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Council

Minutes of a Council meeting held at 6.00 pm on Thursday, 28th September, 2023 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock, DE4 3NN.

PRESENT Councillor Steve Wain - In the Chair

Councillors: Dawn Greatorex, Matt Buckler, Martin Burfoot, Sue Burfoot, Neil Buttle, David Chapman, Susan Hobson, David Hughes, Stuart Lees, Dermot Murphy, Peter O'Brien, Peter Slack, Mark Wakeman, Roger Shelley, Nick Wilton, Peter Dobbs, Gareth Gee, Anthony Bates, Kelda Boothroyd, Marilyn Franks, Andy Nash, Lucy Peacock, Simon Ripton, Nick Whitehead, David Burton, Geoff Bond, Joanne Linthwaite, Nigel Norman Edwards-Walker, John Bointon, Laura Mellstrom and Steve Flitter

Paul Wilson (Chief Executive), Tim Braund (Director of Regulatory Services), Robert Cogings (Director of Housing), Karen Henriksen (Director of Resources), Jason Spencer (Electoral and Democratic Services Manager) and Tommy Shaw (Democratic Services Team Leader)

Note:

"Opinions expressed or statements made by individual persons during the public participation part of a Council or committee meeting are not the opinions or statements of Derbyshire Dales District Council. These comments are made by individuals who have exercised the provisions of the Council's Constitution to address a specific meeting. The Council therefore accepts no liability for any defamatory remarks that are made during a meeting that are replicated on this document."

Following the sad news of the death of Councillor Tony Morley a minute's silence was held, after which the Civic Chair and the political group leaders were invited to speak.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor(s): Robert Archer.

137/23 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Re: Agenda Item 8 – Proposal of a Notice of Motion (Rule of Procedure 16) Motion B

In accordance with the procedure for public participation, Ms Clare Gamble (local resident) made a statement on the motion proposed on motion by Councillor Gareth Gee.

Re: Agenda Item 10 – Gypsy and Traveller Site Provision in the District – Report of the Traveller Working Group

In accordance with the procedure for public participation, Mr John Youatt (Community and Renewables Planner), Mr Richard Walsh (Local Resident), Ms Denise Brown (Local Resident), Mr Stephen Walton (Local Resident), Dr Siobhan Spencer (Derbyshire Gypsy Liason Group), Mr Richard Bean (Local Resident and Business Owner), Mr George Ashbrook (Managing Director, Ashbrook Roofing) and Cllr Caroline Cooper (Ashbourne Town Council) made statements on the recommendations proposed by the Traveller Working Group.

Cllr Victoria Friend (Chair of Rowsley Parish Council) made a statement on the report and presented a petition on behalf of Rowsley Parish Council.

138/23 - INTERESTS

Re: Agenda Item 8 – Proposal of a Notice of Motion (Rule of Procedure 16) Motion B

Councillors Gareth Gee, Mark Wakeman and Kelda Boothroyd declared personal interests in Item 8 as they were Directors of the Community Interest Company responsible for the running of the public conveniences at Monsall Head.

139/23 - LEADERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Steve Flitter, Leader of the Council, made the following statement:

“After a relatively quiet August in relation to meetings, September has brought a flourish of information from the DCN and DLUCH and other ministerial information that keeps rolling in, but what I thought the most relevant topic would be the Vision Derbyshire and New Mayoral arrangements and how we in the Dales are approaching this.

As you know, only 2 district Derbyshire authorities will join 2 from Nottinghamshire leaving the rest on the sidelines. I have repeatedly stated that the selection of those representatives should allow a fair reflection of demographics and not based on politics or size of authority alone, but alas politics has been a factor with Chesterfield and High Peak taking those positions, however what I did achieve at that meeting on Tuesday afternoon was continued regular meetings between Derbyshire Leaders.

A couple of weeks ago the Derbyshire leaders and Chief Executive met at County Hall and met Mark Rogers the CEO of the Interim Shadow board team of seven people covering issues of operational matters, Communications, Finance and Investment, Strategy and delivery, Transport and Governance.

Their task is to prepare for change and we heard about creating a single economic plan involving all country, cities, boroughs and district councils to bring more monies into the

area, and the need to review existing work and contribute new ideas being careful not to just replace work undertaken to date.

The key principles are Accountability, Inclusivity, Subsidiarity, Choice, Governance, Scrutiny and Audit.

