

Chairman - Councillor M J Winnington

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

E L Carter	A M Loughran
M G Dodson	B McKeown
F D J James	A Nixon
R A James	P A Leason
E G R Jones	

Also present:- Councillor R P Cooke, Resources Portfolio

And Councillors A P Edgeller, A T A Godfrey, J Hood, L Nixon, J M Pert, A F Reid, and D P Rouxel.

Officers in attendance:-

T Clegg	-	Chief Executive
C Forrester	-	Deputy Chief Executive (Resources)
J Aupers	-	Head of Transformation and Assurance
J Allen	-	Democratic Services Officer

#### **RSC14 Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2023, as previously circulated, were agreed as a correct record.

#### **RSC15 Apologies**

Councillor J S Powell (substituted by P A Leason).

#### **RSC16 General Fund Revenue Budget 2023-24 to 2026-27 and Capital Programme 2023-24 to 2026-27**

Prior to the item being discussed, Councillor R P Cooke, Resources Portfolio, thanked officers for the work they had done on the budget.

The Deputy Chief Executive (Resources) introduced the report proposing the General Fund revenue budget for 2024-25, the updated Capital Programme 2024-27 and indicative budgets for 2025-26. Also to approve the introduction of the new car parking charges as set out in the report. Salient points of the report were highlighted and it was noted that one year settlements result in reactionary rather than strategic budget setting.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding Paragraph 5.9 and the £2m overall forecast outturn. The Deputy Chief Executive (Resources) explained the requirement to invest in resources within the Finance Department to deliver statutory processes.

The investment fund would require business cases which would be scrutinised by Resources Scrutiny Committee and therefore increase transparency.

Funding for staffing is being matched by CCDC as it is a shared service.

When questioned, Councillor R P Cooke, Resources Portfolio agreed that there needs to be more housing as part of the growth of the Borough.

Officers were again thanked for work done in the budget setting process.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the decision of the Cabinet as set out in Minute No CAB47, regarding the General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2023-26, be noted.

#### **RSC17 Work Programme - Resources Scrutiny Committee**

Considered a report presenting the Resources Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme.

A reminder that the dates for the Resources Task and Finish - Review of the Constitution are:

- 22 January 2024 at 18:00
- 12 February 2024 at 18:00
- 13 March 2024 at 18:00 prior to the Resources Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the report be noted.

CHAIR