

Public Document Pack

COUNCIL

A meeting of Council will be held at Council Chamber, Fenland Hall, County Road, March on THURSDAY, 23 MAY 2019 at 4.00 PM and I request you to attend accordingly for transaction of the following business:

- 1 To receive apologies for absence.
- 2 To elect a Chairman of the Council for the period to the next Annual Meeting and to resolve that an allowance of £4,000 plus travelling expenses be paid to the person elected.
- 3 To elect a Vice-Chairman of the Council for the period to the next Annual Meeting and to resolve that an allowance of £1,000 plus travelling expenses be paid to the person elected.
- 4 To elect a Leader of the Council for the 4 year term of the Council and be notified by the Leader of the Council of their Cabinet.
- 5 Previous Minutes. (Pages 5 - 16)

To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting of 21 February 2019.

- 6 To receive any announcements from the Chairman of the Council and/or the Head of Paid Service.
- 7 Meetings of the Council

To determine that:

1. The Annual Meeting of the Council in 2020 be held on 14 May 2020
2. The ordinary meetings of the Council in 2019/2020 to be held as follows;

Thursday 18 July 2019;

Thursday 19 September 2019;

Thursday 7 November 2019;

Thursday 12 December 2019;

Thursday 20 February 2020.

- 8 To receive members' declaration of any interests under the Local Code of Conduct or any interest under the Code of Conduct on Planning Matters in respect of any item to be discussed at the meeting.
- 9 To receive questions from, and provide answers to, councillors in relation to matters which, in the opinion of the Chairman, accord with the provisions of Procedure Rules 8.4 and 8.6.
- 10 To receive reports from and ask questions of Cabinet members with portfolio holder responsibilities, in accordance with Procedure Rules 8.1

and 8.2.

- 11 Questions from Members of the Public in accordance with Procedure Rule 9A. (Pages 17 - 18)

Question from Martin Curtis.

- 12 Committee Structure, Political Balance and Allocation of Seats. (Pages 19 - 36)

The purpose of this Report is to agree the committee structure and terms of reference for the forthcoming municipal year as well as confirming the allocation of seats to those committees and also to outside bodies in accordance with political proportionality rules and to receive notification of the appointments to them (where known).

- 13 Combined Authority Membership and Other Appointments. (Pages 37 - 42)

To request the Council to make appointments to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for the municipal year 2019/2020.

- 14 Members' Allowances Scheme Review Scope. (Pages 43 - 46)

For Council to agree the scope and terms of reference for the forthcoming review of the Member Allowances Scheme by an Independent Remuneration Panel.

- 15 Motion submitted by Councillor Will Sutton regarding Street Lighting. (Pages 47 - 50)

- 16 Motion submitted by Councillor Will Sutton regarding Garden Waste. (Pages 51 - 54)

- 17 Motion submitted by Councillor Will Sutton regarding the use of Single-Use Plastics. (Pages 55 - 58)

- 18 Motion submitted by Councillor Mrs Sarah Bligh and Councillor Gavin Booth regarding improvement to Play Equipment owned by Fenland District Council. (Pages 59 - 62)

- 19 Notification of Appointment of Deputy Monitoring Officer. (Pages 63 - 64)

To advise Members of the appointment of Amy Brown, Senior Lawyer and Deputy Monitoring Officer at Peterborough City Council as the Council's Deputy Monitoring Officer. To approve the Council entering into a Section 113 agreement which enables local authorities to place officer/officers of one at the disposal of the other for the purposes of

discharging the latter's functions.

Fenland Hall
March



Chief Executive

Tuesday, 14 May 2019

NOTE The Council may, by resolution, as exemplified below, exclude the public from a meeting during the consideration of any item of business whenever it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that, if members of the public were present, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Section 100 I of the Local Government Act, 1972

"Resolved that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for Item No./Minute No. on the grounds that the item involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act"

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COUNCIL



THURSDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2019 - 4.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs K Mayor (Chairman), Councillor I Benney, Councillor Mrs S Bligh, Councillor C Boden, Councillor G Booth, Councillor M Buckton, Councillor R Butcher, Councillor J Clark, Councillor S Clark, Councillor D Connor, Councillor M Cornwell, Councillor S Court, Councillor Mrs C Cox, Councillor Mrs M Davis (Vice-Chairman), Councillor Mrs J French, Councillor S Garratt (*left at 5.50pm*), Councillor A Hay, Councillor Miss S Hoy, Councillor Mrs D Laws, Councillor D Mason, Councillor A Miscandlon, Councillor P Murphy, Councillor D Oliver, Councillor K Owen, Councillor C Seaton, Councillor W Sutton and Councillor F Yeulett

APOLOGIES: Councillor M Bucknor, Councillor Mrs V Bucknor, Councillor S Count, Councillor D Hodgson, Councillor M Humphrey, Councillor Mrs F Newell, Councillor A Pugh, Councillor R Skoulding, Councillor M Tanfield, Councillor G Tibbs and Councillor S Tierney

Councillor Mrs Mayor welcomed Peter Catchpole, newly appointed Corporate Director and Section 151 Officer, to his first Council meeting and thanked Kamal Mehta for his services in the interim period.

C55/18 PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting of 17 January 2019 were confirmed and signed.

C56/18 CIVIC ENGAGEMENT UPDATES

Councillor Mrs Mayor drew members' attention to the civic activities undertaken by herself and the Vice Chairman in the weeks preceding full council.

C57/18 TO RECEIVE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL AND/OR THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE.

Councillor Mrs Mayor thanked members who attended the Twinning Association Annual General Meeting and Tea Party which took place on 23rd January. The event was well received with several new members attending.

Councillor Mrs Mayor drew members' attention to the recommendation in relation to Council Tax that has been proposed by Cabinet following their meeting earlier today. The recommendations in front of members in hard copy form affect the Corporate Budget 2019 and Mid-term financial strategy report. It is this updated recommendation from Cabinet that members will be asked to consider this afternoon and the original recommendations in the published report are therefore substituted with these updated recommendations from Cabinet. Members will also be asked to consider the aspects of the report that this amendment will affect.

C58/18 TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM, AND PROVIDE ANSWERS TO, COUNCILLORS IN RELATION TO MATTERS WHICH, IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIRMAN, ACCORD WITH THE PROVISIONS OF PROCEDURE RULES 8.4 AND 8.6.

No questions had been submitted under Procedure Rule 8.6 and Councillor Booth, as leader of the main opposition group, asked questions under Procedure Rule 8.4 as follows:

- Councillor Booth asked for an update on the 11-12 High Street, Wisbech project. Councillor Seaton advised that a full update on the project was included in the report recently tabled at Overview & Scrutiny on 18 February titled 'Progress in Delivering the Environment Corporate Objectives'. However, he advised the owner of these derelict properties has acknowledged they were unable to progress an application and redevelopment scheme and the project team has been working hard to ensure FDC does not lose the opportunity to address this site under the scheme and lose the significant HLF grant available. With the assistance of shared Peterborough City Council legal services and with members support, the purchase of the site was negotiated with the owner and completion occurred at the end of January 2019. In parallel with the acquisition work, officers have been looking at options for redevelopment of the site, including detailed engagement with the previously identified potential developer, as well as outlining alternative plans should this not progress to the satisfaction of all involved. The intended developer has now received all relevant details of the buildings along with the Council's preferred transfer legal arrangement which will involve FDC retaining the property with a sole build lease to the developer on which the site will transfer to the developer on completion of works and grant draw down. The developer is in the process of forwarding financial data and works programme and the Council is preparing the legal build lease documentation. Once agreements are in place, updates will be provided to members and posted on the High Street website, which contains regular updates whereby members can follow progress on the overall HLF project.
- Councillor Booth thanked Councillor Seaton for the information and asked if the Combined Authority (CA) is involved? Councillor Seaton stated the only involvement it has is in acting as a safeguard in that if, for any reason, the developer should not be able to complete the development, we have a commitment from the CA to fund the remaining part of the development to completion.
- Councillor Booth asked for an update on the purchasing of new equipment for council meetings, are we still hiring equipment, such as the audio system, and what expenditure has been incurred to date? Councillor Seaton replied that the Council is in the process of procuring new AV equipment for use at Council meetings and aim to have the new equipment in place by the next Council meeting on 23 May. Meanwhile, equipment is still currently being hired at a cost of approximately £1657 per Council meeting and the total cost of hiring AV equipment to date is around £13k. He suggested, for a more detailed explanation, this question should be asked of the Portfolio Holder at portfolio holder questions.
- Councillor Booth referred to a recent report on recycling on BBC Look East which stated that Fenland has the biggest drop in recycling in this area and asked for thoughts or comments on this. Councillor Seaton advised that Councillor Murphy would have more information on this in portfolio holder questions, but it should be noted that that the way figures were portrayed in the report were not giving the full picture.

C59/18 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM AND ASK QUESTIONS OF CABINET MEMBERS WITH PORTFOLIO HOLDER RESPONSIBILITIES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURE RULES 8.1 AND 8.2.

Standing orders were suspended to allow for full discussion on this item.