Many questions followed but a very pertinent point raised was what if the incoming Mayor disagreed with the shape, size or composition of new arrangements – that has to be tested.

Whether we agree or not with the new Mayoral elections, soon it will be the only game in town. The level of influence is paramount but if we are put in a situation where we literally have to fight for crumbs on the table we should be well informed and ready to act.

With that in mind I am ready to interact with a new Derbyshire Strategic leadership board and all Derbyshire leaders, hopefully setting work streams for economic growth, employment and skills, health and communities, public service reform, transport, climate change, planning and housing.

Circling Squares – on Monday night, I thought it was important that members had a presentation of the work that was undertaken from September 22 until Feb 23 with the report in March. I hope members recognise that the whole discussion on Resilience and Resources was timely because of Paul Wilson's report to this council. We may not agree with everything in that presentation, but we now have a basis for those discussions that will give our officers to the resources to develop ideas and take this council forward in a positive manner.

I thank those who attended the meeting on Tuesday with the Peak National Park Authority, I found it informative and useful and although they reflect on the fact that the starting point and legislation is different from the Dales I am hopeful that we can develop an officer / member group to examine opportunities of a joint approach.

Future partnership working is so important, especially with the challenges that lie ahead."

140/23 - CIVIC CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor David Burton, Civic Chair, made the following announcements:

"Back in July, I was admitted into hospital, the result of which was a pacemaker, I'm really pleased to be back here with you tonight and I'd like to thank everyone for their good wishes and to some Members for the cards.

I would also like to thank Members tonight for the kind donations I have received towards my chosen civic charity, the send a child to hucklow fund. Set in the heart of Councillor Chapman's ward is the Nightingale Center, the National Unitarian Holiday Center that provides children from disadvantaged backgrounds with holidays, it's something that I have been closely associated with and find very emotional. I helped with the Mansfield week this year and when those children arrive, it's probably the first occasion that they've ever had the opportunity to have a holiday in the countryside. I commend the charity for the consideration of Members.

I'd also like to give a big thank you to Councillor Peter Slack for assisting me with my civic duties during my period of illness. Well done to the people of Wensley who have raised thirty thousand pounds to restore the roof of the Wensley Reading Room, I recently opened a craft fair there. The nice thing about this role is that it brings you to the centre of real community and there were lots of decent people there who were concerned about that building and it acting as a continuing resource for the village of Wensley.

My thanks also go out to Councillor Stuart Lees and to the Mayor of Ashbourne who made me extremely welcome when I went to, what I found to be quite an eccentric event, the opening of the new bandstand. We got as far as the interval and the heavens opened and just about everybody disappeared, but the superb Ashbourne Town Band continued playing and it was lovely to see so many young people as part of it.

I recently had the honour of switching on the lights with my wife Ruth for the 125th Venetian Illuminations at Matlock Bath. What really touched me that night was as I looked around at all those decent families it was absolutely magical for the children, the happiness and delight is hard to put into words, it is a superb event and long may it continue.

Yesterday I was able to cut a ribbon at the opening of the fully renovated tennis courts on Hall Leys Park in Matlock that have cost forty-six thousand pounds to complete and has been managed by the Lawn Tennis Association, funded by the UK Government. We were pleased to have the presence of the MP at the event and the Lawn Tennis Association, it's going to be a tremendous resource for the people of Matlock and the surrounding areas. My thanks also go out to our own officers who did a wonderful job of putting the whole thing together yesterday."

141/23 - COMMITTEES

It was moved by Councillor Martin Burfoot, seconded by Councillor Peter O'Brien and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

That the non-exempt minutes of the Committees listed in the Minute Book for the period 03 July 2023 to 12 September 2023 be received.

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

142/23 - QUESTIONS (RULE OF PROCEDURE 15)

Questions from Councillor Stuart Lees to Councillor Steve Flitter, Leader of the Council:

"After a recent email from our director of housing regarding issues with platform housing asking us as councillors to contact Platform directly at the email address provided. As we are all aware our director of housing spends a lot of hours sorting issues out regarding platform housing for which I myself are extremely grateful, but I find this unacceptable as to the length of time you have to wait for a operator to answer your call. This is why our residents contact us councillors to get a quick and positive response. Platform look after 40,000 homes and operate in over 100 local authorities.

