



CHILTERN
District Council



Council

Tuesday 8th January 2019

At

6.30 pm

**Council Chamber, King George V House, King George V Road,
Amersham**

S U P P L E M E N T

Minutes Set

CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL**MINUTES** of the Meeting of the
PLANNING COMMITTEE
held on **22 NOVEMBER 2018**

PRESENT: Councillor D Phillips - Chairman
" M Titterington - Vice Chairman

Councillors: J Burton
J Gladwin
M Harrold
P Jones
S Patel
N Rose
J Rush
J Waters
C Wertheim

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors C Jones and J MacBean

35 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 1 November 2018, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved by the Committee and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

36 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor J Rush advised that whilst working as a part-time teacher at Gayhurst School his wife had taught a pupil who was a son of the applicant for Stampwell Farm, planning applications CH/2017/1039/FA and CH/2017/1044/HB, but this was not a personal or prejudicial interest

37 ITEMS FOR NOTING

RESOLVED -

That the reports be noted.

38 REPORT ON MAIN LIST OF APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED -

1. **That the planning applications be determined in the manner indicated below.**
2. **That the Head of Planning and Economic Development be authorised to include in the decision notices such Planning Conditions and reasons for approval, or reasons for refusal as appropriate, bearing in mind the recommendations in the officer's report and the Committee discussion.**

APPLICATIONS

CH/2017/1039/FA Stampwell Farm, Oxford Road, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, HP9 2XD

The meeting was advised of one further letter of support being received from a contractor that had worked for the Church at another site.

A further letter had been received from Troy Planning and Design on behalf of Chalfont St Peter Parish Council detailing a number of concerns including the impact on the Green Belt, Heritage implications and enabling development, design and landscape, use and sustainability.

It was also noted that Councillor Wertheim had forwarded an email to all Members attaching information he had received directly from the applicant's agent, which did not raise any new material consideration not already addressed in the Officer Report.

Speaking for the Parish Council, Councillor Hazel North
Speaking for the application, Rev Dr Francis Orr-Ewing

RESOLVED

Permission Refused with amendments to the wording of Reason 1 to make reference to the scale of development proposed including reference to the 8 houses, church, additional buildings and car park. Also an addition to Reason two to include reference to Policy GB2.

An addendum report was circulated by officers to

Members of the Planning Committee in advance of the meeting providing additional clarification on the Green Belt issues as set out in the Case Officer report and also in respect of the unauthorised development currently on site.

It was drawn to members attention that if they were minded to refuse planning permission, given that there are currently unauthorised uses on the site, in terms of the D2 uses of the three buildings the subject of the lapsed temporary permission and other structures including a substantial marque currently used to provide a church, it is considered necessary to consider formal action.

Whilst it is acknowledged that the application includes proposals beyond the current unauthorised development in that it does not include the new building works to replace that destroyed by fire nor the 8 new houses, the change of use and additional structures particularly in the form of the marque is inappropriate development in the Green Belt and has impact on the Green Belt and its openness as well as detracting from the setting of the listed building. Further in the absence of highway improvements, the level of activity is considered detrimental to highway safety.

The Committee noted that unauthorised development was taking place on the site and noted that the Head of Planning and Economic Development has delegated authority given to officers to take enforcement action under the Constitution and officers would now be seeking to address the unauthorised development as considered necessary by the Head of Planning and Economic Development and having regard to any applicable statutory time-limits.

CH/2017/1044/HB

Stampwell Farm, Oxford Road, Gerrards Cross,
Buckinghamshire, HP9 2XD

The meeting were advised that Troy Planning & Design had submitted further representations on behalf of the Parish Council that referred to the Council's powers to

serve urgent works notices in respect of historic buildings.

Speaking for the Parish Council, Mr Luke Smith

Speaking for the application, Lucie Stone

RESOLVED

Conditional Consent

Councillor P Jones left the meeting at 7.50 pm

CH/2018/0480/FA Newbury House, 2 Knottocks Drive, Knotty Green,
Buckinghamshire, HP9 2AH

The meeting were referred to a letter from the applicant's agent circulated to all members and referred to procedural issues in respect of the application. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services clarified that there had been no previous resolution of the Council to grant permission for this application. The applicant's agent was referring to a delegated office report recommending conditional approval subject to prior completion of a planning obligation agreement. But delegated authority had not been exercised by the Director of Services before the application was re-publicised as a major application.

