

The Executive – 25 January 2024

Minutes of the meeting of **The Executive** held on **25 January 2024** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr J R F Mason

Cllr J E Cripps
Cllr A H Eves
Cllr Mrs J R Gooding
Cllr M Hoy
Cllr J E Newport

Cllr L J Newport
Cllr C M Stanley
Cllr A L Williams

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs V A Wilson.

OFFICERS PRESENT

J Stephenson	- Chief Executive Officer
E Yule	- Strategic Director
S Summers	- Strategic Director
P Barnes	- Director Assets and Investments
T Willis	- Interim Director Resources
K Anderson	- Corporate Manager, Communities, Leisure, and Health
V Meanwell	- Democratic Services Officer

Please note that the full livestream of this meeting can be viewed at:

[The Executive \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

15 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

16 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr A L Williams declared an interest in Item 7 as a trustee of RRAVS and would therefore abstain from voting on this item.

Cllr A H Eves declared an interest in Item 7 due to his wife receiving a grant in previous grant rounds.

Cllr Hoy declared an interest in Item 8 – Ark Lane Lease Decision and therefore would abstain from voting on recommendation 1 of this item.

17 ONE TEAM HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

The Executive considered the report of Executive Lead Member Assets & Open Spaces setting out how the Council will manage its responsibilities in law and how this applies to all employees and Council partners.

The report was presented by Director of Assets and Investments.

Cllr J E Newport moved a Motion seconded by Cllr C M Stanley to approve the following recommendation:-

R1 – That Members endorse the draft One Team Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy attached in Appendix 1. (DAI)

This was agreed unanimously.

18 VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANTS ALLOCATION DECISION 2024/25

The Executive considered the report of Executive Lead Member, Leisure, Tourism & Wellbeing, providing an update on the options for the 2024/25 round of voluntary sector grants.

The Corporate Manager for Communities, Leisure and Health presented the report.

A Member asked whether a paper would come back to the Executive in April, due to pre-election considerations. The Monitoring Officer advised that the pre-election period would not stop The Executive allocating the grants but it would prevent any publicity being undertaken. The Monitoring Officer confirmed that if the paper was delayed to the new Municipal Year the decision would be taken by the relevant Committee as the Executive would no longer be in operation.

A Member requested clarification as to whether R1 and R2 existed together. The Strategic Director explained that the current process in R2 means the report would usually come back in June or July, but this year will come back to Executive in April.

Cllr J E Newport moved a motion to amend R2 to read 'To continue the current process and allow for a decision paper to come back to the Executive Group in April 2024 to include the results of the grants process for 24-25, provide an update on the new Essex model, agree RDC approach and funding allocation, and also provide full results and outcomes from the Voluntary Sector Grants given out in 23-24, including a full year report of activity from RRAVS. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs J R Gooding and approved unanimously.

Cllr Mrs J R Gooding moved a Motion, seconded by Cllr C M Stanley to approve the following recommendations: -

R1 - To continue to run the 10k Grants process for local organisations and projects. Agreement of this by the executive would allow the grants process to be released and run for 4 weeks during February. A cross party members panel to be formed for March by the lead member and the panel dates set with the salient information from the applications to score against the RDC business plan and the H&WB Strategy Priorities.

R2 - To continue the current process and allow for a decision paper to come back to the Executive Group in April 2024 to include the results of the grants process for 24-25, provide an update on the new Essex model, agree RDC approach and funding allocation, and also provide full results and outcomes from the Voluntary Sector Grants given out in 23-24, including a full year report of activity from RRAVS.

R3 - To support RRAVS resilience in the interim with a transition payment of £10k which has been identified within the business case for Ukraine grant monies. (DCH)

This was approved on a show of hands.

(8 voted in favour of the Motion, 0 against and 1 abstention)

19 ASSET DECISIONS

The Executive considered the report of Executive Lead Member Assets & Open Spaces, setting out the lease, licence or disposal of Council Assets to the tenants or purchaser within the report.

The Director of Assets and Investments presented the report.

There was a typographical error in the report within Recommendation 6, R4 should be replaced with R5.

Cllr J E Newport moved a Motion, seconded by Cllr A H Eves to approve R1 of the report: - To lease the Council owned asset known as land to the south of Ark Lane, hall Road, Rochford to the Scout Association Trust Corporation for use as a Scout unit and purposes ancillary thereto and for the activities undertaken by the voluntary youth organisations for a period of 28 years. This was approved on a show of hands.

(8 Members voted in favour of the Motion, 0 against and 1 abstention)

Cllr J E Newport moved a Motion, seconded by Cllr L J Newport to approve R2 through to R6: -

R2 - To lease the Council owned asset known as part of land and hut at Connaught Road, Rayleigh with around 0.47 acres (edged red on the map annexed hereto as Appendix 2), to The Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for East Anglia ("the Tenant") for use as a Training Centre for Air Training Corps for a period of 25 years.

R3 - To licence the Council owned asset known as part of part of office space and meeting room at the Mill Arts and Events Centre, Rayleigh (coloured red on the floor plan annexed hereto as Appendix 3), to Rochford and Rayleigh

Citizens Advice Bureau Limited (“the Licensee”) for use as a counselling and advice centre for a period of 2 years.

R4 - To licence the Council owned asset known as part of Day Centre at Back Lane, Rochford (coloured blue on the map annexed hereto as Appendix 4), to Rochford and Rayleigh Citizens Advice Bureau Limited (“the Licensee”) for use as a counselling and advice centre for a period of 2 years.

R5 - To lease the Council owned asset known as part of Day Centre at Back Lane, Rochford (edged red on the map annexed hereto as Appendix 5), to Trustees of Old People’s Welfare Committee for Rochford and District (“the Tenant”) for use as a day care centre for the elderly for a period of 7 years.

R6 – To delegate authority to the Director Assets and Investments, in consultation with the lead member of Assets and Open Spaces, to finalise the terms proposed in R1 through to R5 as outlined within this report. (DAI)

This was approved unanimously.

20 2024/25 BUDGET REPORT AND 2024-29 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

The Executive considered the report of the Executive Lead Member for Resources, Climate Change and Economy, setting out the proposed Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for the period 2023/24 to 2025/26, including the 2023/24 Budget and Council Tax level.

Executive Lead Member for Resources, Climate Change and Economy presented the report.

Cllr M Hoy moved a Motion, seconded by Cllr A H Eves to approve the recommendation:-.

R1 – That the draft budget report be submitted to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for review. (DR)

This was approved unanimously.

The meeting closed at 20:39.

Chairman

Date

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