Members asked questions of Portfolio Holders in accordance with Procedure Rules 8.1 and 8.2 as follows:

- Councillor French asked Councillor Murphy what is happening with the river in March whereby a number of boats continue to overstay their mooring times, frustrating local residents, and how

the situation will be resolved, acknowledging that one side is the responsibility of Middle Level and the other side the responsibility of the Council. Councillor Murphy responded that the Council now has a scheme in place to issue penalties to those who stay longer than 48 hours at our moorings and with more boaters mooring in the better weather, formal monitoring will now take place, with those in contravention of the limit being issued with a fixed penalty notice. Unfortunately, some boaters then move to the opposite bank which is not subject to our scheme. He added that the Council is liaising with Middle Level regarding this practice to prevent it occurring and the Council will also investigate Council Tax evasion with these boat owners. Middle Level has recently taken a bill through Parliament to give them more power regarding our waterways and once a formal structure is put in place, they will be able to insist that boat owners are correctly registered and have insurance and a safety certificate. He feels that with these additional powers, fixed penalty notices will be easier to enforce and this should improve the management of the mooring spaces in March Town Centre.

- Councillor Mrs Bligh asked Councillor Seaton if, in respect of his position on the Combined Authority (CA), he could provide an update on bus routes. Councillor Seaton confirmed that the CA is currently undertaking a strategic bus review and his understanding is that both the CA and County Council have extended funding for the routes, how long for he is not sure but he will clarify that.
- Councillor Booth asked how much the audio equipment has cost to date and, although he appreciates the procurement process has to be followed, why is it taking so long to get the new equipment? Councillor Buckton advised he will get back to Councillor Booth on costs as he does not have this information to hand. However, the new equipment will be in place for the first meeting of the new Council in May.
- Councillor Tierney asked Councillor Buckton how the search is progressing for a new location for the Wisbech Bowls Club. Councillor Buckton advised he has met with the committee and they are liaising with Living Sport to identify alternative venues. One location in Long Sutton was found not to be viable, so they are continuing to look at premises nearer. Help is being given to give the club charitable status which will help with funding, so it is still a work in progress.
- Councillor Butcher referred to the Surplus Asset Disposal Programme, making the point that he sits on the Staff Committee, but was not aware that interviews had been held to appoint a temporary Disposals Surveyor and that the post had been recruited to. He asked if local members are still being informed and asked for their opinion as agreed by Cabinet last year. Councillor Oliver advised the post is a part-time, interim 6 month contract and confirmed that ward councillors will be notified when assets are put forward for disposal. Councillor Butcher noted that in respect of the Wisbech Port Estate Review, terms have been shared and discussed with the port operator, but have these terms actually been agreed? Councillor Oliver advised discussions are in place, but he will get back to Councillor Butcher with the exact details and confirm if these have been completed. Councillor Butcher also asked if the Council is still receiving the same rents as two years ago on land let or sub-let. Again, Councillor Oliver advised he will check and get back to Councillor Butcher on this.
- Councillor Booth asked Councillor Mrs Laws how many ongoing planning enforcement cases there are, how old is the oldest case under investigation and what is the average time taken to resolve an enforcement investigation? Councillor Mrs Laws responded that the enforcement service has two full time employees, made up of an experienced senior officer and effectively a trainee. In the calendar year 2018, 296 service requests were received and 321 cases were closed and resolved. 74% of cases where no breach of planning control was found were closed within 56 days of receipt. However, it should be noted that as there is still a legacy of old cases from the pre-shared service era and the figures are slightly distorted. The Council does not currently have an ICT report that gives it an average time from receipt to case closure, but

there are currently have 231 active cases in hand, with the oldest case being received in July 2011. In terms of the legacy cases the Council does not automatically prioritise these on the basis of how old they are and takes into account the impact of the breach of planning control. Prior to October 2015, resourcing in the team was unstable and this caused the build-up of the legacy cases. For example, the number of incoming cases at that time was 300 to 330 and the case closures were standing at 310 to 330 during 2013 and 2014.

- Councillor Hoy advised Councillor Buckton she had read with interest about the Wildgoose mobile treasure app running in Wisbech Park and asked if he would provide her with further information as she was keen to promote it. Councillor Buckton confirmed he would.
- Councillor Connor asked Councillor Murphy if, now that we have a new contract with Kingdom, he could give confidence to the villages that they will not be left behind in terms of enforcement against dog fouling, which is very prevalent in the villages and causing complaints. Councillor Murphy said that there is a two-year framework with Kingdom with an option to extend for a further two years, during which time they will be carrying out enforcement patrols. In addition, 10% of officer time will be dedicated freely to community activities and they will be consulting with local communities, starting with the Town and Parish Councils, to identify what each would like to see from the extra service.
- Councillor Connor asked Councillor Mrs Laws for an update on the position regarding the unfinished buildings in Newgate Street, Doddington as it is of great concern to the local community and has been going on for a long time. Councillor Mrs Laws advised a site visit has been made and contact is trying to be established with the landowner and building owner. It is a very sensitive situation and although she appreciates the urgency and residents' concerns, there is a proper procedure that needs to be followed. Unfortunately it does take time, but this situation is ongoing and hopefully will be resolved in the near future.
- Councillor Booth asked Councillor Murphy for his thoughts on the Look East report regarding Fenland's reduced recycling rates mentioned earlier in the meeting. Councillor Murphy explained how the figures had been calculated by the BBC to make it look like a 25% reduction, although he is not sure why they calculated them the way they did. Overall less household waste is being collected in Fenland with greater levels of home composting, largely due to the educational work that has been done over the last 2-3 years. The local performance indicator measures the performance of green and blue recycling, but the national indicator also includes waste collected by street cleansing operations and the overall recycling rate for household waste in Fenland from collected waste and household waste recycling sites is 52%. The BBC also compared Fenland with East Cambs who were still using black bags until two years ago, with its recycling rates having increased from 23% to 52% but this is because they have introduced the same system that we have. Councillor Booth suggested that the Council issue a statement explaining the situation as residents will be confused and concerned with the differentiation in figures.
- Councillor Mrs French advised Councillor Mrs Laws that a street in March, which was completed three years ago, still has uncompleted footpaths with Clarion Housing continuing to make excuses and it is disingenuous that they are now claiming that a resident is holding this up and are making her sign a S104. As Councillor Mrs Laws is in regular contact with Clarion, could she please ensure this road gets completed; it is not fit for residents, there is no duty of care from Clarion and there also needs to be an apology to the resident. Councillor Mrs Laws confirmed she was aware of this situation; it has been a very contracted and challenging problem and she can understand the frustration of residents. County Council have no issue about bringing the adopted road up to standard; there seems to have been a breakdown of communication between the builders and Clarion, which she hopes to soon have resolved. Councillor Mrs Laws confirmed she would keep Councillor Mrs French updated.

C60/18 FINAL BUSINESS PLAN 2019-20

Members considered the Final Business Plan 2018-19 Report presented by Councillor Seaton.

Members asked questions, made comments and received responses as follows:

- Councillor Boden thanked the Leader and officers concerned for the tracked changes; it was useful to see how the suggestions made at Overview & Scrutiny have come through to the final report. He is also grateful for the emphasis given to the Combined Authority (CA) both in the report and the Leader's speech. It is increasingly clear that the Council has to look to align its priorities with the CA so that it can get the maximum advantage out of the far greater funding which is available in the CA than from any other source open to us.
- Councillor Boden also raised that, with regards to the promotion of health and wellbeing, the second bullet point in the report mentioned working with partners to reduce health inequalities in the district. He stated that it is more important to reduce the health inequalities between our district and the rest of Cambridgeshire and asked the Leader if he would agree to add that to the objectives? Councillor Seaton thanked Councillor Boden and said he would reflect on that recommendation for the report.
- Councillor Connor said that Councillor Seaton's address failed to mention the £16.4m funds from the CA to address the shortfall of funding for Kings Dyke Crossing and there was no mention the £50k given to the three market towns of March, Whittlesey and Chatteris. Councillor Seaton added that £50k was also obtained for Wisbech and he agreed that Councillor Connor was correct, he had not stated that the money has been and is being provided by the CA to assist in projects that will help make Fenland a more prosperous place.
- Councillor Booth stated that at Overview & Scrutiny meeting he had raised that the performance indicators were not fit for purpose, the report claims that they have been amended but looking at the tracked changes, the only change is that 'Freedom' has been added to the front of leisure centres, everything else is the same. He is disappointed that despite assurances that this would be looked at, no real changes have been made. Some of these performance indicators do not measure what the Council is trying to deliver so how do we know if we are successful or not? Councillor Seaton replied that this is a living document; changes can be made as we go along.
- Councillor Miscandlon thanked the Leader for the CA's input into building development in the Fenland area where they have contributed towards affordable housing and he thanked all those involved with that project.

Proposed by Councillor Connor, seconded by Councillor Hay and AGREED to approve the Final Business Plan 2018-19.

C61/18 CORPORATE BUDGET 2018 & MID TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

Members considered the Corporate Budget 2018 and Mid Term Financial Strategy report presented by Councillor Hay.

Members were reminded that they were debating and voting on the altered recommendations which gave the option to either set Council Tax with a 1.97% increase [option ix (a)] or alternatively a 0% increase for this financial year [option ix (b)].

Members asked questions and made comments as follows:

- Councillor Hay stated her belief is that members would be doing this Council a disservice by

supporting a 0% increase, as even with a 1.97% increase there would be a deficit in 2019/20 of £553k which will rise should 0% be supported. She feels there are a number of risks, such as the new homes bonus and fairer funding review and any new administration after May will face the prospect of having to go through a second comprehensive spending review to present a balanced budget for 2020/21.