Speaking for the Parish Council, Councillor Kate Dicker

Speaking for the objectors, Mr Peter Wilde

Speaking for the application, Mr Rob Clarke, the applicant.

RESOLVED

Permission Refused for the following reason:

The proposed development would appear cramped, out of character and would relate poorly to surrounding plots and buildings, appearing as an incongruous and poor form of development that would be unduly prominent and visually intrusive within the street scene which immediately abuts a designated ERASC. The proposal would therefore have a detrimental impact on the

character and appearance of the locality. The design of the glazed link creates a frontage out of character with the street scene.

CH/2018/0582/FA

Little Istanbul, Nightingales Corner, Little Chalfont, Buckinghamshire, HP7 9PY

RESOLVED

Conditional Permission subject to an additional condition requiring the submission of an acoustic report.

PL/18/3418/VRC

Bowers Croft, Magpie Lane, Coleshill, Buckinghamshire, HP7 0LS

RESOLVED

Permission Refused for the following reason:

The dormer would appear out of character with the area, contrary to Policies GC1 and H18.

The meeting ended at 8.54 pm

**Publication
Date:
6 December
2018**

CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Extraordinary CABINET Meeting held on 27 NOVEMBER 2018

PRESENT Councillors I Darby - Leader
M Stannard - Deputy Leader
P Martin
M Smith
E Walsh
F Wilson

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillors J MacBean and L Smith

144 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors I Darby and P E C Martin declared a personal interest in Item 4 (Implementation of a New Unitary District Council) being Members of Buckinghamshire County Council.

145 CURRENT ISSUES

Councillor F Wilson – Customer Experience Strategy: Presentation by GOSS Interactive

On Monday 26 November 2018 Members were invited to meet the Council's technology partner GOSS Interactive. The demonstration showed how the Council's new digital platform would operate and the functionalities that would be provided to customers. It was noted that organisations that had redesigned digital services had demonstrated how reliance on other communication channels such as telephone could be significantly reduced.

Councillor P E C Martin – Chiltern and South Bucks Annual Business Event 2018

The Council's Annual Business Event took place on 19 November 2018. It was noted that 100 businesses were present and feedback received had been very positive with 96% of attendees saying that they would attend a similar event in the future. Thanks were expressed to the Economic Development team for the event.

146 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW DISTRICT UNITARY COUNCIL

On 1 November 2018, the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, James Brokenshire announced a decision in favour of a single new unitary District Council, for the whole of the current administrative area of Buckinghamshire County Council, in a Written Ministerial Statement (WMS). The new authority would be implemented on 1st April 2020 and elections to the Council would take place on 7th May 2020. The statement included some matters which are decided and other matters which he intends to consult on before reaching a decision.

The report requested that the Cabinet recommend to Council the process for agreeing the wording of representations to be made in response to the WMS in time for the deadline on 30 November 2018. It also sought to ensure that sufficient resources were available to enable the authority to respond to the requirements of the proposed Structural Change Orders and to support transition within the Council. The amount of financial resources required for implementation was unknown at this stage, but this was something the Council would need to make provision for.

The Leader presented the report and asked that the words "other District Leaders" be inserted after the word "Leader" in recommendation 2.

The Leader then reflected on the background to the WMS. Reference was made to the previous Pathfinder project involving sharing services across the Districts and County Council; the Secretary of State's "minded to" decision announced in Parliament on 12 March 2018; and the snap General Election held on 8 June 2017.

Whilst it was sad that the Council would no longer exist from 1 April 2020 this also provided a fantastic opportunity to build a new Unitary District Council. It was therefore important to make sure that the new Council was the very best that it can be.