My questions are:

1. Why don't councillors get a faster response to our residents' issues from platform. As the system is at the moment councillors have to wait just the same as our residents to get through on a call which is why we as councillors are contacted in the first instance. Is it time a review is had regarding platform due to the amount of time our residents have to wait for work to be carried out?

2. Is it time that the housing repairs are brought back in house. Following a recent incident in Ashbourne in a platform housing area, why are our elderly residents not being visited by Platform officers, as per their tenancy policy?

3. If councillors use the email system as advised can a same day response be had?

Thank you, Cllr Lees."

Councillor Steve Flitter provided a verbal response as outlined below:

1. Platform have asked for member enquiries to be directed to a dedicated email address. On receipt the email is logged and set for follow up by a named member of platform's staff. The impact of the covid pandemic is still being felt within the construction industry and this together with inflationary pressures and availability of materials is still causing delays for many housing associations.

2. Housing repairs are delivered by platform's own inhouse service. It is not feasible or possible to bring these services inhouse. housing related support provided within age designated accommodation has been the subject of funding cuts for many years. The supporting people programme, funded by government via county councils previously would have paid for wardens to undertake support to residents. Like many housing providers, platform have not been able to fund warden type services across their sheltered housing stock to the same levels as the previous supporting people programme.

3. Platform have stock within 100 local authorities and will receive emails from members across this vast area. Very few organisations are able to offer a substantive same day response to email enquiries. Platform work to a 5 day response time for emails received by the dedicated member email address.

Urgent questions from Councillor Susan Hobson to Councillor Steve Flitter, Leader of the Council:

"1. Yesterday morning I saw a press release from Derbyshire Dales District Council that said that the "G&TWG has listened to public concerns expressed this week and in response has postponed 2 of the 10 recommendations".

I am a member of this group, and I was not aware of any meeting of the G&TWG to discuss this matter.

Does the Leader of the Council accept that the above statement is therefore incorrect and alter that press release, and will he confirm who made the decision to postpone?

2. Derbyshire Dales District Council has a duty of care to some of the most vulnerable Traveller families – the G&TWG were recently presented with two costed options for sanitary facilities at Matlock Station. Why do they not form part of the recommendations?

3. Despite the press release there is no mention in the revised agenda of what “postponed” actually means. Can the Leader of the Council provide a clear timeline for this?”

Councillor Flitter provided a verbal response.

Urgent questions from Councillor Anthony Bates to Councillor Steve Flitter, Leader of the Council:

“1. The specific recommendations for Fishponds Meadows Overspill Car Park, Ashbourne and Old Station Road Car Park, Rowsley have been “postponed”. Can the Leader of the Council explain why these two sites were chosen?”

2. As a new Derbyshire Dales District Council member I find it very strange that less than a year from a decision being made that gave a clear view that car parks are not suitable these sites are again being brought forward – can the Leader of the Council explain why we appear to be going backwards?”

Councillor Flitter provided a verbal response.

Urgent questions from Councillor Dermot Murphy to Councillor Steve Flitter, Leader of the Council:

“1. Vulnerable travellers, businesses and residents had clarity and finality in November 2022 when all Derbyshire Dales District sites were dismissed as being unsuitable apart from Matlock Station and Matlock Bath Station. What has materially changed to any of those sites since that time?”

2. Can the Leader of the Council confirm his commitment to the process for the Woodyard site?”

3. When will the consultation process start, and will the Leader confirm that the report will be ready for the November 2023 meeting?”

Councillor Flitter provided a verbal response.

143/23 - PROPOSAL OF A NOTICE OF MOTION (RULE OF PROCEDURE 16)

The Council considered a motion submitted by Councillor David Burton in accordance with rule of procedure 16.

It was moved by Councillor David Burton, seconded by Councillor Peter Slack and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

1. That this Council with immediate effect remove from its Civic Protocol constraints that limit the role of Civic Chair to only attending Charitable Events & Civic Services within the Derbyshire Dales - (Remove: “Except in exceptional circumstances only invitations within the District may be accepted”).
2. That this Council fully support our nominated “Civic Chair” to attend, promote and represent this authority at any nearby Local Authorities where appropriate.

