



# SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

BURNLEY TOWN HALL

Monday, 13th November, 2017 at 6.30 pm

## PRESENT

## MEMBERS

Councillors A Tatchell (Chair), M Brindle (Vice-Chair), G Birtwistle, J Cunningham, B Foster, R Frost, J Greenwood, T Harrison, D Heginbotham, M Johnstone, A Kelly, S Malik, T Martin, A Newhouse and P Reynolds

## OFFICERS

Asad Mushtaq	– Head of Finance
David Donlan	– Accountancy Division Manager
Alison McEwan	– Democracy Officer

### 25. Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### 26. Notice of Key Decisions and Private Meetings

Members noted the Notice of Key Decisions and Private Meetings.

### 27. 2017/18 Treasury Management Mid-Year Report

Members considered the report, which outlined treasury management activity for the period 01/04/17 to 30/09/17. The report also detailed proposed changes to the maximum amount deposited with a specific lender, and to consider investment in property portfolios.

Members asked the following:

- What was the anticipated effect of Bank of England interest rate increases. There was the expectation of a gradual increase in interest rates over the next 2-3 years.
- Would any property portfolios selected be UK based or international? Any selected after careful appraisal would be UK based portfolios.

- Does the Council hold records as to whether investments are in Ethical funds? This isn't part of the information recorded, but the majority of investments were with UK banks.

## **28. Fees & Charges Tariff 2018/19**

The Head of Finance presented the report, and outlined the following amendments:

p35/36

Amendments were made to the fees and charges in respect of burials and cremations as follows

- i. No charge for cremation or interment for babies up to 12 months old
- ii. From 1 year to 17 years the charge will be £202 for cremation and £298 for burial.

p42

Amendments were made to the fees and charges in Appendix A (page 8) in respect of contract parking charges showing an increase of 2% (and not 2.5%)

### **IT WAS AGREED**

That Members noted the report as amended.

## **29. Capital Budget Monitoring 2017/18 Cycle 2 Report**

Members received the second round of in-year cyclical monitoring, which provided Members with the position as at 30th September 2017 on expenditure, along with providing Members with an update on the progress of the individual scheme delivery through the attached appendices.

Members discussed the following:

- Town Centre Refurbishment – was this the final expected cost of the scheme. Yes, the figure represented the total expected scheme costs.

### **IT WAS AGREED**

That the report be noted.

## **30. Revenue Budget Monitoring 2017/18 Cycle 2 Report**

Members received the second in-year revenue budget report for 2017/18 which projected revenue budget forecast underspend of £73k.

## **IT WAS AGREED**

That the report be noted.

### **31. Scrutiny Review Groups**

Environmental Enforcement – a meeting had been held with Joanne Swift and Jonathan Jackson. Members discussed the performance of the scheme and other outputs. Members recommended that should a procurement of a similar scheme be undertaken that significant focus be given to dog fouling in any specification.

Dementia – An initial meeting had taken place at which some parameters had been set, and a date agreed to meet with external agencies. It was pointed out that there was a clash with a Mayors Charity event, so it was agreed to change the date from December to early January.

Further projects had been identified for future reviews.

### **32. Work Programme 2017/18**

The work programme was noted, with the addition of review groups on 29<sup>th</sup> November.