The timescales for its implementation, set out by the MHCLG, were very short. The draft Orders were based largely on those from the Dorset local government reorganisation. The draft Orders were due to be laid in Parliament on 14 January 2019 which meant that the final content needed to be agreed in early December, and representations from Councils on the detail of those draft Orders were required by 30 November 2018, at the latest. As a result there had been many discussions between Council Leaders over the past few weeks on the detail of the proposed Orders. There was already agreement on some areas, but not all, and the aim was to reach agreement on all areas, if possible.

The Districts all had Council meetings scheduled to consider making submissions to the Secretary of State before 30 November 2018.

The Leader then sought Members' views on a number of items. With regard to the local elections due to be held in 2019 it was generally agreed by all Leaders that these should be postponed until May 2020 to coincide with elections to the new authority to avoid new District Members being appointed for just one year. The Town and Parish Council elections in 2019 would also be postponed until 2020.

Regarding the size of the new District Unitary Council it was noted that the Secretary of State had reflected on this and was considering 147 Members (3 Member Wards). The Cabinet referred to the volume of representations sent to the Secretary of State following the "minded to" announcement which highlighted the level of local concern. The proposal for 147 Members represented a significant reduction in Members and yet there would still be the same number of residents in the area and the same services would still need to be provided. Councillors were often residents' first point of contact and it was therefore important to ensure there were enough Councillors to respond to residents' queries.

It was felt that 147 Members were required in order to adequately represent residents' views, and that fewer Members would not be sufficient. The Cabinet, after noting that the Local Government Boundary Commission would review Council size and ward boundaries during the Council's first term of office, endorsed the proposal for 147 Members.

The Cabinet noted that there was currently no agreement on the composition of the Shadow Executive and that discussions on this item were ongoing, however the Districts agreed that there should be equal representation from each Council which the Cabinet supported.

The election of the Leader of the Shadow Executive was discussed. The options included election by: Members of the Shadow Authority, Members of the Shadow Executive, or appointment by the Secretary of State which would be specified in the draft Orders. The implementation timetable was very tight so it was important to have good representation and broad support for the Leader from across the membership of the Shadow Authority. The Council's Leader and Chief Executive were suggested as ideal candidates for leading the new District Unitary Council.

Currently, there was no agreement on whether “twin hatted” Members who were both a District and County Councillor should have one or two votes on the Shadow Authority. This was therefore still subject to further discussion.

It was also important to note that the Shadow Authority only has to have “regard to” the proposal put forward by Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC). This was significant since it meant that the way the Council operated could be different to BCC’s proposals which was already 2 years old and did not reflect recent technological advances. The impact of digital transformation on service delivery was highlighted. The Council had already demonstrated experience of utilising technology, making savings and implementing shared services since the proposals were made. It was therefore important to keep all options open and consider how technology can help the new District Unitary Council deliver better services to its residents.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:

1. That the wording of the representations to be made in response to the Written Ministerial Statement and the proposed content of the Structural Change Orders on single tier arrangements for Buckinghamshire be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Cabinet Leader.

2. That it be noted that the Leader will continue to take part in discussions with the County Leader, other District Leaders, Ministers and other parties with a view to taking forward the implementation provided that where decisions are required from this authority these will be made in accordance with existing governance requirements.

3. That a provisional budget be set aside in 2019/20 for the delivery of the implementation to include the proportion of the costs of the Shadow Authority as may be required, project management resource and provision for potential redundancy costs in 2019/20 that may fall directly to Chiltern District Council subject to a review at year end by the Director of Resources in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Support Services.

The meeting ended at 5.05 pm

CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the **SERVICES OVERVIEW COMMITTEE** held on **27 NOVEMBER 2018**

PRESENT: Councillor J Burton - Chairman
" N Varley - Vice Chairman

Councillors: D Bray
J Cook
M Flys
M Harker
C Jackson
P Jones
S Patel
C Rouse
J Rush
L Smith
P Hudson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillor E Culverhouse

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillors I Darby, J Gladwin and E Walsh

68 MINUTES

The minutes of the Services Overview Committee held on 9 October 2018 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

69 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

70 28 DAY NOTICE

The Committee considered the 28 Day Notice for Cabinet and decided that there were no additional items to be added at this time.