- Councillor Tierney respected the way Councillor Hay had made her case but he held a different view. He said Overview & Scrutiny had looked at the budget and under-spend over recent years and it is broadly their view that there is no need at this time to raise Council Tax. He acknowledged that there are potential risks in the future, but members are not here to do the easy thing, but to do the right thing. There are many people in the area who are already struggling with their bills and feel they are paying enough Council Tax, and there is a very clear case economically through good financial management. If Council Tax is frozen this year, it will be appreciated by the public.
- Councillor Boden agreed with Councillor Tierney's comments stating that members have to bear in mind that 2% increase in Council Tax costs our taxpayers an additional £150k approximately and whilst services which are provided have to be paid for, the Council has been asking for Council Tax increases for a number of years at a time when year-on-year we have been showing a surplus. Taking the last five years cumulatively, each year on average the Council has ended up at the end of the year with a surplus of £870k, which suggests that we have not become as tight in our financial planning as we should be. Councillor Hay made reference to failing to raise council tax by 2% this year will require the need to have a second comprehensive spending review next year but regardless of what the Council Tax increase may or may not be, we should be doing that anyway. The Council needs to continue to review what it does and look for additional savings to transform the way it delivers services to its residents. There is a culture of ultra-caution in this Council, proven by the level of surplus generated over the last five years and the problem with underspending by such a vast amount is that when members are making decisions, they are being made on a false premise. It is very important to get a tighter control of our finances so that members know when it sets a budget those are likely to be the numbers that are going to be the outturn. Therefore, he supports option b and does not expect reserves to go down as a result. This year some £103k surplus is projected but also there is the opportunity for a second Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), so there is scope for additional savings to be had and for better ways of delivering services. Members can deliver something that is ambitious, reflects the needs and desires of our residents and also invades their pockets as little as necessary.
- Councillors Sutton and Connor also voiced their support for option b. Councillor Sutton said he felt there was merit in opting for option a, but there are so many unknowns one way or the other. Not so long ago the Council was centre of national attention regarding its Council Tax being higher than Kensington and Chelsea. Last year he thought he was the only member who felt Council Tax should be frozen and he wishes he had said something then. He cited several roads where one end was in the boundary of Fenland District Council and the other fell under the remit of Kings Lynn & West Norfolk; where there was a vast difference in the Council Tax paid for properties of the same band, with ours being much higher which he felt could not be justified.
- Councillor Booth commented that the report regarding FDC-CSR proposals was incorrect as it mentioned CCTV which was not a CSR proposal. He added that he is also concerned that the forecast surplus is £103k but at Overview & Scrutiny the figure was £139k, and asked for clarification on the differing amount as it is important for figures to be correct. He stated that looking at the projected net service expenditure of the Council that is where £800k additional income is required. He feels that if the Council was more commercially minded and run in a more business-like manner, it would not need to find this money as it would fund itself. He added that he has said previously that Parish Councils are being unfairly treated with regards to

double taxation in having to pay for street lighting. Members have an opportunity to rectify that with this budget and make Council Tax more equitable. It is an achievement to officers that they have been able to find additional funding through government grants and finances which have helped the Council meet its budgets, but the Council needs to be mindful as they will not have £800k every year.

- Councillor Hay thanked Councillor Booth for acknowledging the one-off grants. In respect of the £139k, officers are continually looking at budgets so this figure will change but she does not expect it to increase any further. She added that to the best of her knowledge CCTV was in the CSR. Investment strategy is being looked at and she hopes that the Council will act more commercially in a way to bring in extra revenue.
- Councillor Miss Hoy responded to Councillor Sutton's comments regarding Council Tax. She stated that it is not that simple to compare two authorities as they have different precepts. This Council may charge more on the highest band, but the majority of houses in Fenland are in Band A, with 84% being in bands A-C. Fenland's Council Tax is average and the previous Leader had already been on the BBC to defend this. She confirmed that she would be supporting a 0% increase.
- Councillor Tierney responded to Councillor Sutton's comment with regard to thinking he was the only councillor last year who was arguing for 0% Council Tax. He said he has always argued the case for a 0% Council Tax freeze except on one occasion as a town councillor and that was for a specific purpose.
- Councillor Mrs French addressed Councillor Hay's statement regarding CCTV being included in the CSR undertaken in 2016. She asked it be stated for the record that a shared service was never discussed.

Proposed by Councillor Sutton, seconded by Councillor Tierney and AGREED that:

- **Option ix (b) the Band D Council Tax level for Fenland District Council services for 2019/20 be set at £260.46, the same level as the current year 2018/19 (no increase) and a contribution of £150,720 is made from General Reserves in 2019/20 to secure a balanced Budget.**

The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 impose an obligation on Local Authorities (after 25 February 2014) to record all votes on decisions on budget and council tax, with this in mind Members voted on option ix (a) as follows:

In favour of the proposal for option ix (a) - None

Against the proposal for option ix (a) – Councillors Benney, Mrs Bligh, Boden, Booth, Buckton, Butcher, J Clark, S Clark, Connor, Cornwell, Court, Mrs Cox, Mrs Davis, Mrs French, Garratt, Miss Hoy, Mrs Laws, Mason, Miscandlon, Owen, Sutton, Tierney, Yeulett

Abstentions to option ix (a) – Councillors Hay, Murphy, Oliver, Seaton,

The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 impose an obligation on Local Authorities (after 25 February 2014) to record all votes on decisions on budget and council tax, with this in mind Members voted on option ix (b) as follows:

In favour of the proposal for option ix (b) - Councillors Benney, Mrs Bligh, Boden, Booth, Buckton, Butcher, J Clark, S Clark, Connor, Cornwell, Court, Mrs Cox, Mrs Davis, Mrs French, Garratt, Miss Hoy, Mrs Laws, Mason, Miscandlon, Owen, Sutton, Tierney, Yeulett

Against the proposal for option ix (b) - None

Absentions to option ix (b) – Councillors Hay, Murphy, Oliver, Seaton

Proposed by Councillor Sutton, seconded by Councillor Tierney and AGREED that:

- (i) the General Fund revenue budget for 2019/20 as set out in Section 8 and Appendix A be approved;**
- (ii) the Medium Term Financial Strategy as outlined in this report and Appendix B be adopted;**
- (iii) the Capital Programme and funding statement as set out in Appendix D be approved;**
- (iv) the adoption of the Business Rates Retail Relief scheme detailed in paragraphs 5.4 – 5.6 be approved;**
- (v) the expenses detailed in Section 10 be approved to be treated as general expenses for 2019/20**
- (vi) the Port Health levy for 2019/20 be set as shown in Section 11;**
- (vii) the adoption of additional Council Tax premiums on Long Term Empty Properties as detailed in Section 12 be approved;**
- (viii) the Treasury Management, Capital Strategy Minimum Revenue Provision, Investment Strategy, Prudential and Treasury Indicators for 2019/20 as set out in Section 15 and Appendix E be approved;**

The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 impose an obligation on Local Authorities (after 25 February 2014) to record all votes on decisions on budget and council tax, with this in mind Members voted on recommendations (i) to (viii) as follows:

In favour - Councillors Benney, Mrs Bligh, Boden, Booth, Buckton, Butcher, J Clark, S Clark, Connor, Cornwell, Court, Mrs Cox, Mrs Davis, Mrs French, Garratt, Hay, Miss Hoy, Mrs Laws, Mason, Miscandlon, Murphy, Oliver, Owen, Seaton, Sutton, Tierney, Yeulett

Against – None

Abstentions - None

C62/18 COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION

Following Council's approval of a 0% Council Tax increase for 2019/20, a revised Council Tax resolution report was circulated to members.

Members considered the revised Council Tax Resolution Report presented by Councillor Hay.

Councillor Booth commented that in light of what has just been agreed, with a surplus of £100k, we need to make sure that we use that to offset any potential increase next year instead of going into reserves.

Proposed by Councillor Booth, seconded by Councillor Sutton and AGREED to pass the resolution set out in the revised report as follows:

- To approve the Council Tax Resolution as amended to reflect a 0% Council Tax increase for Fenland District Council for 2019/20.**

The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 impose an obligation on Local Authorities (after 25 February 2014) to record all votes on decisions

on budget and council tax, with this in mind Members voted on this item as follows:

In favour of the proposal - Councillors Benney, Mrs Bligh, Boden, Booth, Buckton, Butcher, J Clark, S Clark, Connor, Cornwell, Court, Mrs Cox, Mrs Davis, Mrs French, Garratt, Hay, Miss Hoy, Mrs Laws, Mason, Miscandlon, Murphy, Oliver, Owen, Seaton, Sutton, Tierney, Yeulett

Against the proposal – None

Abstentions - None

C63/18 FENLAND LOCAL PLAN REVIEW AND UPDATE

Members considered the Fenland Local Plan Review and Update report presented by Councillor Mrs Laws.

