



Minutes of the meeting of the **Strategy Group** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Lodge Road, Daventry on 6th February 2020 at 6.15 p.m. (Concluded at 9.00 p.m.)

PRESENT:

Councillor Richard Auger	Leader – Chairman
Councillor Adam Brown	Deputy Leader & HR Portfolio Holder
Councillor Colin Morgan	Resources Portfolio Holder
Councillor David James	Economic, Regeneration and Employment Portfolio Holder
Councillor Daniel Cribbin	Housing & Environmental Health Portfolio Holder
Councillor Alan Chantler	Strategic Planning Portfolio Holder
Councillor Wayne Howard	Access & Communication Portfolio Holder
	Environment Portfolio Holder
Councillor Alan Hills	Community, Culture and Leisure Portfolio Holder
Councillor Steve Osborne	Chairman of Planning
Councillor Wendy Randall	
Councillor Catherine Lomax	

Officers:

Ian Vincent	Chief Executive
Maria Taylor	Executive Director (Community)
Simon Bowers	Executive Director (Business)
Tony Gillet	Executive Director (Resources)
Audra Statham	Chief Financial Officer
Richard Wood	Local Strategy Manager
Richard Hughes	Principal Accountant
Rebecca Smith	Principal Accountant

Also in attendance:

Councillor Deanna Eddon	Councillor Kevin Parker
Councillor Mark Wesley	Councillor Ken Ritchie
Councillor Stephen Dabbs	Councillor Cecile Irving-Swift
Councillor Jonathan Harris	Councillor Liz Griffin

SG.08/20 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2020 be approved and signed as a correct record.

SG.09/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the Deputy Chief Executive and Councillor Jo Gilford.

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SG.10/20 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor Colin Morgan declared an interest in the Climate Emergency report as it made a number of references to a report that had been contributed to by the company he worked for.

Councillor Liz Griffin declared an interest in agenda item 7 (i) as she lived in the proposed Woodford Halse and Hinton conservation area.

SG.11/20 CORPORATE ISSUES

SG.11/20/01 Strategic Risk Register

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/1, page nos.13-22).

The Chairman presented the Strategic Risk Register and Mitigation Plan which was produced as part of the corporate planning framework. It was noted that the document had been considered by the Corporate Governance Committee at its last meeting and noted.

RECOMMENDED:

That the updated Strategic Risk Register 2017-20 be adopted.

SG.12/20 HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

SG.12/20/01 Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/2, page nos.23-30).

The Housing and Environmental Health Portfolio Holder reported that twenty eight responses had been received to the consultation and overall they were positive. As a result of the consultation, two minor changes to the text were proposed and these were set out in the appendix to the report.

Councillor Wendy Randall raised concerns that the responses had been grouped together and the individual respondents were not named. Councillor Randall requested that further information be made available to the public about who to report rough sleepers to. In response, the Housing and Environmental Health Portfolio Holder advised that some of the respondents had not identified themselves, four of the responses that had been received were from organisations, including two parish councils. No District Councillors had identified themselves as responding to the consultation.

The Executive Director (Community) undertook to further publicise the details of those organisations that could be contacted to report a rough sleeper; an update would be provided to the Housing and Environmental Health Portfolio Holder when this had been carried out.

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RECOMMENDED:

1. That the proposed changes to the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy in response to representations, as set out in the Appendix, be approved.
2. That further minor editorial changes be made to the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy including to reflect the fact that the document will be in its final adopted form.
3. That the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020 revised as per the above is adopted, and that this supersedes Section 9 (Homelessness) of the Strategic Housing Plan (adopted February 2014), which is rescinded.

SG.12/20/02 Strengthening police powers to tackle unauthorised encampments – Government Consultation

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/3, page nos.31-38).

The Housing and Environmental Health Portfolio Holder reported that the Government had issued the consultation on measures to criminalise the act of trespassing when setting up an encampment. The Council's proposed response was set out in the appendix to the report and was broadly supportive of the proposals. The Government was also consulting on amendments to sections 61 and 62A of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

Councillor Stephen Dabbs acknowledged that trespass could be a criminal offence but raised concerns that these proposed changes could cause problems if there were insufficient authorised spaces for the gypsies and travellers to be moved to. Councillor Mark Wesley queried whether the response referred to emergency stopping places. Councillor Cecile Irving-Swift considered that the issue was complex and by and large there were few trespassers. However, it was important that the police had the powers to deal with those that did trespass.