RESOLVED

That the 28 Day Notice for Cabinet be noted.

71 PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 2 2018/19

The Committee received a report outlining the performance of Council services against pre-agreed performance indicators (PIs) and service objectives for Quarter 2 2018-19. It was noted that the vast majority of these were currently on target, and those that were off target were due mainly to staffing shortages which had been addressed.

The PI for the number of missed assisted bin collections was being reviewed in order to produce a more realistic PI. It was not possible to align the methodology with that used for South Bucks as the CDC target was aligned to the production of KOTs and any changes would require a variation to the existing waste contract. Members were assured that the new joint waste contract currently being procured would harmonise the reporting of missed containers, and would contain penalties if collections at the same property were missed more than once in a three month period.

A concern was raised that where targets had been missed across the service areas this had been due primarily to staff shortages, which could increase with the decision to create a new single district unitary council for Buckinghamshire. The Committee were advised that senior management were aware of this risk, however the current turnover of staff was not any higher than would be expected.

RESOLVED

That the Performance Report for Quarter 2 2018-19 be noted.

72 CHILTERN LIFESTYLE CENTRE SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

Members received a report which requested agreement to establish a joint sub-committee of the Resources Overview and Services Overview Committees called the *Chiltern Lifestyle Centre Scrutiny Sub-committee*. It was advised that the Sub-committee would undertake the scrutiny role of both Overview Committees in relation to the Chiltern Lifestyle Centre and would report directly to Cabinet. Although the Sub-committee would comprise of the Members listed in the report, meetings would be open to all Members to attend and participate.

The Committee felt that the Sub-committee would allow Members to gain a full understanding of the complexity of the project and therefore scrutinise it more effectively. This would also provide an extra level of transparency for residents.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the report be noted.**
- 2. That the Terms of Reference of the Chiltern Lifestyle Centre Scrutiny Sub-committee attached at Appendix 1 of the report be agreed.**
- 3. That 5 Members from the Resources Overview Committee, 5 Members from the Services Overview Committee and 1 Non-Committee Member be appointed to the Chiltern Lifestyle Centre Sub-committee, comprising of:**

Resources Overview Committee: Cllr N Rose, Cllr C Ford, Cllr J Gladwin, Cllr V Martin and Cllr D Phillips

Services Overview Committee: Cllr J Burton, Cllr N Varley, Cllr L Smith, Cllr P Jones and Cllr M Harker

Non-Committee Member: Cllr G Harris

- 4. That authority be delegated to the Chiltern Lifestyle Centre Scrutiny Sub-committee to undertake the scrutiny role of both Overview Committees in respect of the Chiltern Lifestyle Centre and that views and recommendations be reported to Cabinet.**

Note: Councillor J Gladwin entered the meeting at 19.15 p.m.

73 RECYCLING END DESTINATIONS

A report was presented which provided information to Members regarding the end destinations of materials collected for recycling by the Council. The report set out the impact of regulations introduced by China to improve the quality of materials it imports for recycling, and showed the percentage of material exported to EU and non-EU countries. Table 3 of the report showed an analysis of the material collected from blue bins as well as the end destination for each material.

The Chairman reported on a recent visit undertaken by Members to a Viridor recycling centre, where they had viewed the sorting process first-hand. Officers advised that Members would also be welcome to visit the Council's London Road waste depot.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

74 REVIEW OF REMAINING RECYCLING CENTRES

The Committee considered a report on the future provision of recycling centres (bring sites) in the District. Members were advised that the remaining centres in Chiltern, South Bucks and Wycombe were being reviewed ahead of the commencement of a new joint waste collection contract in spring 2020.

The report recommended that the eight remaining centres in Chiltern District be removed; the reasons for this included:

- Residents were able to access all the recycling streams offered at recycling centres through the kerbside collection service.
- The benefits of the centres were now not proportionate to the costs of collection.
- Removal of the centres would free up resources for other waste services such as improving bulk bin collections at flatted developments.
- Removal of the centres across all three Districts would simplify the procurement process for the new Joint Waste Collection contract.
- The quality of material collected from recycling centres was generally poorer than material collected at the kerbside.