Members asked questions and made comments as follows:

- Councillor Owen stated that in terms of a shared service with Peterborough, they should be aware that this is a Fenland plan for the benefit of Fenland and not for the benefit of any other authority area.
- Councillor Mrs French stated that this plan, started in 2007, was supposed to be a fluid document but this has not been the case. She hopes that the plans of any Town or Parish Council will be taken seriously. March had theirs adopted and approved but planning applications are coming in that officers are not taking seriously and this has got to stop.
- Councillor Booth asked what would happen to the neighbourhood plans. They cannot go against a local plan but if it changes so dramatically, will they have to be started again?
- Councillor Mrs Laws assured Councillor Owen that she accepted his comments and agreed that this is very much a plan for Fenland; also an important part of the consultation process is to go out to Town and Parish Councils. She added that she understood the comments made by Councillor Mrs French and also agreed that Councillor Booth was correct, any drastic difference to the plans would mean they would have to be started again. A neighbourhood plan works in conjunction with the local plan so members must look at what the community wants to put forward, but the local plan takes priority. However, although there may be a slight variation, community minds would likely have the same objective.
- Councillor Booth mentioned that a workshop was held after the PAS report, which is not referenced in the report. One idea was for a working party on the local plan, and he hopes this will be taken forward. Nick Harding, Head of Planning, said as a consequence of reviewing the local plan some elements of the neighbourhood plan are already in place which will fall by the wayside. There is more emphasis on national planning policies.
- Councillor Boden was happy to support the proposal put forward by Councillor Mrs Laws but it is not just a matter of producing a new local plan, which will reflect changes in national policy. He said members need to look at the existing local plan, recognise the areas where it has not been successful, learn from it and aim to do better. The desire is for innovative change and a look at other local authority changes.
- Councillor Connor asked how a lack of five-year land supply could affect the new local plan. Councillor Mrs Laws explained that a comprehensive document would be coming out in March.
- Councillor Sutton stated he supports the updated local plan but would like to use the planning

process to help make the villages sustainable.

- Councillor Mrs Laws advised that there are some shortcomings in the local plan but the consultation process is key. Members can learn, involve the Town and Parish Councils and have a working group, to ensure the villages keep their individuality.

Proposed by Councillor Miscandlon, seconded by Councillor Booth and AGREED to approve:

- **That a full review of the local plan is commenced soon after the local council elections in May 2019 but with technical reports being commissioned before then.**
- **That the Corporate Director (Growth and Infrastructure) is delegated to appoint PCC Planning Policy team via a Service Level Agreement (SLA) to carry out the required Local Plan review and to engage the relevant specialist advice related to the evidence documents within the allocated budget.**
- **That the Local Development Scheme (Appendix 1 of the report) is the timetable for the production of the new local plan, which will include the required consideration of Cabinet and Council at appropriate stages of the review.**

C64/18 SENIOR MANAGER PAY POLICY

Members considered the Senior Manager Pay Policy Statement Report presented by Councillor Hay.

Members asked questions and made comments as follows:

- Councillor Booth recalled many years ago that there was going to be an investigation into the returning officer fees as it was felt archaic to pay a fee for what is essentially a service provided by the Council, particularly when councils are having to cut budgets. There could potentially be a saving here and should the Council not write to the local government minister regarding this?
- Councillor Sutton addressed the monitoring officer and asked what would happen if members do not agree with this pay rise today? The response of the Monitoring Officer was that if Council were unable to come to agreement today, there would have to be an Extraordinary Council Meeting held before 1st April.
- Councillor Boden stated that he was under the impression that in the case of parliamentary elections, all monies are reimbursed by central government so there is no cost to the local Council. He said that Councillor Hay had admirably laid out the legislative background but did she believe the outcomes from the pay structure throughout the Council are good? Councillor Hay advised that it was entirely appropriate.
- Councillor Sutton said there has been a lot in the press about the Chief Executive's pay in correlation to that of the Prime Minister. He feels this is unfair because it could equally be argued that the Prime Minister is underpaid. As this comes up every year he wonders if members could perhaps hold an independent review and Council come back to consider the outcome. The monitoring officer advised there is not the time to carry out a review before 1st April.
- Councillor Owen reminded members that pay is based on responsibility. Carrying out elections is highly responsible, therefore that is reflected in the pay.
- Councillor Hay pointed out that the Chief Executive's pay is slightly misleading as it also includes the car allowance. Also, the pay was set by the previous leader and was well below that of his predecessor. Since then the only increases are the nationally agreed cost of living

rises.

- Councillor Booth said, in relation to Councillor Sutton's point, there is a difference between having a policy and a contract of employment. This is just a policy that we follow going forward to set a salary.
- Councillor Miss Hoy said she initially felt the pay was too high but, having realised that it is a big responsibility and a legally binding one, she understands why the pay is as high as it is. The public do have a perception of the payment being too high but, as Councillor Booth said, this is a policy not a wage negotiation.

Proposed by Councillor Owen, seconded by Councillor Seaton and AGREED to adopt the Senor Manager Pay Policy Statement for 2019/20 at appendix 1 of the Report as required by the Localism Act 2011.

(Councillor Garratt left the meeting at 5.50pm and therefore did not vote on this item)

Councillor Mrs Mayor ended the meeting by thanking all members for their contributions to Council over the past term and especially those who are retiring or are not standing for election.

5.58 pm

Chairman

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**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH
PROCEDURE RULE 9A.**


Question from Martin Curtis;

Question to Leader of the Council

'I will be asking whether it was acceptable for hundreds, if not thousands, of residents to turn out to vote in elections that did not happen due to the lack of a contest.

Please can the Council outline what was done to make residents aware of uncontested elections?'

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Agenda Item No:	12	
Committee:	Council	
Date:	23rd May 2019	
Report Title:	Committee Structure, Political Balance and Allocation of Seats	

1. PURPOSE/SUMMARY

- 1.1. The purpose of this Report is to agree the committee structure and terms of reference for the forthcoming municipal year as well as confirming the allocation of seats to those committees and also to outside bodies in accordance with political proportionality rules and to receive notification of the appointments to them (where known).

2. KEY ISSUES

- 2.1. The Constitution provides under Rule 1, paragraph 1.2 that at the Annual Meeting, Council will:
- (a) determine which committees and panels should be established for the ensuing municipal year;
 - (b) determine the terms of reference for those committees/panels;
 - (c) allocate the seats and position of the Chairman and Vice Chairman to Political Groups in accordance with political proportionality rules where appropriate in respect of committees, panels and outside bodies;
 - (d) receive notification and to appoint Councillors to the allocated seats on each committee and panel and to serve as Chairman and Vice-Chairman.
- 2.2. Political Groups are allocated seats proportionate to their size.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Council:

- 3.1. Maintains the Committees and Panels set out at Appendix A for the 2019/2020 municipal year;
- 3.2. Agrees that the terms of reference set out at Part 3 of the Council's constitution in relation to the committees and panels referred to at paragraph 3.1 above should continue as currently drafted;
- 3.3. Agrees the allocation of seats and position of Chairman and Vice Chairman on those committees subject to political balance arrangements (Appendix A);
- 3.4. Notes the increase in membership of Corporate Governance Committee from 9 to 11 to ensure all political groups receive their allocation of seats.
- 3.5. Agrees the appointments to seats allocated in accordance with paragraphs 3.3 above (Appendix B – to be tabled) to include co-opted or non-members.
- 3.6. Agrees the list of Outside Bodies and allocation of seats in accordance with political balance arrangements as set out at Appendix C for 2019/20. Appointments will made at Cabinet in June.

Wards Affected	All
Forward Pan Reference	N/A

Portfolio Holder(s)	N/A
Report Originater(s)	Carol Pilson - Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer cpilson@fenland.gov.uk 01354 622360 Anna Goodall - Head of Governance and Legal Services agoodall@fenland.gov.uk 01354 622357
Contact Officer(s)	Paul Medd- Chief Executive Carol Pilson - Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer Anna Goodall - Head of Governance and Legal Services
Background papers	Constitution

4. BACKGROUND/INTRODUCTION

- 4.1. For each municipal year, Council has to set out the Committees and Panels which are to be established. On establishing the Committees and Panels, in accordance with the rules relating to Political Proportionality the seats on each committee and panel together with the position of Chairman and Vice Chairman are then allocated to Political Parties. Council also receives notification of the appointments to these Committees. Council is also required to confirm allocations to Outside Bodies based again on political proportionality.

5. COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

- 5.1. As per paragraph 2.1, the Constitution provides that the Council considers the establishment and terms of reference of committees at its Annual Meeting. This must be determined before seats can be allocated to committees in accordance with the political proportionality rules.
- 5.2. The Committees and Panels of Fenland District Council are as identified in Appendix A and their terms or reference are as set out at Part 3 of the Constitution. No changes have been proposed to either for the forthcoming municipal year.

6. ALLOCATION OF SEATS

6.1. Political Proportionality

- 6.1.1. As per paragraph 2.1 the Constitution provides that the Council allocation of seats and position of Chairman and Vice Chairman on those committees subject to political balance arrangements.
- 6.1.2. The rules relating to political proportionality in relation to membership of committees are set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the supporting regulations.
- 6.1.3. For the purposes of the regulations a political group must consist of two or more members who have signed a declaration to that effect.
- 6.1.4. Where one or more groups exists the relative proportions of the groups should

be used in allocating seats on committees/outside bodies. Therefore any elected members who are not part of a group are not automatically allocated seats on committees. If however there are any seats which remain unallocated after political groups have been given their proportionate allocation, those unallocated seats will be given to ungrouped members.

- 6.1.5. The distribution of the 39 current members of the Council within the group structures is:

Group	Number	Percentage
Conservatives	26	67%
Fenland Independents Alliance (Including 2 Liberal Democrats)	12	31%
The Green Party (Un-Grouped)	1	0

- 6.1.6. The proposed allocation of seats and position of Chairman and Vice Chairman on the committees referred to at paragraph 5 and subject to political balance arrangements are as set out at Appendix A.
- 6.1.7. To ensure all groups received the number of seats proportionate to their size it was necessary to increase the membership of Corporate Governance Committee to 11 Members.