3. That this Council removes the 2015 Civic Protocol wording as follows “Cease holding a Civic Service as it isn’t an inclusive community event” and that this wording be replaced with the following “That each individual serving Civic Chair can choose whether it is appropriate during their year of Office to hold either a “Civic Service” or relevant non-religious “Community Celebration” of the Derbyshire Dales.”

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

The Council then considered a motion submitted by Councillor Gareth Gee in accordance with rule of procedure 16.

The motion as detailed below was moved by Councillor Gareth Gee and seconded by Mark Wakeman:

“That, in line with the New Council’s progressive objectives as presented by the Council Leader at the AGM, DDDC takes back control the running of Monsal Head Toilets. In doing this and in order to minimise the in-year cost to the Council with an aim for cost neutrality the council would need to invest in an infrastructure upgrade by installing a card payment system.

The outcome would be to guarantee the existence of this vital public service going forward under sustainable means and give improvement to the residents of the Bakewell Ward along with the many visitors to this iconic tourist destination in The Derbyshire Dales. I would ask to prevent the possible loss of this service the action is undertaken without delay in a timely manner.”

During debate, the following amendment was proposed by Councillor Sue Burfoot and seconded by Councillor Kelda Boothroyd:

“That, as the Council recognises the need to keep open the toilets at Monsal Head and acknowledges the work carried out by those who have worked to keep them open following the previous administration’s decision in 2018 to close them, this motion be referred to the next meeting of the Public Conveniences Working Group with the Ward Members and Directors of the Monsal Head CIC invited to attend to help inform a strategy to ensure a long term sustainable future for the Monsal Head toilets.”

The amendment was put to the vote and the results were as follows:

21 For
11 Against
00 Abstentions

The Chair declared the amendment **CARRIED**.

The substantive motion, which incorporated the amendment, was then put to the vote and it was

RESOLVED

That, as the Council recognises the need to keep open the toilets at Monsal Head and acknowledges the work carried out by those who have worked to keep them open following the previous administration’s decision in 2018 to close them, this motion be referred to the next meeting of the Public Conveniences Working Group with the Ward Members and

Directors of the Monsal Head CIC invited to attend to help inform a strategy to ensure a long term sustainable future for the Monsal Head toilets.

Voting:

31 For
01 Against
00 Abstentions

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

144/23 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was moved by Councillor Stuart Lees, Seconded by Councillor Sue Burfoot and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

That the minutes of a meeting of Council held on 27 July 2023 be approved as a correct record.

Voting

30 For
00 Against
02 Abstained

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

145/23 - DURATION OF MEETINGS (MOTION TO CONTINUE)

At 20:26, it was moved by Councillor David Hughes, seconded by Councillor Peter Slack and

RESOLVED (Unanimously)

That in accordance with Rule of Procedure 13, the meeting continue to enable the business on the agenda to be concluded.

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

146/23 - GYPSY AND TRAVELLER SITE PROVISION IN THE DISTRICT - REPORT OF THE TRAVELLER WORKING GROUP

Councillor Marilyn Franks introduced a report put forward by the Traveller Working Group regarding the provision of gypsy and traveller sites within the district. The report began by noting the District Council's duty as the Housing Authority to provide accommodation to those specific Gypsy and Traveller families with an accepted local connection to the Derbyshire Dales. Members were informed of the Working Group's aim to provide political leadership in identifying potential solutions to the unresolved issues being faced.

The task of the working group was to identify two permanent Gypsy/Traveller sites and three temporary Gypsy/Traveller sites based across the district. The report detailed the work and conclusions of the group. It was noted within the report, that whilst Council-owned

car parks are not ideal temporary sites, due to the legal duty of the Council to provide accommodation for two families, a level of pragmatism was required when considering the available options. The working group had agreed that the long-term solution to the issue was to identify permanent sites for the two families due to their high level of assessed need, the report outlined proposals which aimed to assist in achieving this long-term aim.

The report also acknowledged the importance of consultation with all involved parties and detailed how this would take place. Lease agreements outlining expectations and responsibilities were considered and proposals were contained within the report. The report also provided clarity over the Council's decision making process and made recommendations regarding funding to test out the viability of a possible permanent site and additional officer time in order to further progress the acquisition for sites.

