

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Executive
held on 15 December 2020**

+ Cllr Alan McClafferty (Chairman)

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| + Cllr Colin Dougan | + Cllr David Lewis |
| + Cllr Josephine Hawkins | + Cllr David Mansfield |
| + Cllr Rebecca Jennings-Evans | + Cllr Adrian Page |

+ Present

In Attendance: Cllr Graham Alleway, Cllr Peter Barnett, Cllr Rodney Bates, Cllr Sharon Galliford, Cllr Edward Hawkins, Cllr Sashi Mylvaganam, Cllr Pat Tedder, Cllr Victoria Wheeler and Cllr Graham Tapper

79/E Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2020 were agreed.

80/E Community Loan Scheme

The Executive received a report proposing the introduction of a conditional emergency low-interest loan to help sustain key community organisations which may otherwise be forced to close permanently due to financial implications of the Covid-19 pandemic. The scheme was proposed in response to reports that the ongoing financial impact of the pandemic was causing some of these organisations to consider whether they could viably continue to operate. The proposed conditions of the scheme had been attached at Annex A to the report.

The scheme would only be available to charities or not-for-profit community organisations carrying out work in local areas that the Council considered essential. Furthermore, it would not be applicable to businesses or commercial entities which had other means of applying for support such as rate relief, the Bounce Back Loan Scheme, or other government initiatives.

Members considered the report and, whilst the principle was supported, a number of concerns were raised, in particular in relation to charity law. Suggestions were also made that the Council should be offering grants instead of loans. Arising from the discussions, it was agreed to amend the terms of the scheme to include the following provisions:

- i. It would explicitly state that the loan would not be held on the personal liability of any trustees.
- ii. It would state that the charity or organisation's constitution must allow it to take on a loan.
- iii. It would state that, in taking the loan, a charity must be confident that it was not contravening Charity Commission rules.

It was agreed to change the name of the scheme from the proposed 'Pay Back Grant' to 'Community Loan scheme'. It was also agreed that a maximum of £150,000 would be allocated to the scheme.

Members were reminded that the Council's Community Fund Grant Scheme provided grants of up to £25,000 to assist local not for profit organisations with the delivery of community projects and it was suggested that the number of funding cycles should be increased in 2021. It was noted that a review of all grants would be considered by the Executive in February 2021.

RESOLVED that

- (i) a Community Loan scheme, as set out at Annex A to the agenda report, as amended, be set up to support eligible charities and community organisations facing permanent closure; and**
- (ii) any decision making regarding the scheme to be delegated to the Executive Head of Finance in consultation with the Leader.**

81/E Mid-Year Performance Report - 2020/21

The Executive considered a report detailing the Council's performance against corporate objectives, priorities and success measures as set out in the Annual Plan. The comments and observations made by the Performance & Finance Scrutiny Committee on the report were also noted.

RESOLVED that the Mid-Year Performance Report, as attached at Annex A to the agenda report, be noted.

82/E Council Finances as at 30 September 2020

The Executive noted the Council's financial position at 30 September 2020 and considered a proposal to transfer a £7,000 residual budget relating to disabled access at London Road Rec to the London Road Rec playground improvement budget, following completion of the disabled access project.

Members noted that it was proposed to include an increase of £139,000 to the Watchetts Tennis Court capital budget in the 2021/22 Capital Programme. This was due to a subsequent detailed investigation which had found that the playing surface required far more structural repairs than the original quote had taken into account. Having discussed the notable increase to the cost of the works since the information was originally presented to the Executive in May 2020, it was agreed that a further report containing up to date information and costs, including information from a tender process, would be brought to the Executive in order for an informed decision to be made on this project.

RESOLVED

- (i) that the Council's financial position at 30 September 2020 be noted;**

- (ii) that a £7,000 residual budget relating to disabled access at London Road Rec be transferred to the London Road Rec playground improvement budget, following completion of the disabled access project;
- (iii) to note that the draft Corporate Capital Programme 2021/22, to be agreed by the Council in February 2021, will include an item on the Meadows Roundabout project; and
- (iv) that a report be brought to a future meeting with further information regarding an increase to the Watchetts Tennis Court capital budget.

83/E Treasury Management Mid-year Report for 2020/21

The Executive received a report detailing the Treasury Management Service performance for 2020/21, as at 30th September 2020, and illustrated the compliance to-date with the Treasury Management Indicators for 2020/21.

Approval was sought to change the Council's treasury management strategy to allow greater investment in Money Market funds.

RESOLVED to note the report and to approve a temporary change to the Council's Treasury Management Strategy, as set out at paragraph 4.18 in the agenda report.

84/E Appointments to Surrey Leaders' Group Outside Bodies - Mid-Year Vacancy

The Executive was informed that a vacancy had arisen on Surrey & Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (Mental Health Foundation Trust), one of the Surrey Leaders' Group Outside Bodies. Councillor Robin Perry had expressed an interest in being nominated to the vacancy and the Executive agreed to support this nomination.

RESOLVED that Councillor Robin Perry be nominated to the vacancy on Surrey Leaders' Group vacancy on Surrey & Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (Mental Health Foundation Trust).

85/E Urgent Action

RESOLVED that the urgent action taken under the Scheme of Delegation of Functions to Officers be noted.

Chairman