Officers further advised that work was ongoing to overcome outstanding issues, for example properties which front directly onto high streets were unable to present extra recycling at the kerbside. Officers would assist affected residents by working with the contractor to provide solutions and support.

Whilst the Committee accepted the rationale behind the recommendation to close the remaining recycling centres, Members expressed several concerns summarised below:

- The timescale for the implementation of the closures was too short. A replacement service would need to be in place and any outstanding issues resolved prior to any of the centres being removed. This would need to be communicated to residents in advance.
- Residents living on high streets would have no suitable alternative recycling service.
- The centres were well used and valued by local residents. Evidence was needed on the usage of each individual recycling centre before a decision could be taken on whether to remove them. This could be used to explain the decision to residents.
- The closures would increase the burden on kerbside collections.
- Fly tipping was a problem across Bucks; removing the recycling centres would exacerbate this and any savings made may be offset by increased clear-up costs.
- There was a lack of monitoring/enforcement at recycling centres to improve the quality of material collected and to deter fly tipping.

Following the discussion, Members were in agreement that they did not support the recommendation to remove the remaining recycling centres and requested that a further report be brought to the Committee with evidence on the usage of each individual centre.

RESOLVED

- 1. That Cabinet note that the recommendation to close the eight remaining recycling centres was not endorsed by the Services Overview Committee; and**
- 2. That a further report be brought to the Services Overview Committee at a future meeting with evidence on the usage of each individual site.**

Note: Councillor I Darby entered the meeting at 19.50 p.m.

75 CHILTERN LIFESTYLE CENTRE UPDATE

The Committee received a report which updated Members on the progress of the Chiltern Pools redevelopment project. The report set out the position on the potential for an enabling development on the site, including the opportunities, constraints and local planning considerations. Members were also updated with the results of the consultation exercise, where 1963 replies were received of which 86.6% of respondents were in support of the proposal whilst 4.9% were against.

RESOLVED

That the Cabinet note that the Services Overview Committee endorsed the recommendations in the report.

Note: Councillor J Gladwin left the meeting at 20.01 p.m.

76 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC (IF REQUIRED)

RESOLVED –

That under section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Paragraph 5 – Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings

77 UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENTS

A report was received which updated Members on the position regarding Unauthorised Encampments and set out potential options which could be taken forward. The Committee discussed the report and agreed that the options presented in the report should not be pursued.

RESOLVED

That the Cabinet note that the Services Overview Committee felt that options set out in the report should not be taken forward.

The meeting ended at 8.11 pm

CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the **RESOURCES OVERVIEW COMMITTEE** held on **4 DECEMBER 2018**

PRESENT: Councillor N Rose - Chairman

Councillors: A Bacon
J Gladwin
J MacBean
V Martin
D Phillips
D Varley
J Waters
C Wertheim
N Southworth

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors C Jones, C Ford, A Garth, M Harrold and R J Jones

52 MINUTES

The minutes of the Resources Overview Committee held on 11 September 2018 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

53 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

54 CHILTERN LIFESTYLE CENTRE UPDATE

The Chairman asked that item 9 on the agenda be considered first and the Committee agreed.

An update to the Chiltern Pools redevelopment project was provided to the Committee. The planning application for the project had been submitted that day. Public information events had been held and the comments received were listed on the website. Those against the project had said that they were concerned about the loss of flumes at Chiltern Pools and the loss of open green space. The Leisure Members Working Group considered the responses and it was being investigated whether the loss of the flumes could be mitigated by more flotation devices at Chesham and Chalfont St Peter leisure centres.

It was noted that restrictive covenants applied to the Chiltern Pools and wider leisure and community site. Although legal opinion had advised that the covenants are obsolete and unenforceable, it was recommended that insurance be taken out to cover the Council against the possibility of future claims.

With regard to the children's play area, a letter of intent was required from CDC to the Fields in Trust, to ensure that the land would be protected under the FIT covenant. This would progress the land swap so that the Children's Play area could be relocated and retained.