The Chairman highlighted that the Gypsy and Traveller community were a minority and it was important to be aware of their heritage and way of life. However the cost of moving them on from private land should they refuse to move currently fell to the landowner.

The Housing and Environmental Health Portfolio Holder explained that in the near future the emergency stopping places would be implemented. The County Travellers Unit worked closely with the community to try to engage them in education and health services. Private landowners had been penalised in the past by having to pay for unauthorised encampments to be moved on and strengthening the police's powers would make the situation fairer.

The Executive Director (Community) advised that sites were provided for local need through the planning system. The police usually managed to move Gypsies and Travellers on from unauthorised encampments and the emergency stopping places would complement the procedures already available.

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RESOLVED:

That the consultation response as set out in Appendix A be approved for submission to the Home Office as a formal response from Daventry District Council to the consultation on 'Strengthening police powers to tackle unauthorised encampments'.

SG.12/20/03 Consultation on a new Public Spaces Protection Order

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/4, page nos.39-42).

The Housing and Environmental Health Portfolio Holder advised that the current Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) was due to expire in October. It was proposed to undertake a consultation on a new order and ask the public if they would support some additional new offences as set out in section 4.2 of the report. The consultation would be held over twelve weeks.

Councillor Wendy Randall suggested that the PSPO be extended to cover the whole District and queried why the reference to anti-social behaviour would be an offence outside schools only, as anti-social behaviour was an offence wherever it occurred. Councillor Randall queried who the authorised officer was.

Councillor Adam Brown considered that there were risks associated with introducing too many rules, however these proposals were proportionate.

Councillor Ken Ritchie considered that there should be a limit to powers and re-dress if powers were not appropriately used. Councillor Mark Wesley raised concerns that the order would be draconian and queried why it did not state what the penalties were. Some of these powers already existed as the police had powers to tow cars away.

The Housing and Environmental Health Portfolio Holder stated that discretion would be used to enforce the rules and the Council was not heavy handed. Currently there were issues with buskers in the town stopping outside a particular premises for a long time. Councillor Ken Ritchie accepted that this could be an issue but still remained concerned about the wide terms of the proposed PSPO.

In response to the queries raised, the Executive Director (Community) advised that there was evidence to justify a PSPO to cover the whole town, rather than the District. However if there was evidence brought to the Council's attention of anti-social behaviour in other locations, a PSPO could be tailored for that area. Anti-social behaviour outside schools had been specifically identified as an issue, hence its suggestion for inclusion within the order. Only suitably trained officers were designated to deal with enforcement of the order.

The Executive Director (Community) welcomed the suggestion that the proposed penalties be included in the consultation. The suggested new offence relating to parking vehicles in a manner which caused alarm or distress had been included as this is sometimes an issue, for example driveways blocked by neighbours or inconsiderate parking near schools. The PSPO should not raise expectations but should enable the Council and partners to deal with amenity issues that had been reported.

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RESOLVED:

That consultation be undertaken on the replacement of the existing Public Space Protection Order (Daventry District Council) that expires in October 2020.

SG.12/20/04 Future Homes Standard Consultation

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/5, page nos.43-52).

The Housing and Environmental Health Portfolio Holder drew Members' attention to the responses set out in the appendix. In response to the Government's target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, a consultation had been launched to ensure that new homes be built to higher energy efficiency standards. There was a recommendation to join the UK Green Building Council and this was at no cost to the authority.

Councillor Alan Chantler raised concerns that these changes would be in part brought about through the amendment of the Building Regulations. He had limited confidence in the arrangements to enforce these.

Councillor Ken Richie welcomed the proposed response.

RESOLVED:

That the consultation response provided in the Appendix be approved for submission to the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government as a formal response from Daventry District Council to the consultation on 'The Future Homes Standard' change to Part L and Part F of the building Regulations for new dwellings.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Council joins the UK Green Building Council.

SG.13/20 ENVIRONMENT ISSUES

SG.13/20/01 Climate Emergency

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/6, page nos.53-134).

Councillor Adam Brown presented the report on behalf of the Environment Portfolio Holder and thanked the Scrutiny and Improvement Task Panel for the report as to how the Council should react to the climate emergency. The task panel had proposed 57 recommendations and Councillor Brown thanked Officers for condensing these into a more manageable 20 recommendations.

Councillor Colin Morgan considered that the work was comprehensive and would feed into the work of the unitary.