It was moved by Councillor Marilyn Franks, seconded by Councillor Peter Slack and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

1. That the Council approves and adopts a requirement to undertake online consultation for a minimum of six-weeks, supplemented by public meetings on proposals to allocate land for use as temporary or permanent Traveller sites with relevant consultation materials being made available on the Council's website and in other formats to enable a wide level of response.
2. That the Council approves and adopts the decision making processes outlined in Section 3 of the report in respect of permanent and temporary traveller sites with the additional requirement that Stage 1 includes as its first step, the preparation of evaluation criteria to be applied in all cases and the process by which those criteria are to be applied.
3. That the Council recommends the Planning Policy Manager to amend the assessment of Clifton Road Coach and Car Park against Local Plan Policy HC6 in view of the representations received from a member of the public.
4. That the Council agrees to undertake a period of six-weeks of online consultation supplemented by public meetings in respect of designating The Woodyard, Homesford as a temporary or permanent Traveller site post completion of the RIBA stage 3 assessment.
5. That following positive engagement with the Traveller families and confirmation that the site is a viable option, authority be delegated to the Director of Housing to commission the necessary works up to RIBA Stage 3 (planning submission) and that a supplementary revenue budget of £25,000 be financed from the General Reserve to facilitate this work.
6. That the Council appoints land agents to proactively seek suitable locations and undertake targeted engagement with local landowners and organisations, such as the NFU, to establish whether any landowners would be willing to enter into negotiations.
7. That the Council approves a supplementary revenue budget of £33,000 to be financed from the General Reserve to establish a 2 year fixed term contract position(s) as recommended by the Corporate Leadership Team to assist with the search for sites and manage any future designated sites.

8. That the Council adopt Tenancy Agreements to establish agreed standards of behaviour and outline what action the Council will take in the event of breaches of the agreement.

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

147/23 - DURATION OF MEETINGS (MOTION TO CONTINUE)

At 21:30, it was moved by Councillor David Hughes, seconded by Councillor Nick Wilton and

RESOLVED (Unanimously)

That in accordance with Rule of Procedure 13, the meeting continue for an additional 30 minutes to enable the business on the agenda to be concluded.

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

148/23 - RESILIENCE , RESOURCES AND PRIORITIES

The Chief Executive introduced a report which discussed a series of issues relating to organisational resilience, resources and priorities and outlined potential options for Members to consider in order to deliver a package of measures to aid the recruitment and retention of staff to ensure that the Council would be adequately resourced to deliver its core services and priorities.

Members were informed of the acute workforce challenges being faced by local authorities following the Covid-19 pandemic. Maintaining sufficient capacity and skills, attractiveness as a career choice, competition from other sectors, flexible working arrangements and the continuous inflationary erosion of pay were all noted within the report as having a severe impact on Councils of all types and sizes to attract and maintain staff of the calibre required to deliver high quality services. The report also noted the constant need for prioritisation of corporate projects and initiatives to ensure that the organisations resources are aligned to efficient and effective service delivery.

This report followed several other reports relating to Organisational Resilience, Resources and Priorities which had been considered by Members in recent years. This report looked specifically at the following issues:

- Organisational Capacity
- District Council Workforce Profile
- Recruitment and Retention
- Pay and Recognition
- Training and Development
- Graduates and Apprentices
- Employee Support and Benefits Package

The report presented Members with further explanations of the issues being faced and sought Member approval for funding allocations to target these issues. The report also asked Members to advise which of the proposed options presented in the report that they would like officers to further explore.

It was moved by Councillor David Hughes, seconded by Councillor Peter Dobbs and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