6.2. Outside Bodies

- 6.2.1. Also in accordance with political proportionality requirements Fenland District Council allocates seats on outside bodies where there are 2 or more appointments to be made. The list of Outside Bodies and the allocation of seats is as set out at Appendix C.
- 6.2.2. Confirmation of membership to the Outside Bodies will be undertaken by Cabinet in June, which will allow sufficient time for Group Leaders to appoint to their allocation of seats.

7. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

- 7.1. As per paragraph 2.1, the Constitution provides that Council's agrees the appointments to the seats allocated at paragraph 6 above.
- 7.2. The terms of reference of the Conduct Committee also provide for the appointment of up to 2 co-opted members and Independent Persons.
- 7.3. The proposed allocations for the forthcoming municipal year are as set out at Appendix B.
-

Appendix A - Allocation of Seats on Committees & Panels

Committee	Membership	Political Apportionment
Overview and Scrutiny	<p>Up to 12 members of the Council (none of which may be part of the Cabinet)</p> <p>Appointment: Chairman Vice Chairman</p>	<p>8 to Conservative Group 4 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats)</p> <p>To the Conservative Group To the Conservative Group</p>
Planning Committee	<p>Up to 15 members of the Council. No more than three of which can be members of the Cabinet.</p> <p>Each political group can appoint up to 4 substitute members</p> <p>Appointment: Chairman Vice Chairman</p>	<p>10 to Conservative Group 5 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats)</p> <p>To the Conservative Group To the Conservative Group</p>
Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003)	<p>Up to 12 members of the Council.</p> <p>The same Members are to be appointed for the Licensing Act 2003 Committee and the Non Licensing Act 2003 Committee.</p> <p>Appointment: Chairman Vice Chairman</p>	<p>8 to the Conservative Group 4 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats)</p> <p>To the Conservative Group To the Conservative Group</p>
Staff Committee	<p>8 members of the Council to be formed from:</p> <p>3 members of Cabinet, one of which is to be the portfolio holder with responsibility for Finance.</p> <p>3 members of any Overview and Scrutiny panel</p> <p>2 Backbench members</p> <p>Appointment: Chairman</p>	<p>6 to the Conservative Group 2 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats)</p> <p>To the Conservative Group</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Vice Chairman</p> <p>The Chairman may be a member of Cabinet</p>	To the Conservative Group
Corporate Governance Committee	<p>Up to 11 members of the Council to be formed from:</p> <p>Up to 3 members of Cabinet not including the portfolio holder responsible for finance</p> <p>Up to 3 members drawn from the Overview and Scrutiny panel</p> <p>5 Backbench members</p> <p>Appointment: Chairman Vice Chairman</p> <p>The Chairman may be a Member of Cabinet or Overview and Scrutiny</p>	<p>7 to Conservative Group 3 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats) 1 unallocated seat</p> <p>To the Conservative Group To the Conservative Group</p>
Conduct Committee	<p>Up to 5 Members of the Council</p> <p>Appointment: Chairman Vice Chairman</p> <p>The Committee may also appoint itself up to two members of Town or Parish Councils to assist its work.</p> <p>Three additional substitute members to be appointed</p> <p>Independent Person: Deputy Independent Person:</p>	<p>3 to Conservative Group 2 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats)</p> <p>To the Conservative Group To the Conservative Group</p> <p>Currently: Councillor Andrew Donnelly 1 Vacancy</p> <p>2 to Conservative Group 1 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats)</p> <p>Vacant Claire Hawden-Beal</p>
Appointments Panel	<p>Up to 7 members and not less than 3 nominated by the Leader to reflect political proportionality</p>	<p>5 to the Conservative Group 2 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats)</p>

	Appointment:	Chairman Vice Chairman	To the Conservative Group To the Conservative Group
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Appendix B- Appointments to Committees and Panels

Cabinet (9)	
Overview and Scrutiny Panel (12)	
Planning Committee (15)	
Substitutes:	
Licensing Committee (12) - same Members for Licensing Act 2003 Committee and Non - Licensing Act 2003 Committee	

Corporate Governance Committee (11)	
Staff Committee (8)	
Conduct Committee (5)	
Independent People Independent Person: Vacant Deputy Independent Person: Claire Hawden-Beal	Town/Parish Reps Cllr Andrew Donnelly Vacancy
Substitutes:	

Appendix C - Allocation of seats on Outside Bodies

Ref No	Outside Body	Number of representatives required 2019/20	To Be Nominated Representatives 2019/20	Proportionality
1	Anglia Revenue Partnership	1 + 2 substitutes		Conservative Party representation
2	Benwick Internal Drainage Board (IDB)	4		3 Conservatives 1 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
3	Cambridgeshire Military Community Covenant Board	1		Conservative Party Representation
4	Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel	1 + 1 substitute		Conservative Party Representation
5	Cambridgeshire Health and Wellbeing Board + District Lead Members Group	1		Conservative Party Representation
6	Chatteris Community Centre Association	2		1 Conservative 1 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
7	College of West Anglia Governing Body	1		Conservative Party Representation
8	Community Learning and Skills Partnership	1		Conservative Party Representation
9	Curf and Wimblington Combined IDB	1		Conservative Party Representation
10	East Cambs and Fenland Children's and Young Peoples Partnership	1		Conservative Party Representation
11	Feldale IDB	7		5 Conservatives 2 Fenland Independents

Ref No	Outside Body	Number of representatives required 2019/20	To Be Nominated Representatives 2019/20	Proportionality
				Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
12	Fenland Association of Community Transport	1		Conservative Party Representation
13	Fenland Diverse Communities Forum	1		Conservative Party Representation
14	Fenland Tension Monitoring Group	1		Conservative Party Representation
15	Fenland Transport and Access Partnership	1		Conservative Party Representation
16	Fenland Transport Strategy	2		1 Conservative 1 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
17	Fenland Twinning Association	4		3 Conservatives 1 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
18	Hanson, Fletton Brickworks Industry	1		Conservative Party Representation
19	Health Committee	1 + 1 substitute		Conservative Party Representation
20	Hundred of Wisbech IDB	15		10 Conservatives 5 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
21	Kings Lynn IDB	1		Conservative Party Representation
22	LGA/ LGA Rural Commission/ LGA Urban Commission	1 + 1 Substitute		Conservative Party Representation

Ref No	Outside Body	Number of representatives required 2019/20	To Be Nominated Representatives 2019/20	Proportionality
23	Manea and Welney Drainage Commissioners	2		1 Conservative 1 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
24	March Area Transport Study	2		1 Conservative 1 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
25	March West and White Fen Internal Drainage Board (Previously known as March and Whittlesey IDB)	6		4 Conservatives 2 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
26	March East IDB	11		7 Conservatives 4 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
27	March Education Foundation	1		Conservative Party Representation
28	March Fifth District Drainage Commissioners	6		4 Conservatives 2 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
29	March Sixth District Drainage Commissioners	4		3 Conservatives 1 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)

Ref No	Outside Body	Number of representatives required 2019/20	To Be Nominated Representatives 2019/20	Proportionality
30	March Third IDB	8		5 Conservatives 3 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
31	Middle Level Commissioners	3		2 Conservatives 1 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
32	Needham and Laddus IDB	1		Conservative Party Representation
33	Nightlayer IDB	10		7 Conservatives 3 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
34	North Level District IDB	7		5 Conservatives 2 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
35	Wisbech Community Development Trust (Oasis Village Centre)	1		Conservative Party Representation
36	Ransonmoor District Drainage Commissioners	2		1 Conservative 1 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
37	RECAP	1		Conservative Party Representation
38	Rural Cambs CAB	3		2 Conservatives 1 Fenland

Ref No	Outside Body	Number of representatives required 2019/20	To Be Nominated Representatives 2019/20	Proportionality
				Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
39	Safer Fenland Partnership	1		Conservative Party Representation
40	The Wash and North Norfolk Marine Partnership	1		Conservative Party Representation
41	The Combined Authority	1 + 1 Substitute		Conservative Party Representation
42	The Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee	2 + 1 Substitute		1 Conservative 1 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
43	The Combined Authority Audit Committee	1 + 1 Substitute		Conservative Party Representation
44	Upwell IDB	2		1 Conservative 1 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
45	Waldersey IDB	2		1 Conservative 1 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
46	Warboys, Somersham and Pidley IDB	1		Conservative Party Representation
47	Whittlesey & District IDB	5		3 Conservatives 2 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)

Ref No	Outside Body	Number of representatives required 2019/20	To Be Nominated Representatives 2019/20	Proportionality
48	Wisbech and Fenland Museum Management Committee	1		Conservative Party Representation
49	Wisbech Access Strategy Project Board	2		1 Conservative 1 Fenland Independents Alliance (inc 2 Liberal Democrats)
50	Young People March	1		Conservative Party Representation

