

**CABINET
17TH NOVEMBER 2022**

PRESENT: The Leader (Councillor Morgan)
The Deputy Leader (Councillor Barkley)
Councillors Bailey, Baines, Bokor, Mercer, Poland,
Ratray and Rollings

Chief Executive
Head of Governance and Human Resources
Director Housing and Wellbeing
Director Commercial and Economic Development
Head of Finance
Neighbourhoods and Partnerships Manager
Democratic Services Officer (LS)

APOLOGIES: Councillor Harper-Davies

The Leader stated that this meeting would be recorded and the sound recording subsequently made available via the Council's website. He also advised that, under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, other people may film, record, tweet or blog from this meeting, and the use of any such images or sound recordings was not under the Council's control.

33. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS, AND OTHER REGISTRABLE AND NON-REGISTRABLE INTERESTS

Disclosures were made as follows:

- (i) by Councillor Morgan – an interest in respect of item 8 on the agenda (Treasury Management Strategy, Annual Investment Strategy and MRP Policy – Mid-year Review). An investment held by the Council with Santander was listed. Councillor Morgan's wife held the paid position of director at Santander UK, this was a disclosable pecuniary interest and Councillor Morgan would leave the meeting during consideration of the item.
- (ii) by Councillor Poland – an interest in respect of item 7 on the agenda (Authority to Enter into an Electricity Supply Contract). Councillor Poland was a member of the ESPO Management Committee. This was not a paid position, but Councillor Poland would leave the meeting during consideration of the item.
- (iii) by Councillors Bailey and Morgan – interests in respect of item 6 on the agenda (Charnwood Grants). Both councillors were members of the Outwoods Management Committee. There was no direct connection between that Committee and the grant application relating to the Outwoods listed in the report, but both councillors wished to disclose for clarity and came to the meeting with an open mind.

34. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader welcomed Councillor Baines to his first meeting as a member of the Cabinet.

35. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2022 were confirmed as a correct record and signed.

36. QUESTIONS UNDER CABINET PROCEDURE 10.7

No questions had been submitted.

37. CHARNWOOD GRANTS

Considered, a report of the Director Housing and Wellbeing setting out applications received for funding in round two of the Community Facilities and Community Grants Schemes for 2022/23 (item 6 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

The Director Housing and Wellbeing and the Neighbourhoods and Partnerships Manager assisted with consideration of the report. A correction was made to paragraph 145 in Part B of the report (agenda page 38), the paragraph was incomplete and should have stated that the application was for support with increased energy costs.

The Grants Panel was thanked for its work in respect of this matter.

RESOLVED

1. that the following Community Grants be awarded:

- £5,000 to Passion towards a drop-in and other activities;
- £3,248 to Quetzal towards counselling sessions;
- £3,000 to Falcon Support Services towards a drop-in service (and refer the balance requested for consideration in Cost of Living fund);
- £2,000 to MADS Group towards running costs and activities;
- £2,000 to Artspace Loughborough towards Into the Outwoods Tree People Trail 2023;
- £2,500 to Shepshed Dolphins Swimming Group towards pool hire costs;
- £1,000 to Menphys towards Charnwood Mini Menphys;
- £2,550 to Age UK Leicester Shire and Rutland towards the Charnwood Men and Women in Sheds project;
- £1,652 to Second Time Around CIC towards Second Time Around Re-launch;
- £2,000 to Sacred Heart Church Loughborough towards a warm hubs project, with the balance to be considered for support through the Cost of Living fund;
- £500 to Thurcaston and Cropston Gardening Club towards the Thurcaston and Cropston Annual Craft and Produce Show 2023;
- £1,500 to The Coffee Shop – Birstall Methodist Church towards a warm spaces project, with the balance to be considered for support through the Cost of Living fund;

2. that the following Community Grant applications be declined:

- Upstarts Gymnastics Club - £4,000 requested – applied for funding towards gym raised pits with soft landing areas;
- New Life Community Church - £2,000 requested – applied for funding towards a family worker to support foodbank clients, with the application to be considered for support through the in Cost of Living fund;
- Nanpantan Ward Residents Group - £560 requested – applied for funding towards running costs and the maintenance and enhancement of rose-beds;
- Steps Conductive Education Centre - £5,000 requested – applied for funding towards Centre Manager Salary;
- Act One Youth Theatre - £3,000 requested – applied for funding towards a Musical Show in 2023;
- Mind For You Ltd - £4,960 requested – applied for funding towards a dementia activity directory;
- Loughborough Town Cricket Club - £1,500 requested – applied for funding towards core running costs and utilities, with the application to be considered for support through the Cost of Living fund;
- The Mason Foundation - £3,000 requested – applied for funding towards “The Community Mile” project;
- Twenty Twenty - £5,000 requested – applied for funding towards the Love4Life project;

3. that the following Community Facilities Grants be awarded:

- Up to £15,000 to Loughborough Generator towards building work and a ventilation system for the Loughborough Generator Project;
- Up to £3,917 to 1st Mountsorrel Scout Group towards a kitchen refurbishment;
- Up to £14,900 to King George’s Field Charity towards an annexe replacement kitchen;

4. that the Director of Housing and Wellbeing be given delegated authority to finalise the terms and conditions of the awarded Community Grants.

Reasons

1. To provide financial support to organisations which meet the criteria of the Community Grants scheme.
2. To decline to provide financial support to organisations which do not meet the criteria for the award of a grant under the Community Grant scheme.
3. To provide financial support to organisations which meet the criteria of the Community Facilities Grants scheme.
4. To enable the grants awarded to be finalised and appropriate information to be supplied to the Council about the outcomes of the project.

Having declared an interest, Councillor Poland left the meeting during the consideration of the following item.

38. AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO AN ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CONTRACT

Considered, a report of the Director Commercial and Economic Development requesting approval to enter into an electricity supply contract with the Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO) for the period set out (item 7 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

The Director Commercial and Economic Development assisted with consideration of the report.

RESOLVED

1. that Cabinet approve entry into an Electricity Supply Contract with ESPO for the period of October 2024 to September 2028;
2. that authority be delegated to the Director Commercial and Economic Development to finalise the agreement and formally enter the Council into Contract.

Reasons

1. To continue to obtain favourable pricing for electricity supply for the Council's estate in light of a volatile energy market.
2. To allow for the timely completion of contract to avoid contract lapse.

Councillor Poland returned to the meeting.

Having declared an interest, Councillor Morgan left the meeting during the consideration of the following item.

39. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY, ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY AND MRP POLICY - MID YEAR REVIEW

This item was chaired by Councillor Barkley.

Considered, a report of the Head of Finance reviewing the Treasury Management Strategy and the Annual Investment Strategy, plus the various Prudential Borrowing and Treasury Indicators for the first six months of 2022/23, for recommendation to Council (item 8 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

The Chief Executive and the Head of Finance assisted with consideration of the report. It was confirmed that the error on agenda page 68 would be corrected prior to consideration of the report by Council (delete wording "OR insert any changes to the criteria you wish to make, with supporting criteria.").

Following discussion, it was agreed that officers would consider whether the historical information included in the report might be better provided as an appendix, also whether elements of the report might be condensed. It was also confirmed that the

Council received daily and weekly information to assist it from its appointed treasury advisors.

RESOLVED that it be recommended to Council to note the mid-year review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Prudential Borrowing and Treasury Indicators plus the Annual Investment Strategy, as set out in Part B of the report and with the correction outlined above.

Reason

To ensure that the Council's governance and management procedures for Treasury Management reflect best practice and comply with the Revised CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice, Guidance Notes and Treasury Management Policy Statement, that funding of capital expenditure is taken within the totality of the Council's financial position, and that borrowing and investment is only carried out with proper regard to the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities.

NOTES:

1. The following officers listed as present attended this meeting virtually: Director Commercial and Economic Development, Head of Governance and Human Resources. The remaining officers listed as present attended in person.
2. The decisions in these minutes not in the form of recommendations to Council will come into effect at noon on Friday, 25th November 2022 unless called in under Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rule 11.7. Decisions in the form of recommendations to Council are not subject to call in.
3. No reference may be made to these minutes at the next available Ordinary Council meeting unless notice to that effect is given to the Democratic Services Manager by five members of the Council by noon on Friday, 25th November 2022.
4. These minutes are subject to confirmation as a correct record at the next meeting of the Cabinet.