

## Minutes of Economic Development Committee

Meeting Date: Thursday, 19 September 2019, starting at 6.30pm  
Present: Councillor S Hirst (Chairman)

Councillors:

S Bibby	R Elms
D Birtwhistle	S Fletcher
I Brown	M Hindle
B Buller	S Hore
J Clark	G Mirfin
L Edge	J Rogerson

In attendance: Director of Economic Development and Planning, Head of Regeneration and Housing, Head of Cultural and Leisure Services and Senior Accountant.

Also in attendance: Councillor T Austin.

### 241 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors R Baxter and M French.

### 242 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The Chairman asked Committee if they would like arrangements to be made to visit Chipping to see a demonstration of their Wi-Fi connectivity (CHAIN).

It was also suggested that Sean McGrath from Lancashire County Council be invited to a future meeting of this Committee to talk about 5G.

### 243 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest.

### 244 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

### 245 RIBBLE VALLEY ECONOMIC PLAN 2019 - 2022

A report was submitted by the Director of Economic Development and Planning for Committee to consider the publication version of the Economic Plan for 2019 – 2022.

Following the formation of the Ribble Valley Economic Partnership work had commenced on the Council's Economic Plan. The Plan was initially intended to cover a 3 year period from 2019 to 2022 as this would ensure it would remain

flexible to changing circumstances and priorities whilst providing a reasonable timeframe for the Council to plan investment and delivery against the identified key activities.

In June 2019 Members had approved the publication of a discussion draft version of the Plan to be subject to a 4-week public consultation period. Before the public consultation had taken place the draft Plan was tabled at the Economic Partnership Meeting on 26 June for their consideration. Feedback from that meeting was included in the report for Committee's information.

A copy of final Economic Plan was included for Committee's consideration. The Plan was a very concise document which clearly set out the Council's proposed actions. It was more business friendly and it was considered that the actions within the Plan would support the local economy and could be implemented in a timely fashion.

In order to reflect the Council's Corporate Strategy, the overarching objective for businesses within the borough was to be sustainable and to continue to develop in the area. The plan sought to meet this objective via 5 priority action areas:

- people;
- places;
- business support and growth;
- connectivity; and
- tourism.

The report went on to expand on the 5 priority action areas with details as to how each one could be achieved.

Members considered the proposed Economic Plan and were impressed with the conciseness of it along with the content.

Issues such as work placements, connectivity, service centre action plans, sustainable transport and a one-stop event directory were discussed in more detail.

RESOLVED: That Committee

1. approve the publication version of the Ribble Valley Economic Plan 2019 – 2022; and
2. request 6 monthly progress reports from the Director of Economic Development and Planning.

246 REVENUE OUTTURN 2018/19

The Director of Resources submitted a report on the outturn for the financial year 2018/19 in respect of the Revenue Budget for this Committee.

There had been a considerable number of variations in both income and expenditure during the year that had given rise to an overall overspending of £12,000 on the net cost of services.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

247 REVENUE MONITORING 2019/20

The Director of Resources submitted a report informing Committee of the position April to July 2019 and this year's revenue budget as far as this Committee was concerned. The comparison between actual and budgeted expenditure shows an overspend of £1,502 for the first 4 months of the financial year 2019/20.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

248 CAPITAL MONITORING 2019/20

The Director of Resources submitted a report providing Members with information on the progress of this Committee's 2019/20 Capital Programme for the period to the end of July 2019.

At the end of July 2019 there had been no spend on the two schemes in this Committee's Capital Programme.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

249 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies.

The meeting closed at 7.07pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Nicola Hopkins (414532).