

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** held at Room 14, Priory House, Chicksands, Shefford on Thursday, 8 December 2016

PRESENT

Cllr Mrs J G Lawrence (Chairman)
Cllr G Perham (Vice-Chairman)

Cllrs L Birt
Mrs A L Dodwell
P Hollick
J G Jamieson

Cllrs K C Matthews
N Warren
R D Wenham
A Zerny

Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Mrs C F Chapman MBE
M R Jones

Substitutes: Cllrs D Bowater
D J Lawrence

Officers in Attendance: Mr Q Baker – AD Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)
Mrs C Jones – Chief People Officer
Mr C Warboys – Director of Resources

GPC/16/23. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Fiona Chapman, MBE and Cllr Maurice Jones.

GPC/16/24. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

GPC/16/25. **Members' Interests**

(a) **Personal Interests:-**

None.

(b) **Personal and Prejudicial Interests:-**

None.

GPC/16/26. **Chairman's Announcements and Communications**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- news had been received of the sad and unexpected death of a recent former Monitoring Officer of this Council, Melanie Clay, who had worked closely with this Committee. The Committee's thoughts were with her family at this sad time.
- in view of the Committee's comment at the last meeting (minute 16/22 refers) that it would be helpful to have an indication of proposals for the re-ordering and indexing of the Constitution at the meeting today, a document had been drafted which would be considered at the 30 March 2017 meeting prior to the report setting out the proposed detailed changes coming to the following meeting, with recommendations for full Council to consider in due course.

GPC/16/27. **Petitions**

No petitions had been received.

GPC/16/28. **Questions, Statements or Deputations**

There were no questions, statements or deputations from members of the public.

GPC/16/29. **Pay Policy Statement 2017/18**

The Committee noted that a revised paper and appendix had been submitted through a supplementary agenda circulation. Paper copies were also made available at the meeting.

The Committee received details of the Pay Policy Statement for 2017/18, which was required to be adopted by full Council by 31 March 2017.

Points and comments included:

- noted that the revised version of the Statement included a reference to the Council's Monitoring Officer, as required.
- a request that in future years, information be provided in the report to this Committee on mean and average salaries, giving figures.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:

that the Pay Policy Statement for 2017/18 be adopted and published on the Council's website with effect from 1 April 2017.

GPC/16/30. **Wixams Joint Development Control Committee - Quorum**

The Committee had previously considered revised terms of reference for Wixams Joint Development Management Committee, which included membership of Bedford Borough Council members. Bedford Borough Council had at its meeting the previous evening (7 December 2016) approved the

revised terms of reference as recommended by Central Bedfordshire Council, subject to one amendment being agreed by Central Bedfordshire Council. This amendment sought a provision within the quorum arrangements for a representative from each participating Council at any Wixams Joint Development Control Committee.

The Committee noted that this provision would mean that if no Member attended from one of the participating Councils, the meeting could not go ahead. However, without this provision, decisions could be taken affecting one council's population without elected member representation from that council being present.

Points and comments included:

- the Chairman of this Council's Development Management Committee, Cllr Matthews, was present and indicated his support for the proposal.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:

that the Constitution be amended to provide that the Terms of Reference for Wixams Join Development Management Committee require at least one representative of each participating council (Bedford Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council) to be present at any meeting.

GPC/16/31. **Update on Amendments to the Constitution**

The Committee received a report and schedule detailing the changes which have been made to the Constitution between June and November 2016.

RESOLVED

to note the changes made to maintain the Council's constitution, as set out in Appendix A to the report.

GPC/16/32. **Work Programme**

The Committee received details of its work programme for the remainder of the 2016/17 municipal year.

(Note: The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. and concluded at 10.40 a.m.)

Chairman

Dated