRANTING OF DISPENSATIONS IN RELATION TO ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were none.

3. TO ACCEPT FOR ACCURACY AND ADOPTION THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 29 AUGUST 2018

RESOLVED To accept for accuracy and adoption the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on Wednesday 29 August 2018

4. TO REVIEW THE CURRENT S106 AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY SCHEDULES (CIL)

All of the S106 contributions had been allocated and there had been no changes to the CIL contributions.

RESOLVED To receive for information the current S106 and Community Infrastructure Levy Schedules

5. TO RECEIVE THE ESTIMATES OF COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) IN RELATION TO FUTURE PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

Councillor G Elliott had been asked by the committee to give a rough estimate of the likely CIL receipts for the proposed new developments in Beccles. A number of assumptions had needed to be made, including the proportion of affordable housing and self builds, the average size of the properties and the CIL rate.

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The Garden Neighbourhood, although a large development, was likely to attract a low CIL of around £15 per m², and so between £4k and £9k per year could be expected from this development, depending on whether the council had a Neighbourhood Plan in place.

The London Road proposed development was 100% situated in Beccles. It may attract a higher CIL rate of around £75 per m². This was likely to attract around £68k per year of CIL, given that the Neighbourhood Plan was unlikely to be approved before planning permission was granted for this site.

Windfall sites (sites not allocated in the Local Plan) could attract a CIL rate of around £80 per m², equating to between £1.2k and £2k per property of CIL.

RESOLVED To receive for information the estimates of Community Infrastructure Levy in relation to future proposed housing developments

6. TO RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE BUDGET FOR 2019/20 TO 2021/22

(Councillors Kathuria and Lever arrived during this item)

The clerk reported that she had made amendments to the budgets based on previous years' trends and what the council was committed to in the future. These were highlighted in the notes section.

The committee reviewed the budgets as follows:-

(306) Administration Assistant – The clerk reported that she had included a budget of £9,165 to allow for a 3 hour per week increase in the Administration Assistant's hours. This would need to be considered by the Personnel Committee.

(69) Market Rents – The clerk reported that she had reduced the income for the market rents as it had not attracted as many stalls this year. There was discussion regarding allowing stalls on the market selling the same items as existing stall holders, and it was agreed that competition on the market should be discussed by the Assets & Environment Committee.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE ASSETS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

To consider a policy regarding competition on the Friday Market

(New) Land at Front of Station – It was reported that there may now not be any land that the council will have responsibility for, but that it was prudent to leave a budget in 2020/21 and 2021/22 for the time being.

(125) Mayor's Allowance – There was discussion regarding whether the mayor's allowance should be used to claim for new dresses or suits. It was agreed that the mayor would review how the allowance is spent and report back to full council.



(290) Contribution to Reserves – Devolved Assets and Responsibilities – It was agreed that this budget of £1250 should be removed as there were no further plans at this time to take on any further assets and it did not refer to any specific assets.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

To review the draft Budget for 2019/20 to 2021/22

7. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON COUNCIL LEASES

The update was received.

8. TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AS WEDNESDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2018 AT 10:00AM

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 14 November 2018 at 10:00am.

R 14/11/18