An options appraisal had been carried out on the enabling development and the constraints and opportunities were set out in the report. The residual land valuations were provided in the private appendix and were in accordance with the assumptions made in the business plan for the Chiltern Lifestyle Centre.

Members were concerned that the latest public engagement had not been extensive enough. There was also concern that the flumes were currently one of the reasons for the current success of the pools and requested a study be undertaken to find out exactly how important they were.

Members expressed views that the assumptions around how realistically the anticipated health and fitness membership forecasts would be achieved as they were a key risk for the project. This would be something the Scrutiny Sub Committee would wish to examine in detail. It was requested that these concerns be added to a future agenda for the new Chiltern Lifestyle Centre Scrutiny Sub Committee.

Members felt it would be helpful for the new Scrutiny Sub Committee if it had at its first meeting relevant extracts from the minutes of this cycles meetings of the Services and Resources Overview Committees.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO CABINET

- 1. To note the results of the public consultation and the comments made on the current design and location of the Chiltern Lifestyle Centre. The Committee had reservations however about the consultation process.**
- 2. To insure against any risk relating to the restrictive covenant being enforced by any successor in title of a MRCEL plot, it was recommended that the Cabinet agree to the Council taking out insurance to protect itself against any claim.**
- 3. That the Children's Play Areas be kept under a Fields in Trust Covenant to ensure they are maintained as such in the future.**
- 4. To note the initial residual land valuations that may arise from any**

55 28 DAY NOTICE

RESOLVED

That the 28 Day Notices for the meetings of the Cabinet and the Chiltern and South Bucks Joint Committee be noted.

56 PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 2 2018/19

The Performance Indicators for Quarter 2, 2018-19 were considered and it was noted that of the 47 PI's, only 3 were off target. The reasons for these were discussed in detail and the main points were:

1. Environment. The data had not yet been received from SERCO but would be available shortly.
2. Food hygiene targets had not been met because they had been short of staff but there was provision to bring in short term agency staff.
3. Planning and Economic Development had also been short of staff but was expected to get back on target shortly.
4. CdWR4 – number of missed containers. This PI had been recalculated to bring it in line with other Council's standards. This still remained a difficult target to achieve but was more realistic and in line with joint waste contract partners.
5. Customer Services had been short staffed but had 2 new staff members starting in November.
6. Support Services had had problems with the vWorkspace desktop environment during September and there had been major outage of the uniform system following an upgrade. This resulted in slightly slower response times from the helpdesk.

Councillors were concerned about the backlog of planning enforcement cases and asked how many remained to be resolved. It was advised that there were about 400 cases currently. Members requested that the number of open enforcement cases be added to the Data Only PI list. It was asked whether staff were able to take annual leave at the same time as there were staff vacancies. The response was that it was for the service manager to decide taking into account relevant factors.

There were currently 7 members of staff on long-term sick leave. It was advised that the Joint Staff Committee would get detail on these cases and discuss. There was concern that the number was increasing each month, even

though it was within the target figure, and the Cabinet should be aware of this trend.

PI CdWr2 the percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting was discussed. Suggestions were made of ways that more plastic could be recycled. It was requested that this issue be highlighted for the Joint Waste Committee to seek improvement in this area.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

That Cabinet note the performance indicator reports and the comments of the Resources Overview Committee.

Note: Councillor A Bacon entered the meeting at 7.10 pm

57 DRAFT REVENUE BUDGET 2019/20

The Committee was reminded that the announcement of the decision to create a new unitary authority did not affect the legal responsibility to set a budget for 2019/20. There would need to be provision made for transition costs under the obligation to co-operate but these were not yet known. Most of the costs were now split as part of the shared services arrangement. The budgets had been scrutinised by Policy Holders and Officers. This resulted in budget reductions or additional income of over £300k.

The number of properties in the District that would be subject to Council Tax had increased slightly by 0.8%. The settlement details for local government had still not been received. It was expected that there would be no changes to the limit to the annual increase in Council Tax but the budgets would be reviewed once the settlement had been announced. A modest use of reserves of £107k was listed but this would be adjusted with the final figures.