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Councillor Ken Ritchie acknowledged that the number of recommendations proposed by the task panel had put Officers under pressure, therefore he was grateful for their consideration. However he was disappointed that some of the recommendations proposed had not been included in the Officers' recommendations. Officers had been constructive and positive with regard to the recommendations in the main, however there were a number that would be forwarded to the unitary for their consideration and it would be two years before the unitary would be established. The unitary West Northamptonshire Council would be dealing with significant pressures and the climate emergency may well not be at the top of their agenda. Therefore Councillor Ritchie considered that this was an abdication of Daventry District Council's responsibilities; there was limited time to deal with the issues raised and there should be no delay. However, Councillor Ritchie welcomed the proposal for a climate emergency communication plan that covered twelve of the original recommendations.

Councillor Colin Morgan highlighted that the Scrutiny and Improvement Committee would be able to hold the Council to account through the post implementation activity reviews which they carried out. The 20 recommendations would result in quite a lot of work needing to be undertaken.

Councillor Ritchie considered that there may be issues that were included within some of the Officers' recommendations that should be recommended separately, but as yet he did not know what these were. The Chairman suggested that Councillor Ritchie contact the Monitoring Officer as to how he could resolve this issue.

Councillor Wendy Randall noted that the public meeting that the task panel had held had been well attended. Councillor Randall expressed disappointment that a number of the proposed recommendations would be referred to the unitary authority and queried why secondary schools could not be engaged now. The Executive Director (Community) highlighted that engagement with schools would be covered in the proposed Climate Emergency communication plan, which would be prepared and delivered in 2020/21.

Councillor Adam Brown raised concerns regarding the recommendation that the Community Infrastructure Levy list be amended to include measures to offset carbon emissions and queried whether this was the best use of the levy; as it could result in forfeiting other infrastructure that was required. Councillor Brown considered that such matters should be dealt with by the Government.

With regard to Daventry Town Council being asked to explore the feasibility of a 'Green Market', Councillor Brown highlighted that the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change stated that there was a place for animal proteins in people's diets and therefore he proposed that the recommendation be amended to include locally sourced and sustainable meat and dairy produce. It was also important for the District Council to support local farmers.

Councillor Steve Osborne considered that there was only so much that could be achieved by Daventry District Council and that it would be more constructive to lobby those countries which had the highest carbon dioxide emissions. Councillor Osborne considered that the recommendations would not make a significant difference and therefore he would not be voting in favour of them.

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The Chairman considered that the task panel was a good example of cross party working. On being put to the meeting the recommendations, as amended, were declared carried with 7 voting in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention.

RECOMMENDED:

1. The Council declares a Climate Emergency.
2. The Council sets realistic targets (Scopes 1, 2 and 3) for the reduction of emissions to April 2021 and calls on West Northamptonshire Council to continue this work after 2021.
3. After May 2020, and prior to vesting day, DDC urges the shadow West Northamptonshire Council to set up a working group to consider the 17 issues identified.
4. Amend report templates so that emissions information is included in the environmental section where relevant.
5. The Chief Executive appoints a member of the senior management team as Climate Emergency Champion.
6. A leaflet is included with 2020/21 Council Tax bills promoting Big Switch and sources of energy saving advice and other green initiatives. (3 issues covered)
7. Climate Emergency communication plan to be prepared and delivered in 2020/21. (12 issues covered).
8. Ask West Northamptonshire Planning Policy leads to consider local policy guidance to require heat pumps and solar panels.
9. Explore whether any Council commercial projects are viable under the Smart Export Guarantee introduced January 2020.
10. Progress Tree policy and action plan ready for consideration Summer 2020. (5 issues covered)
11. Explore amending the CIL infrastructure list to include measures to offset carbon emissions.
12. Liaise with partners and other councils to explore ways to further promote World Environment Day to more stakeholders.
13. Create in-house video and/or other promotional material to clarify what can be recycled and show what happens to recyclates collected, including processing and reuse.
14. Explore provision of recycling bins in public spaces by engaging with parishes.
15. Explore with Daventry Town Council the feasibility of a 'Green Market' including locally sourced and sustainable meat and dairy produce.
16. Explore with NCALC and parish councils whether there is an appetite for a Climate Emergency forum.
17. Work with partner councils to explore the cost and feasibility of engaging consultants to advise the best ways of substantially reducing net carbon emissions from Council buildings.
18. Explore the best ways of achieving a net nil carbon waste operation as part of the Future Northants programme.
19. DDC urges the Shadow West Northamptonshire Council, and Daventry Norse, to consider alternatives to petrol when machinery needs replacing.
20. Advise Members of the option for them to formally request summons (with agenda papers) for Council meetings to be sent electronically.