Portfolio Holder Responsibilities

<u>Cabinet Member</u>	<u>Responsibilities</u>
Councillor Chris Boden	<u>Leader of the Council and Finance:</u> Finance/Budgets (Financial & Performance Management); Benefits (strategic); Corporate Governance; Electoral Services; Business Rates; Policy & Resources; Capital Programme; IDBs (strategic)
Councillor Mrs Jan French	<u>Deputy Leader of the Council:</u> Benefits (operational); ARP; Parking; Member Services.
Councillor Steve Tierney	<u>Transformation & Communication:</u> Customer Access; Marketing & Communications; ICT & Broadband; Waste & Recycling (strategic); Energy Conservation; Equalities; Emergency Planning
Councillor Miss Sam Hoy	<u>Housing:</u> Housing Strategy; Regulated Providers (strategic); Private Sector Housing; Homelessness; Rough Sleeping; Environmental Health (incl enforcement)
Councillor Sam Clark	<u>Social Housing and Leisure:</u> Regulated Providers (operational); Licensing (incl. enforcement); Travellers; Sports Development; Leisure Services
Councillor Chris Seaton	<u>Social Mobility and Heritage:</u> Skills; Transport; Rural Affairs; Community Cohesion; Education; Children & Young People; Tourism; Conservation; Heritage; Dilapidated Buildings & Enforcement.
Councillor Peter Murphy	<u>Environment:</u> Waste & Recycling (operational); Cleansing; Grounds Maintenance; Cemeteries, Parks & Open Spaces; Markets & Events; War Memorials;
Councillor Ian Benney	<u>Economic Growth:</u> Strategic Assets & Management; Growth; Inward Investment; Port & Marine Services; Job stimulation; Asset disposal; Renaissance; Emergency Planning Deputy.
Councillor Mrs Maureen Davis	<u>Communities:</u> Health Inequalities; Health & Wellbeing; Supporting Vulnerable People; Golden Age Fairs; Community Partnerships; Community Grants; Police Liaison; CCTV; Community Safety; Pride in Fenland
Councillor Mrs Dee Laws	<u>Planning:</u> Local Plan; Neighbourhood Planning; Building Control; Planning Policy; Planning Delivery; Planning (operational); Building Communities & Neighbourhood Management; Section 106 & CIL; Flooding & IDBs (operational)



**APPOINTMENTS TO MEMBERSHIP OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
PANEL & COMMITTEES FOR 2019/20**

<u>Cabinet (10)</u>	
Councillor Ian Benney	Councillor Miss Sam Hoy
Councillor Chris Boden	Councillor Mrs Dee Laws
Councillor Sam Clark	Councillor Peter Murphy
Councillor Mrs Maureen Davis	Councillor Chris Seaton
Councillor Mrs Jan French	Councillor Steve Tierney
<u>Overview and Scrutiny Panel (12)</u>	
Councillor Gavin Booth	Councillor Alex Miscandlon
Councillor Alan Bristow	Councillor Mark Purser
Councillor Mike Cornwell	Councillor David Topgood
Councillor Anne Hay	Councillor Mrs Susan Wallwork
Councillor Michael Humphrey	Councillor Bob Wicks
Councillor David Mason	Councillor Fred Yeulett
<u>Planning Committee (15)</u>	
Councillor Ian Benney	Councillor Peter Murphy
Councillor Mrs Sarah Bligh	Councillor David Patrick
Councillor Alan Bristow	Councillor Will Sutton
Councillor Sam Clark	
Councillor David Connor	
Councillor Anne Hay	
Councillor Andrew Lynn	
Councillor Charlie Marks	
Councillor Nick Meekins	
Substitutes:	
Councillor Mrs Jan French, Councillor Billy Rackley, Councillor Robert Skoulding + 1 Vacancy	
<u>Licensing Committee (12)</u>	
Councillor Michael Humphrey	Councillor Mrs Kay Mayor
Councillor Miss Sam Hoy	Councillor Nick Meekins
Councillor Andrew Lynn	Councillor Billy Rackley
Councillor Charlie Marks	Councillor Robert Skoulding
Councillor David Mason	Councillor Michelle Tanfield
Councillor Andy Maul	Councillor David Topgood

<u>Corporate Governance Committee (11)</u>	
Councillor Ian Benney	Councillor Mrs Jan French
Councillor Gavin Booth	Councillor Miss Kim French
Councillor John Clark	Councillor Mark Purser
Councillor Sam Clark	Councillor David Topgood
Councillor Daniel Divine	Councillor Bob Wicks
<u>Staff Committee (8)</u>	
Councillor Chris Boden	Councillor Mrs Jan French
Councillor Alan Bristow	Councillor David Mason
Councillor John Clark	Councillor Steve Tierney
Councillor Mike Cornwell	Councillor Fred Yeulett
<u>Conduct Committee (5)</u>	
Councillor Mike Cornwell	Councillor David Topgood
Councillor David Patrick	Councillor Mrs Susan Wallwork
Councillor Mark Purser	
Independent Person/ deputy Independent Person Independent Person: Vacancy Deputy Independent Person: Claire Hawden-Beal	Town/Parish Co-Optees Andrew Donnelly andrew341donnelly@btinternet.com Vacancy
Substitutes: Councillor David Connor, Councillor Miss Sam Hoy and Councillor Andy Maul	
<u>Appointments Panel (7)</u>	
Councillor Chris Boden	Councillor Will Sutton
Councillor Steve Count	Councillor Steve Tierney
Councillor Mrs Jan French	Councillor Fred Yeulett
Councillor Robert Skoulding	

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Agenda Item No:	13	
Committee:	Council	
Date:	23rd May 2019	
Report Title:	Combined Authority Membership and Other Appointments	

1. PURPOSE/SUMMARY

- 1.1. To request the Council to make appointments to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for the municipal year 2019/2020.

2. KEY ISSUES

- 2.1. In accordance with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, each Constituent Council must appoint one of its elected members and a substitute member to the Combined Authority Board. This is usually the Leader of the Council.
- 2.2. The Council is also asked to make appointments to the Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Audit and Governance Committee.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1. To agree the appointments and nominations to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for the municipal year 2019/20 (to be tabled).
- 3.2. That the Chief Executive be authorised to make any amendments to the appointments to the Combined Authority Board, Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee in consultation with the relevant Political Group Leaders, if the political balance is amended by the Authority between now and the next Council meeting and at any time throughout the municipal year.
- 3.3. To adopt the schedule of appointments and political allocations set out in the appendices.

Wards Affected	All
Forward Pan Reference	N/A
Portfolio Holder(s)	N/A
Report Originator(s)	Carol Pilson - Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer cpilson@fenland.gov.uk 01354 622360 Anna Goodall - Head of Governance and Legal Services agoodall@fenland.gov.uk 01354 622357

Contact Officer(s)	Paul Medd- Chief Executive Carol Pilson - Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer Anna Goodall - Head of Governance and Legal Services
Background papers	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017

4. BACKGROUND/INTRODUCTION

- 4.1. In accordance with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, each Constituent Council must appoint one of its elected members and a substitute member to the Combined Authority. This is normally the Leader. Each Council made these appointments at its respective Council meeting in May 2017 for the 2017/18 municipal year and is requested to do so for each subsequent municipal year. The Council is now asked to appoint a member and substitute member for the municipal year 2019/20.

5. NON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 5.1. The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2016 requires the Combined Authority to establish an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and an Audit and Governance Committee. The Order sets out the rules for membership. The membership of the Overview and Scrutiny and the Audit and Governance Committees as a whole should reflect so far as reasonably practicable the balance of political parties of the constituent councils when taken together. The balance is based on membership of political parties, not political groups, on constituent councils across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
- 5.2. The Combined Authority having reviewed the political balance on constituent councils in 2019 requested constituent councils to make the following appointments to these committees.

5.2.1. Overview & Scrutiny Committee

- 5.2.1.1. The Combined Authority agreed that to ensure an equitable representation across each constituent authority, two members from each council should be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee representing a total membership of fourteen members.
- 5.2.1.2. The Council is required to nominate two members from the Conservative Party to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2019/20 based on the political balance set out in the appendices.

5.2.2. Audit & Governance Committee

- 5.2.2.1. The Combined Authority agreed to establish an Audit and Governance Committee consisting of seven constituent members: one member from each constituent council.

5.2.2.2. The Council is required to nominate one member from the Conservative Party to sit on the Audit and Governance Committee for the municipal year 2019/20 based on the political balance set out in the appendices.

5.2.3. Substitutes

5.2.3.1. The Combined Authority has agreed that substitute members should be appointed for each position on the Audit and Governance Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Any substitute members should come from the same party as the Member they are substituting for to maintain political balance.

5.2.3.2. For the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, if constituent councils have appointed members from the same political parties, ie East Cambs and Fenland, those Councils might only wish to appoint one substitute rather than two. The quorum set down in legislation is two thirds of the total membership. Therefore, it is preferable to appoint two members in case both members are absent from a meeting and need to substitute.

5.3. CONCLUSION

5.3.1. All appointments and nominations made by constituent councils will be reported to the Combined Authority's annual meeting on 30 May.

5.3.2. The political balance calculations in the Appendices are based on up to date statistics given by constituent councils and take account of the outcome of constituent council elections. However, there may be last minute changes in the lead up to constituent councils' annual meetings and Combined Authority's annual meeting on 30 May.

5.3.3. If there are consequential changes to the overall political balance, the Combined Authority may need to review the membership and the allocation of seats to political parties on the above committees. The Monitoring Officer will advise constituent councils if any subsequent changes have been necessary, and whether any changes need to be made to their nominations.

5.3.4. The Council is requested to delegate powers to the Chief Executive to approve any consequential changes to these appointments in consultation with the relevant Party Group leaders.