Committee asked Cabinet to consider the following points when considering the budget:

1. Business rate growth forecasts. It was asked whether the trend for office conversions to residential accommodation by permitted development would undermine business rate forecasts. It was advised that Chiltern had for the last 2 years taken part in a business rates pooling scheme. It had also applied to take part in a business rates pilot scheme which would cover all the County's authorities.
2. It was asked if the 18/19 budget could be compared to the estimated outturn figures. It was confirmed that budget monitoring was done monthly and could be provided to future committees.

3. Amersham Multi-Storey Car Park. The interest payable on the car park compared to the minimum revenue provision was queried. It was suggested that the figures from the business case should be used in the budgets and it was confirmed that they were.
4. Inflation expenditure on the pension contributions (P39) were explained as a 2% increase for all.
5. Business Rate Precept for the Police (P37) it was confirmed that the Police are not funded through business rates.
6. Public Conveniences (P71) the figure had gone down. It was advised that there was a saving as business rates no longer payable following an announcement in the recent Budget.
7. Car Park Management. It was confirmed that the cost of the admin team was covered by car park income.
8. Depreciation on P54. It was advised that the decision had been taken to accelerate the depreciation on the Chiltern Pools as it would not be used beyond the next 2 years. It was explained that this was a local authority form of accounting that did not affect the bottom line. It was asked that the £2.9 million depreciation item be brought to the attention of Cabinet.
9. Council tax rates (P34). It was asked why the current Council Tax rates are higher in Chiltern compared to the other Bucks Districts. It was advised that this was largely historical and down to local political decisions.
10. Joint Community and Leisure Cost Share. It was advised that there was a joint team but some items were specific to each Council eg GLL payments were CDC only.
11. Appendix 9 Revised charges. A request was made to round up the charges so there were not odd pence. Concern was also expressed about charging for containers as some people in the district could not afford to replace their bins. It was suggested that a fund be set up for residents that need help. It was noted that this was a service issue rather than a financial one, and officers had discretion to waive charges, but Members requested detail on how discretion is exercised to help genuine cases with replacing their containers when they are stolen or after wear and tear or contractor damage.
12. Licensing Charges. It was advised that these are regulated and they are made in reflection of Officer time and seniority. It was likely that the shadow authority would compare fees with other local charges.
13. Economic Development Team. It was noted that it was being funded from Earmarked Reserves.
14. It was asked why income had reduced from pre-application advice. It was advised that this service had been unavailable for periods during the reorganisation and staffing changes. The previous target had also not been achievable. Members considered this to be an important

service and an aspiration in the shared service business case, so any reduction should only be of a short term nature.

15. Car park income. It was asked why the projected income from the car parks was going down. It was advised that the car parks had been re-evaluated for business rates and following a transitional relief period, costs would increase.
16. Disclosure Scotland Fees (P127). It was advised that these were CRB checks that were required by law for taxi drivers.

RESOLVED

That the draft revenue service budget for 2019/20 be noted and that Cabinet take into account the comments made above by the Resources Overview Committee.

58 CHILTERN LIFESTYLE CENTRE SCRUTINY SUB COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

- 1. That the report be noted.**
- 2. That the Terms of Reference of the Chiltern Lifestyle Centre Scrutiny Sub-committee attached at Appendix 1 be agreed.**
- 3. That 5 Members from the Resources Overview Committee, 5 Members from the Services Overview Committee and 1 Non-Committee Member be appointed to the Chiltern Lifestyle Scrutiny Sub-committee, comprising of:**

Resources Overview Committee: Cllr N Rose, Cllr C Ford, Cllr J Gladwin, Cllr V Martin and Cllr D Phillips

Services Overview Committee: Cllr J Burton, Cllr N Varley, Cllr L Smith, Cllr P Jones and Cllr M Harker

Non-Committee Member: Cllr G Harris

- 4. That authority be delegated to the Chiltern Lifestyle Centre Scrutiny Sub-committee to undertake the scrutiny role of both Overview Committees in respect of the Chiltern Lifestyle Centre and that views and recommendations be reported to Cabinet.**

5. That there be a new name, not the Chiltern Lifestyle Centre.

The meeting ended at 8.15 pm

