

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE CABINET

WEDNESDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY 2012 AT 3.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors R. Hollingworth (Leader), Mrs. M. A. Sherrey JP (Deputy Leader), Dr. D. W. P. Booth JP, M. A. Bullivant, C. B. Taylor and M. J. A. Webb

Observers: Councillor L. C. R. Mallett

Officers: Mr. K. Dicks, Ms. S. Hanley, Ms. J. Pickering, Mr. J. Godwin, Mr. G Revans, Ms. J. Willis, Ms. D. Randall and Ms. R. Cole.

111/11 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies for absence were received.

112/11 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

113/11 **REFERRAL FROM COUNCIL - MOTION ON FREE PARKING FOR BLUE BADGE HOLDERS**

It was noted that this item had been deferred and the Leader invited the Portfolio Holder Councillor M. J. A. Webb to comment further.

Councillor Webb reported that together with officers he had been working for some time on a report reviewing the whole issue of car parking, in particular in relation to vulnerable and disabled groups. It had been agreed with Councillor L. C. R. Mallett, the proposer of the Council motion, that the proposal contained therein should be included within the remit of the review. Councillor Mallett had accepted an invitation to participate on a cross party basis in the review.

Whilst initial meetings had already taken place with the community and with groups representing vulnerable people and those with mobility issues, it had become apparent that in order to properly consult with all concerned it would be necessary to extend the consultation process. This would enable a fuller and more meaningful examination of the issues to take place.

In view of the above it was anticipated the report would be submitted to Cabinet in September 2012 at the latest. It was possible that this could be brought forward to July 2012.

This was noted.

114/11 **REFERRAL FROM THE COUNCIL - MOTION ON CCTV**

The Leader reported that this item was deferred until the next meeting of the Cabinet to allow officers further time to report on the issue. This was noted.

115/11 **FEES AND CHARGES 2012/13**

The Cabinet considered a report on fees and charges for 2012/13 in respect of services provided by the Authority. It was reported that in general the overall increase was 2.5% although this varied slightly between services.

It was noted that it was proposed that some fees and charges would remain the same including car parking charges.

RESOLVED that the fees and charges for 2012/13 as contained in Appendix A to the report be approved.

116/11 **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2012/13 - 2014/15**

Consideration was given to the report on the Medium Term Financial Plan 2012/13 to 2014/15 relating to revenue and capital expenditure. The Executive Director for Finance and Corporate Resources and the Leader referred to the background to the Medium Term Financial Plan and the detailed work undertaken by officers and members during the budget process.

It was reported that the work undertaken had allowed services to be maintained whilst savings were maximised. In addition attention was drawn to the work undertaken by the budget jury and the requirement under the Localism Act for the Authority to adopt a Pay Policy Statement.

Following discussion it was

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) that the revenue bids identified as high in Appendix A of the report be included within the Medium Term Financial Plan as follows:

2012/13	£78,000
2013/14	£43,000
2014/15	£43,000

- (b) that the savings and additional income identified in Appendix B of the report be included within the Medium Term Financial Plan as follows:

2012/13	£814,000
2013/14	£1,549,000
2014/15	£2,282,000

- (c) that the capital bids identified as high in Appendix C of the report be included within the Medium Term Financial Plan as follows:

2012/13	£631,000
2013/14	£3,526,000
2014/15	£5,253,000

- (d) that the use of balances totalling £113,000 for 2012/13 be approved;
- (e) that the Pay Policy as set out in Appendix E be approved.

117/11 **TREASURY MANAGEMENT STATEMENT**

The Cabinet considered a report on the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2012/13 to 2014/15. It was noted these were required to ensure that the Authority could demonstrate accountability and effectiveness in the management of its funds.

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) that the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2012/13 to 2014/15 and Prudential Indicators set out in Appendix 1 be approved;
- (b) that the Authorised Limit for borrowing at £7,500,000 if required be approved;
- (c) that the maximum level of investment to be held within each organisation (i.e. Bank or Building Society) be set as detailed at £3,000,000 subject to market conditions;
- (d) that the unlimited level for investment in Debt Management Account Deposit facility be approved; and
- (e) that the Treasury Management Policy as set out in Appendix 2 be approved.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that it be noted that training for Treasury Management has been identified and will be incorporated within the Modern Councillor Programme on the basis it is to be prioritised together with other training needs; and
- (b) that it be noted that the Audit Board will be undertaking additional scrutiny of the Strategy during 2012/13 to ensure that the Council's investments are being managed in a risk controlled environment

118/11 **FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT - QUARTER 3 2011/12**

Members considered a report on the Council's financial position for the period April to December 2011 (Quarter 3 2011/12).

It was reported that there was a projected year end underspend in the revenue budget following actions taken by officers to restrict expenditure to items deemed critical for the provision of services.

Reference was also made to the proposed amendment to the 2012/13 Capital Programme to reflect the carry forward of £659,000 in respect of schemes within the 2011/12 Capital Programme.

Following discussion it was

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) that the increase to the 2012/13 Capital Programme of £659,000 in respect of the schemes carried forward from the 2011/12 Capital Programme, as set out in Appendix 3 to the report, be approved; and
- (b) that the increase to the 2012/13 Capital Programme of £12,000 (to be funded from revenue underspend) in respect of GIS software be approved.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the current financial position on Revenue and Capital as detailed in the report be noted;
- (b) that the budget virements between £15,000 and £100,000 as set out in Appendix 2 to the report be approved; and
- (c) that the financial position and movements in relation to the earmarked reserves as set out in Appendix 1 be noted.

The meeting closed at 3.55 p.m.

Chairman