Appendix 1

Audit and Governance Committee of 7

POLITICAL BALANCE ACROSS THE COUNTY as at 3 May 2019

	Total	Vacancy	Conservative	Labour	Putting St Neots	Independent	Werrington First	Liberal Party	Liberal Democrat	Green	UKIP	Total	Entitlement 2018	Entitlement 2019
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	1	0	36	7	2	0	0	0	15	0	0	60	1 Lib Dem	1 Con
PETERBOROUGH	1	0	28	17	0	0	3	1	9	2	0	60	1 Conservative	1 Lib Dem
HUNTINGDONSHIRE	1	0	30	4	6	0	0	0	7	0	0	47	1 Conservative	1 Con
EAST CAMBS	1	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	28	1 Conservatives	1 Con
SOUTH CAMBS	1	0	11	2	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	43	1 Lib Dem	1 Lib Dem
CAMBRIDGE CITY	1	0	0	26	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	41	1 Labour	1 Lab
FENLAND	1	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	29	1 Conservatives	1 Con
TOTAL		0	146	56	8	0	3	1	91	3	0	308		
POLITICAL BALANCE %			47.40	18.18	2.60	0.00	0.97	0.32	29.55	0.97	0.00	100.00		
Seat allocation May 2018			4	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	7		
Committee seat allocation	7		3.32	1.27	0.18	0.00	0.07	0.02	2.07	0.07	0.00	7.00		

Seat allocation May 2019


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Agenda Item No:	14	
Committee:	Council	
Date:	23rd May 2019	
Report Title:	Members' Allowances Scheme Review Scope	

1. PURPOSE/SUMMARY

- 1.1. For Council to agree the scope and terms of reference for the forthcoming review of the Member Allowances Scheme by an Independent Remuneration Panel.

2. KEY ISSUES

- 2.1. The Local Authorities (Member Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 require Councils to make a scheme of Member Allowances and establish an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations to the Council about the scheme.
- 2.2. The Regulations require that a scheme of allowances must include a basic allowance, payable to all members, and may include provision for the payment of special responsibility allowances as well as childcare and dependent carers' allowances.
- 2.3. The Local Government Act 1972 stipulates the provision of the payment of travel and subsistence allowances. Expenses for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council also fall under this Act.
- 2.4. The current Member Allowances scheme was implemented following a review by the Independent Remuneration Panel in November 2015. A review must be completed at least every 4 years therefore a new scheme must be made by November 2019.
- 2.5. The Council is under a duty to have regard to the recommendations of an Independent Remuneration Panel when agreeing its Members Allowances Scheme. The Independent Remuneration Panel will make its recommendations to Full Council following the recruitment of the panel and full Member consultation

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Council:

- 3.1. agree the scope of the Member Allowances Scheme review as set out within the report
- 3.2. To delegate the process for the appointment and selection of the Independent Remuneration Panel to the Monitoring Officer and Head of Legal and Customer Services in consultation with Group Leaders.

Wards Affected	All
Forward Pan Reference	N/A
Portfolio Holder(s)	N/A
Report Originator(s)	<p>Carol Pilson - Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer cpilson@fenland.gov.uk 01354 622360</p> <p>Anna Goodall - Head of Governance and Legal Services agoodall@fenland.gov.uk 01354 622357</p>
Contact Officer(s)	<p>Paul Medd – Chief Executive Carol Pilson - Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer Anna Goodall - Head of Governance and Legal Services</p>
Background papers	<p>Constitution The Local Authorities (Member Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003</p>

4. THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

- 4.1. The Regulations require that an Independent Remuneration Panel must have at least three appointed individuals.
- 4.2. The members of the Independent Remuneration Panel cannot be elected members of any local authority or anyone who would be disqualified from being an elected member of a local authority.
- 4.3. The Regulations do not specify how or who a Council should appoint to an Independent Remuneration Panel, however the guidance is clear that Councils may wish to advertise for candidates in local papers or may wish to ask particular stakeholders such as the voluntary sector or local business community to participate.
- 4.4. Previous FDC Independent Remuneration Panels have included representation from local voluntary organisations, local church groups, and local businesses as well as members of the public.
- 4.5. The appointment process for the Independent Remuneration Panel must ensure the resulting membership of the review panel is independent and free from party political connections and able to discharge the functions of the panel.
- 4.6. The Regulations provide that the Council is able to pay allowances and travel expenses to panel members which should be determined before panel members are appointed.

-
- 4.7. It is recommended that the Independent Remuneration Panel fulfils the minimum requirement of three appointed individuals, one of whom will become the nominated Chairman for the review.
 - 4.8. It is suggested the District Council advertise for candidates in the local press in addition to making a direct approach to the Cambridgeshire Community and Voluntary Service and to the Chamber of Commerce to invite applications.
 - 4.9. It is recommended that the process for appointment and final selection of the Independent Remuneration Panel is delegated to the Monitoring Officer and Head of Legal and Governance in consultation with Group Leaders.

5. THE REVIEW

- 5.1. Once appointed, it is suggested that the Independent Remuneration Panel be given the following general Terms of Reference, which are based upon the regulations subject to the views of Members:
 - 5.1.1. To make recommendations as to the amount of Basic Allowance that should be payable to all elected members of the District Council;
 - 5.1.2. To make recommendations about the roles and responsibilities for which a Special Responsibility Allowance should be payable and the amount of each such allowance
 - 5.1.3. To make recommendations regarding the approved duties for which travelling and subsistence allowances can be paid and the amount of these allowances;
 - 5.1.4. To make recommendations as to the amount of the co-optees' allowance;
 - 5.1.5. To make recommendations regarding allowances in respect of the expenses incurred in arranging for the care of children and dependents, the amount of this allowance and the means for determination
 - 5.1.6. To determine whether any allowance should be backdated to the beginning of the new term of office for Members, in the event of a new/amended scheme being adopted;
 - 5.1.7. To determine any other issue covered by the 2003 Regulations including whether annual adjustments should be made to allowance levels by means of an index and, if so, for how long such a measure should last, up to a maximum period of 4 years;
 - 5.1.8. To make recommendations regarding the remuneration of the Independent Person and Deputy Independent Person;
 - 5.1.9. To report any recommendations to Council as soon as is reasonably practicable following recruitment of the Panel, member engagement and completion of the review, no later than November 2019;
 - 5.1.10. To review the current provision of IT equipment and related sundries (eg. paper, ink, toners) to Councillors
 - 5.1.11. To compare and contrast schemes in existence at other Councils.
 - 5.1.12. To review the general wording of the scheme to ensure it is sufficiently clear to those who are required to use it and process claims.
 - 5.1.13. To review the claim form Members use to ensure it is sufficiently clear to those who are required to use it and process claims.
- 5.2. Following completion of the review, the Monitoring Officer will prepare a revised Scheme of Allowances reflecting the recommendations made for consideration and approval by Full Council alongside the report of the Independent Panel.

6. **PUBLICITY**

- 6.1. The Regulations place certain duties on local authorities in connection with publicising the recommendations made by their Independent Remuneration Panel. The Council will follow the guidance in ensuring the regulations are met in relation to publicity which includes publicising the report of the panel, the scheme of allowances and the sums paid to each member on an annual basis.
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MOTION 1

**MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR WILL SUTTON REGARDING
STREET LIGHTING**

As a result Local Government reorganization in 1974 there became an inequality between town and village with regard to costs of street lighting, whereby the towns lighting stock are owned and financed by FDC but the villages were left to pick up the costs, this has resulted in 'double taxation'. However, there is an anomaly with regard to the villages of: Coates, Eastrea, Turves and Pondersbridge, if you are fortunate enough to live in these villages then the above don't apply.

We need to address the inequality of the costs of provision and maintenance of street lighting provided by Fenland District Council and those of similar services by Parish Councils, it cannot be acceptable for the towns and the villages mentioned above to be expected to continue with this favorable position at the expense of the majority of the villages and their residents, it's time to level the playing field!

This Council should use the vast underspends of recent years to fund this resolution.

This Council resolves to:

1. refer this matter for consideration by Cabinet; and
2. if the resolution at paragraph 1 is agreed, that Cabinet considers taking the following steps:
 - a. Consult and agree with those Parish Councils that are willing to take ownership of all Parish Council owned street lighting;
 - b. Recommend an amendment to the budget to incorporate responsibility for all ongoing costs associated with the provision of Street lighting, including power and maintenance, in respect of those Parish Councils wishing to take up this option.

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AGENDA ITEM 15

AMENDMENT to Motion regarding Parish Street Lighting from Councillor Boden

(Track changes indicate how the motion has been amended from the motion listed on the agenda)

As a result Local Government reorganization in 1974 there became an inequality between town and parish with regard to costs of street lighting, whereby the towns lighting stock are owned and financed by FDC but the parishes were left to pick up the costs, this has resulted in 'double taxation'.

We need, directly or indirectly, to address the inequality of the costs of provision and maintenance of street lighting provided by Fenland District Council and those of similar services by Parish Councils, it cannot be acceptable for the towns to be expected to continue with this favorable position at the expense of the majority of the Parish Councils and their residents.

This Council resolves to;

1. refer this matter for consideration by Cabinet.; and
2. if the resolution at 1 is agreed, that Cabinet considers taking the following steps:
 - a. Consulting and communicating with those Parish Councils affected by the referral to Cabinet regarding the ownership of all Parish Council owned street lighting;
 - b. Recommend consideration of budgetary impact in relation to costs associated with the provision of Parish Street lighting, including power and maintenance..

