

EXTRACT of the MINUTES of a meeting of the POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Coalville on WEDNESDAY, 9 JANUARY 2019

Present: Councillor M Specht (Chairman)

Councillors R Ashman, T Eynon, J Geary (Substitute for Councillor N Clarke), G Hault, P Purver, V Richichi, A C Saffell, S Sheahan and N Smith

In Attendance: Councillors R Adams, J Clarke, R Johnson and J Legrys

Portfolio Holders: Councillors R Blunt and N J Rushton

Officers: Mr J Arnold, Mrs T Bingham, Mr M Fiander, Mr G Jones, Mrs B Smith, Mrs R Wallace and Miss A Wright

37. 2019/20 CAPITAL STRATEGY

The Head of Finance presented the report to Members.

In response to a question regarding the ownership of the Leisure Centres from Councillor T Eynon, the Head of Finance reported that the service provider would be responsible for the lifecycle costs of the facilities. If the service provider wanted to extend the buildings or make any large-scale changes to the facilities, they would need the Council's permission, and may involve the Council making a financial contribution, as they remain Council owned assets.

Councillor J Geary raised concerns that once the land at Cropston Drive had been sold to fund the leisure project there would be no remaining council owned land to fall back on if funds were required elsewhere in the future. He was also disappointed that the land was not being used for much needed council housing. The Portfolio Holder believed it was better to maximise the value of the land by selling it and funding capital projects. He added that there could be options to buy more land in the future as well as other ways to invest money to raise funds. Regarding the development of the Cropston Drive site, the Portfolio Holder stated that the development of the site would include social housing, plans of which would be seen by Planning Committee in due course. He added that other council sites such as disused garages were being utilised for development for social housing.

It was moved by Councillor N Smith, seconded by Councillor R Ashman and

RESOLVED THAT:

Comments made by the Policy Development Group be provided to Cabinet when it meets on 5 February to consider the Capital Strategy 2019/20.

42. 2019/20 - 2023/24 DRAFT CAPITAL PROGRAMMES

The Head of Finance presented the report to Members. Further to the report, she informed Members that due to the recent failure in the door security system of the Council Offices, Cabinet made the decision at its December meeting to replace the system in this financial year rather than the next financial year as originally budgeted for. The changes would be included in the final budget report.

Councillor S Sheahan expressed interest in the compartmentalisation recycling bin pilot, as any improvements to the current provision would be beneficial. He asked how quickly

it would be rolled out across the district and when financial benefits would be seen. The Strategic Director of Place stated it was difficult to say what improvements to recycling rates or financial benefits would be at this stage.

Councillor A C Saffell referred to the recent announcements that the Government were looking at standardising the method of collecting waste across the country and asked if this would be considered when conducting the pilot. The Strategic Director of Place confirmed that this would be included in the Waste Strategy.

In response to a question from Councillor J Geary, the Head of Finance agreed to provide further information regarding the cost of Owen Street football floodlights and how it was to be funded. It was moved by Councillor M Specht, seconded by Councillor J Geary and

RESOLVED THAT:

Comments made by the Policy Development Group be provided to Cabinet when it meets on 5 February to consider the 2019/20 - 2023/24 Draft Capital Programmes.

The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15 pm