SG.14/20 STRATEGIC PLANNING ISSUES

SG.14/20/01 Woodford Halse and Hinton Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management Plan

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/7, page nos.135-158).

The Strategic Planning Portfolio Holder reported that two exhibitions had been held in Woodford Halse regarding the conservation area designation. The consultation had been particularly useful as the respondents had raised the issue of the importance of including the history of the railway in the village. The Hinton portion of the conservation area had accordingly been extended to include Station House and the skew bridge. As a result of the consultation another property was proposed to be added to the local list.

Councillor Liz Griffin praised the work of Officers and thanked them on behalf of Woodford Parish Council. The old railway families particularly welcomed the inclusion of the former railway bridge.

RECOMMENDED:

1. That the proposed conservation area boundaries as set out in Appendix B be designated.
2. That the proposed changes to the Woodford Halse and Hinton Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan in response to representations, as set out in Appendix A be approved.
3. That further minor editorial changes be made to the Woodford Halse and Hinton Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan including to reflect the fact that the document will be in its final adopted form.
4. That the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for Woodford Halse and Hinton be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document.
5. That the Local List entries for Woodford Halse and Hinton set out in Appendix C be agreed.
6. That further work be undertaken for proposed Article 4 Directions for Woodford Halse and Hinton and that a further report be presented to Strategy Group in due course.

SG.14/20/02 Confirmation of Conservation-related Article 4 Directions

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/8, page nos.159-190).

The Strategic Planning Portfolio Holder reported that the Article 4 Directions for the six conservation areas had been consulted upon and all the affected owners and occupiers had been contacted. Twelve responses had been received and these were mostly positive. Some objections had been raised but this was in part due to a misunderstanding that the Article 4 Direction would result in no works being able to be carried out on a property. However, it was only permitted development rights that were removed and planning applications could still be submitted for works. If Members

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approved the recommendation the owner and occupiers in the affected areas would be contacted again and Secretary of State would be informed. The Article 4 Directions would come into effect on 2nd November 2020.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Article 4 Directions for Harlestone, Moulton, Daventry Town Centre, Brixworth, Boughton and Braunston be confirmed.

SG.14/20/03 Adoption of Stowe Nine Churches Village Design Statement Supplementary Planning Document

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/9, page nos.191-200).

The Strategic Planning Portfolio Holder advised that three responses had been received from statutory consultees as a result of the consultation exercise on the draft Stowe Nine Churches Village Design Statement and this had resulted in a couple of alterations. It was noted that the red line did not specify the village confines but this might result in confusion and therefore it was proposed to remove it.

Councillor Adam Brown, as the local ward Member, provided his full support for the Stowe Nine Churches Village Design Statement.

RECOMMENDED:

1. That the proposed changes to the Stowe Nine Churches Village Design Statement in response to representations, as set out in Appendix A, be approved.
2. That further minor editorial changes be made to the Stowe Nine Churches Village Design Statement including to reflect the fact that the document will be in its final adopted form.
3. That the revised Village Design Statement for Stowe Nine Churches be adopted.

SG.14/20/04 Chapel Brampton Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan Cedar Hythe Update

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/10, page nos.201-220).

The Strategic Planning Portfolio Holder advised that the Chapel Brampton conservation area boundary had been designated in September and it had been resolved at the time to undertake a further consultation on design guidance for Cedar Hythe. This had been undertaken over six weeks and three responses had been received.

RECOMMENDED:

1. That the proposed changes to the Chapel Brampton Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan in response to representations regarding design guidance for Cedar Hythe, as set out in Appendix A, be approved.

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2. That further minor editorial changes be made to the Chapel Brampton Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan including to reflect the fact that the document will be in its final adopted form.
3. That the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for Chapel Brampton be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document.

SG.14/20/05 West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy and Governance

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/11, page nos.221-254).

The Strategic Planning Portfolio Holder noted that it had been five years since the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy had been adopted. A light touch review had been undertaken as the unitary West Northamptonshire Council would be created in the near future. One of the key issues was that the housing requirements for the area. The new unitary authority would have five years to draw up a new local plan. In the meantime the adopted local plan policies would apply. The Memorandum of Understanding was proposed to be amended following an audit of the Joint Planning Unit. The West Northamptonshire Joint Planning and Infrastructure Board had recently considered the review of the policies and the update to the Memorandum of Understanding and had provided support to them.