1. That Council acknowledges the limitations on organisational capacity and the need to ensure that our resources are directed towards the delivery of core services in accordance with agreed service standards and clearly defined and resourced Council priorities.
2. That the options to enhance recruitment and retention as outlined in the report (Section 10) be considered by the Scrutiny Committee to advise which of the measures Members wish officers to develop for further detailed consideration.
3. That the existing Job Evaluation Reserve be repurposed and retitled to 'Recruitment and Retention Reserve'.
4. That Council notes the retirement of the Licensing Manager with effect from 1st April 2024 and supports the recruitment of a new Licensing Manager to work alongside the existing post-holder for a period of up to 4 months and that a supplementary revenue budget for 2023/24 of £19,923 be approved for this purpose, financed from the General Reserve.
5. That Council supports the recruitment of an additional communications resource to support the Ashbourne Reborn project on a 2-year fixed term contract at an estimated total cost of £88,000 and approves a supplementary revenue budget of £11,000 for 2023/24, to be financed from the General 57 Agenda Item 11 Reserve and the inclusion in the Medium-Term Financial Plan of £44,000 for 2024/25 and £33,000 for 2025/26.
6. That Council supports the appointment of Aecom to provide interim communications resources to support the Ashbourne Reborn project and approves a supplementary revenue budget for 2023/24 of £10,000, to be financed from the General Reserve.
7. That Council endorses the need for external data protection support to achieve compliance against the Information Commissioners Accountability Tracker and approves a supplementary revenue budget for 2023/24 of £10,000, to be financed from the General Reserve.
8. That Council supports the establishment of an out-of-hours duty roster to deal with specific situations requiring immediate action or attention and approves a supplementary revenue budget of £5,000 for 2023/24, to be financed from the General Reserve.
9. That Council supports the need to appoint an external valuer to undertake the asset valuations required to provide a compliant Statement of Accounts and approves a supplementary revenue budget of £30,000 for 2023/24, to be financed from the General Reserve, and the inclusion of £30,000 per annum in the Medium-Term Financial Plan.

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

21:30 – Councillor David Chapman left the meeting.

149/23 - APPOINTMENT OF MONITORING OFFICER AND ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER

The Chief Executive introduced a report seeking to confirm the appointment of Helen Mitchell (designate Director of Corporate and Customer Services) as the Council's Monitoring Officer and Paul Wilson (Chief Executive) as the Electoral Registration Officer.

Members were informed that under section 5 of the Local Government Act 1989 the Council was required to designate one of its officers as the Monitoring Officer for the Council. The Monitoring Officer may not be either the Council's Chief Finance Officer or the Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive). The Monitoring Officer's functions were included in the report.

Helen Mitchell had recently been appointed as the new Director of Corporate and Customer Services and was due to take up her post at the beginning of November. It was proposed that Helen Mitchell be appointed as the Council's Monitoring Officer upon her commencing in post in November 2023.

In order to ensure that there is resilience in the period following the departure of the current Director of Corporate and Customer Services and the new Director of Corporate and Customer Services commencing in post, it was proposed that the Electoral Registration Officer responsibility be transferred the Chief Executive.

It was moved by Councillor David Burton, seconded by Councillor Nick Wilton and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

1. That Helen Mitchell is appointed as the Council's Monitoring Officer with effect from 6th November 2023.
2. That Paul Wilson is appointed as the Council's Electoral Registrations Officer with immediate effect.

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

150/23 - PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION - FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Director of Resources introduced a report which recommended the adoption of revised Financial Regulations following a review to ensure that the rules complied with current best practice requirements.

Members were informed that section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 required the Council to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs. It was required to conduct its business efficiently and to ensure that it had sound financial management policies in place and that they were strictly adhered to. Financial regulations, which set out the financial policies of the Council, were the means by which the Council met that requirement.

The Council had adopted Financial Regulations as part of the Constitution which has been amended from time to time as required to meet the Council's operational needs. These were last reviewed in 2022.

The revised Financial Regulations were detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

It was moved by Councillor Nick Wilton, seconded by Councillor Mark Wakeman and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

That the draft Financial Regulations be approved and adopted as Part 9 of the Council's Constitution.

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

151/23 - REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING QUARTER 1 2023/24

The Director of Resources introduced a report which provided an update on the Council's revenue budget for 2023/24 and sought approval for virements and the revised budget for 2023/24. It was noted within the report that on 2 March 2023 Council set a net revenue budget of £13,667,041 for 2023/24. Since the budgets formal approval in March, a number of minor virements had been approved under delegated authority and larger virements had been approved by subsequent meetings of the Council, which had impacted directorate totals. The additional approved budget changes were summarised at Appendix 1.

The report and appendices presented Members with a full and accurate financial picture in order to ensure that they were able to make an informed decision regarding the recommendations of the report.

It was moved by Councillor Nick Wilton, seconded by Councillor Lucy Peacock and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

1. That the updated revised revenue budget for 2023/24, including the virements as identified in paragraphs 1.2 to 1.4 of the report, be approved.
2. That the forecast underspending of £740,740 for 2023/24 be received and agreed.
3. That any underspend at out-turn for 2023/24 be transferred to reserves as detailed in paragraph 1.11 of the report.

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

Meeting Closed: 9.47 pm

Chairman