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MOTION 2

MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR WILL SUTTON REGARDING GARDEN WASTE

During the consultation with residents regarding garden waste, sixty two percent of respondents agreed they would prefer to keep the service at a reasonable cost rather than the only other option, to have no service at all. It came as a surprise to us and the residents of the Elm and Christchurch ward to receive election pledges by the ruling party's candidates, to do away with the charge, I have it on good authority that other wards had similar pledges, so this resolution should extend to the whole of Fenland.

I am of course aware of the Government consulting on garden waste, but these almost certainly won't be introduced until 23/24 at the earliest, if at all.

This Council resolves to:

1. refer this matter for consideration by Cabinet; and
2. if the resolution at paragraph 1 is agreed, that Cabinet considers taking the following steps:
 - a. refund all Garden Waste contributions paid by the residents of Elm and Christchurch and the rest of Fenland, for the 19/20 municipal year, as per the pledges made by candidates of the ruling party in their election publications;
 - b. discontinuing the garden waste charge for the remainder of the 2019/20 municipal year with a full review to take place ahead of the next municipal year;
 - c. recommend to Full Council any budget requirements necessary to give effect to that decision and in so doing spell out very clearly where they plan to find the circa £700K to do so

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AGENDA ITEM 16

AMENDMENT to Motion regarding Garden Waste from Councillor Boden

(Track changes indicate how the motion has altered from the motion listed on the agenda)

During the consultation with residents regarding garden waste, sixty two percent of respondents agreed they would prefer to keep the service at a reasonable cost rather than the only other option, to have no service at all.

The Government is consulting on garden waste.

This Council resolves to:

1. refer this matter for consideration by Cabinet; and
2. if the resolution at 1 is agreed, that Cabinet considers taking the following steps:
 - a. awaiting the outcome of the re-evaluation of the waste collection service and thereby reviewing all Garden Waste contributions paid by the residents of Fenland,;
 - b. awaiting the outcome of the re-evaluation of the waste collection service and then reviewing the financial impact and impact on recycling of discontinuing or reducing the garden waste charge ;
 - c. following the Council's re-evaluation of the waste collection service advise Councillors of any budget requirements necessary to give effect to any recommendations coming from the Cabinet review including the circa net £700K income the Council derives from the current scheme.

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MOTION 3

MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR WILL SUTTON REGARDING THE USE OF SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

There are very real concerns with some of our residents around Climate Change in general and the use of single-use-plastic's in particular.

Anecdotal evidence suggest somewhere in the region of eight million tonnes enters the sea each year. David Attenborough urged: 'A plastic crisis is engulfing our seas, and we need to stop the problem urgently'.

How can we as leaders of this district allow this to continue without picking up the gauntlet and leading the way in reducing the SUP in all the buildings we own and manage?

I'm not for one minute suggesting we can resolve the world issue but we can in a small way help reduce the issue locally by supporting my motion.

This Council resolves to: Develop a robust strategy to make Fenland District Council a 'single-use-plastic-free' authority and encourage the districts institutions, businesses, tenants and citizens to adopt similar measures by;

1. Ending the sale and provision of SUP products such as bottles, cups, cutlery and drinking straws in all council owned buildings, (Including Freedom Leisure) events and services, with immediate effect where possible and feasible, and in any event, no later than Dec 2019;
2. Encouraging schools, clubs and all our outside bodies to adopt measures, with the aim of phasing out SUP, for example containers and cutlery in their premises;
3. Ensuring that the District Council, via its procurement of goods, services and supplies, has integrated the aim to end the use of SUP products by suppliers wherever feasible and appropriate;

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AGENDA ITEM 17

AMENDMENT to Motion regarding the use of Single Use Plastics from Councillor Boden

Many Fenland residents have very real concerns about the use of Single Use Plastics (SUPs), especially following David Attenborough's recent television series about our seas and oceans.

Anecdotal evidence suggests somewhere in the region of eight million tonnes of plastic waste enters the sea each year. David Attenborough urged: "a plastic crisis is engulfing our seas and we need to stop the problem urgently".

This Council should in absolutely no way be responsible, either directly or indirectly, for plastic waste entering our seas and oceans.

THIS COUNCIL THEREFORE RESOLVES:

1. that an audit of the disposal of single use plastics used by this Council be conducted and presented to the July meeting of Cabinet to give assurance (or otherwise) that no plastic waste produced by FDC is entering our seas or oceans.
2. that if any evidence is found that single use plastic waste produced by FDC is entering our seas or oceans, immediate action be taken by Officers to change our disposal methods to stop any of FDC's plastic waste entering our seas or oceans.

The disposal and use of SUPs is but a part of a much wider problem. FDC should be adhering to the "REDUCE, RE-USE and RECYCLE" principles (often called the "3Rs") when considering all of its activities.

THIS COUNCIL THEREFORE RESOLVES:

3. that a comprehensive report be prepared and considered by Cabinet this calendar year evaluating our success or otherwise in adhering to the 3Rs principles in all of FDC's activities, proposing improvements to current practice wherever possible. In that context, specific consideration should be given to how the direct use of any SUPs by FDC can be consistent with FDC's adherence to the 3Rs.
4. that the comprehensive report in item 3 above should consider how FDC can, via its procurement of goods, services and supplies, wherever feasible and appropriate minimise if not eliminate its indirect use of SUPs via its procurement of goods, services and supplies.
5. that, once FDC is able to display a high level of compliance with the 3Rs principles, we should seek to lead by example and influence the behaviour of the District's other institutions, businesses, tenants and citizens.

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MOTION 4

**MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR MRS SARAH BLIGH AND COUNCILLOR GAVIN
BOOTH REGARDING IMPROVEMENTS TO PLAY EQUIPMENT OWNED BY FENLAND
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Play equipment can help to improve health outcomes for children across the District by encouraging exercise, it is also important to ensure facilities cater for all age groups. Some of the play equipment owned by Fenland District Council is in need of improvement and enhancement in order to continue to be of benefit to children.

This Council resolves to:

1. refer this matter for consideration by Cabinet; and
2. if the resolution at paragraph 1 is agreed, that Cabinet considers taking the following steps:
 - a. A review of play equipment provided across the District to determine where improvements and enhancements are most needed;
 - b. Agree the most effective means of undertaking that review for example by establishing a working group; and
 - c. Subject to the outcome of the review, identify with input from officers any external funding that may be available to meet the cost of improvements and, where that does not meet the overall cost, to review the availability of internal funding and where necessary make recommendations to Full Council if budgetary adjustments are required;
 - d. Agree to keep members informed of the progress that is being made via the Portfolio Holders Briefing.

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AGENDA ITEM 18 – Fenland District Council Play Equipment

ALTERED MOTION


(Track changes indicate how the motion has altered from the motion listed on the agenda)

Play equipment can help to improve health outcomes for children across the District by encouraging exercise, it is also important to ensure facilities cater for all age groups. Some of the play equipment owned by Fenland District Council is in need of improvement and enhancement in order to continue to be of benefit to children.

This Council resolves to:

1. refer this matter for consideration by Cabinet; and
2. if the resolution at paragraph 1 is agreed, that Cabinet considers taking the following steps:
 - a. A review of play equipment provided across the District to determine where improvements and enhancements are most needed;
 - b. Agree the most effective means of undertaking that review; and
 - c. Subject to the outcome of the review, identify with input from officers any external funding that may be available to meet the cost of improvements and, where that does not meet the overall cost, to review the availability of internal funding and where necessary make recommendations to Full Council if budgetary adjustments are required;
 - d. Agree to keep members informed of the progress that is being made via the Portfolio Holders Briefing.

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Agenda Item No:	19	
Committee:	Council	
Date:	23rd May 2019	
Report Title:	NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MONITORING OFFICER	

1. PURPOSE/SUMMARY

- 1.1. To advise Members of the appointment of Amy Brown, Senior Lawyer and Deputy Monitoring Officer at Peterborough City Council as the Council's Deputy Monitoring Officer. To approve the Council entering into a Section 113 agreement which enables local authorities to place officer/officers of one at the disposal of the other for the purposes of discharging the latter's functions.

2. KEY ISSUES

- 2.1. Section 2.3 of Article 12 of the Constitution enables the Monitoring Officer to designate another officer to deputise for them.
- 2.2. Amy Brown is the Deputy Monitoring Officer for Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council and between August 2018 and April 2019 fulfilled the role of Interim Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer for Fenland District Council. Amy is therefore an experienced Deputy Monitoring Officer and has during her time at Fenland District Council gained a good insight into the culture and governance arrangements.
- 2.3. The Council currently has a legal partnership arrangement with Peterborough City Council for legal support. The Deputy Monitoring Officer arrangement will be an extension of this agreement.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1. To note the appointment of Amy Brown, Senior Lawyer and Deputy Monitoring Officer - Peterborough City Council, as the Council's Deputy Monitoring Officer.
- 3.2. To approve that Fenland District Council enter into a Section 113 (of the Local Government Act 1972) agreement for the new Deputy Monitoring Officer to be able to carry out their duties.

Wards Affected	All
Forward Plan Reference	N/A
Portfolio Holder(s)	N/A
Report Originator(s)	Carol Pilson - Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer cpilson@fenland.gov.uk 01354 622360
Contact Officer(s)	Carol Pilson - Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer

Background Paper(s)	None
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