RECOMMENDED:

1. That the review of policies in the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, as set out in Appendix 1, is agreed
2. The update of the Memorandum of Cooperation for the West Northamptonshire Joint Planning and Infrastructure Board, as set out in Appendix 2, is agreed

SG.14/20/06 West Haddon Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management Plan

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/12, page nos.255-334).

This was a new conservation area in West Haddon and 26 responses had been received to the consultation. A further report on Article 4 directions would be produced in the near future.

The Strategic Planning Portfolio Holder praised the work of the planning policy team in the production of the conservation area appraisals and Councillor Steve Osborne concurred.

RECOMMENDED:

1. That the proposed conservation area boundary as set out in Appendix C be designated as a new conservation area.
2. That the proposed changes to the West Haddon Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan in response to representations, as set out in Appendices A and B, be approved.

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3. That further minor editorial changes be made to the West Haddon Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan including to reflect the fact that the document will be in its final adopted form.
4. That the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for West Haddon be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document.
5. That the Local List entries for West Haddon set out in Appendix D be agreed.
6. That further work be undertaken for proposed Article 4 Directions for West Haddon and that a further report be presented to Strategy Group in due course.

SG.14/20/07 Adoption of Settlements and Countryside Local Plan (Part 2)

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/13, page nos.335-620).

The Strategic Planning Portfolio Holder highlighted the importance of adopting the Settlements and Countryside Local Plan (Part 2) and praised the hard work and commitment of staff in the production of the plan. It had been examined by the Inspector and his report was available in the Members' Room. Further to the comments received by the Inspector, the plan had been modified and the Inspector had approved the final version. All the saved local plan policies of the 1997 Local Plan would be superseded when the new plan was adopted. Daventry District had a 6.8 year housing land supply and Northampton could not demonstrate a 5 year housing land supply. This was a matter of concern that when the Councils merged the housing land supply figures would be combined. However advice from the Department of Communities and Local Government was that the unitary authorities would use the figures in the current local plans until the new plan was produced.

If Council adopted the local plan then there would be a period of six weeks for legal challenges.

The Chairman thanked the Officers and the Members involved in the working group.

RECOMMENDED:

1. That the suggested modified policies map (as set out in Appendix 1) be agreed.
2. That the suggested changes in response to the consultation on the Additional Modifications as set out in Appendix 2 be agreed.
3. That the Settlements and Countryside Local Plan (Part 2) for Daventry District (as set out in Appendix 3), which incorporates the changes at recommendation 2 and other editorial changes reflecting the fact that the plan will be in its final form, be adopted.
4. That on adoption of the Settlements and Countryside Local Plan (Part 2) for Daventry District all of the remaining saved policies from the Daventry District Local Plan (June 1997) are formally replaced.

SG.15/20 ACCESS AND COMMUNICATION ISSUES

SG.15/20/01 Encouraging Engagement with Minority Groups

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/14, page nos.621- 638).

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The Access and Communication Portfolio Holder presented the recommendations that had been produced following a Scrutiny and Improvement task panel regarding engagement with minority groups. Councillor Mark Wesley reported that the task panel had wanted to ensure that minority groups within the community were not excluded. It was acknowledged that the Council promoted elections and worked hard to ensure that people registered on the electoral roll.

Councillor Ken Ritchie raised concerns that minority groups did not exercise their democratic rights to vote unless they felt part of the community. There had been a huge increase in recent years in the number of eastern Europeans coming into the District and there was no structure to support them. Although he acknowledged that it was not easy to provide a structure.

Councillor Cecile Irving-Swift raised concerns regarding the proposal for translations. She had been born in France and she considered it essential to learn the language of the country in which you resided. Councillor Irving-Swift suggested it was more important to signpost people to learn English, whilst also welcoming them and assisting them to integrate into the community.

Councillor Alan Hills highlighted that people from all backgrounds were encouraged to take part in sport in the District and this assisted with integration into the community. The Good Neighbours Scheme which the Council was currently promoting also encouraged people to become involved in their community.

The Chairman considered that community cohesion was a difficult issue and it was covered by a number of agencies both statutory and voluntary and welcomed the recommendations.

RECOMMENDED:

1. A web page providing links to online software such as Google Translate be set up to enable minority groups to translate all content on the DDC website into other languages.
2. The link to the new language page be featured on promotions issued to the community and is prominently featured in the accessibility section of the DDC website.
3. The Council continues with its existing formal procedure for translation and interpretation services.

SG.16/20 RESOURCES ISSUES

SG.16/20/01 Programme of Asset Disposals

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/15, page nos.639 - 642).

The Resources Portfolio Holder presented the asset disposals for the next 12 months and highlighted that some of the proposed transfers to Daventry Town Council were subject to the parliamentary approval of the Structural Changes Order for the two new unitary authorities for Northamptonshire.

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RECOMMENDED:

That authority is granted for the disposal of land identified in Table 1 in the report for 12 months from the date of the Council meeting.

SG.16/20/02 Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2020/2021

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/16, page nos.643 - 662).

The Resources Portfolio Holder referred to the training on treasury management that had been held in the previous week and that this had been well received. It was noted that as the European Union Withdrawal Agreement Bill had now been passed there could be some volatility in the economic climate and the Chief Financial Officer would restrict investments if necessary.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Council's Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2020/2021 be approved.

SG.16/20/03 2020/21 Capital and Revenue Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.060220/17, page nos.663 - 736).

The Resources Portfolio Holder informed the Committee that the budget had been produced on a business as usual basis and prudent management continued to be important as the MTFP was showing a deficit from 2021/22.

Members were advised that South Northamptonshire Council had requested that Daventry District Council provide the electoral registration service for its area due to the fact that its shared service arrangement with Cherwell District Council would be ending. It was therefore proposed to increase the establishment of staff by 1 FTE to provide the capacity to undertake this additional work. Daventry District Council would be reimbursed for the costs and paid a management fee and therefore the proposal would result in a small net income. Recommendation 1(a) would be amended accordingly. Councillor Steve Osborne praised the work of the current elections team.

The Resources Portfolio Holder drew Members' attention to the draft capital strategy and the general fund projections table set out in section 3.2 of the report. The Government had published its provisional financial settlement and the Council would receive an increase of £0.051 million. The outturn position showed a favourable variance of £0.34 million. There was a revenue growth bid for replacement household waste bins for existing properties of £0.030 million per annum; for new properties the replacement household waste bins were paid for out of the capital budget and the budget for this would need to be increased by £0.004 million per annum. The slippage

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in the capital programme totalled £2.085 million. With regard to the Community Infrastructure Levy programme, there was currently insufficient funding received to fund the various schemes. However, more CIL should be received in the future.

The Chairman highlighted that there may be some projects which were important to be provided and these would still be considered.

Further to an enquiry from Councillor Cecile Irving-Swift, the Chief Financial Officer advised that there was no statutory requirement to provide a five year Medium Term Financial Plan. The budget was produced on a going concern basis as the accounts were prepared on the assumption that the functions of the authority would. The services would continue to be provided once the local government reorganisation had occurred but by a different authority. A five year plan was useful in that it highlighted the budget issues that would occur in the future.

It was put to the meeting that the recommendations within the report be accepted, with the amendment to recommendation 1a) and it was subsequently

RECOMMENDED:

1. That the 2020/21 revenue budget proposals be approved relating to:
 - a) 2020/21 General Fund Revenue Budget and the revenue growth bids- including the growth bid relating to electoral registration for South Northamptonshire Council;
 - b) 2020/21 Special Expenses Revenue Budget;
2. That the revised CIL Programme set out in Appendix 4 is approved;
3. The draft proposals for the Capital Programme as detailed in section 8 and Appendix 5 of the report be approved;
4. That the Capital Strategy as set out in Appendix 6 is approved.
5. That the use of s.106 from DA/2013/0696, DA/2014/0824 and DA/2014/0221 is approved as set out in the report.

SG.17/20 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting by virtue of Section 100(A)(4) and Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

Agenda item 11 – Phoenix Youth Extension and Enhancement Project Paragraph 3 Financial or business affairs

SG.18/20 COMMUNITY, CULTURE AND LEISURE ISSUES

SG.18/20/01 Phoenix Youth Extension and Enhancement Project

Consideration was given to the report previously circulated (report ref: SG.090120/18, page nos.1-3).

The Community, Culture and Leisure Portfolio Holder presented the report and it was

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RECOMMENDED:

That the virement be made as set out in the report.

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Chairman