



Leicester
City Council

MINUTE EXTRACT

Minutes of the Meeting of the HERITAGE, CULTURE, LEISURE AND SPORT SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Held: TUESDAY, 9 JANUARY 2018 at 5:30 pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Unsworth (Chair)

Councillor Halford
Councillor Shelton

In Attendance:

Councillor Clair – Deputy City Mayor

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53. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Bajaj and Councillor Thalukdar.

54. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Halford declared an Other Disclosable Interest in agenda item 8, "Sports Services Review – Consultation and Recommendations", in that she had worked with the operators of Sunflower Nursery, Councillors and officers to retain the Nursery at Braunstone Leisure Centre.

Councillor Shelton also declared an Other Disclosable Interest in agenda item 8, "Sports Services Review – Consultation and Recommendations", in that he used facilities at Evington Leisure Centre on a regular basis.

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, these interests were not considered so significant that they were likely to prejudice the Councillors' judgement of the public interest. They therefore were not required to withdraw from the meeting during consideration of this item.

63. GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2018/19 TO 2020/21

The Director of Finance submitted a report setting out the City Mayor's proposed budget for 2018/19 to 2020/21.

The Director of Tourism, Culture and Inward Investment advised the Commission that:

- Some additional costs had been incurred in delivering Tourism initiatives, as capital investments had been made to improve revenue streams;
- Proposals previously reported to the Commission to make savings of £1million in the Parks Service were now being implemented, (minute 37, "Tourism, Culture and Investment Division Spending Review", 19 September 2017 referred). All service areas continued to consider how savings could be made;
- Negotiations were underway with a contractor regarding improving the back wall of the Corn Exchange and it was hoped that an announcement about this could be made in a few weeks' time. Planning permission already had been obtained for this work;
- The income target for the market had not changed over recent years, but the capacity of the market had reduced, as trading space had been lost during refurbishment work. Space in the market area therefore was being used in other ways to generate income, for example by holding events there; and
- Bereavement Services were under pressure, as two private suppliers of these services were now operating in the area. This meant that income could no longer be guaranteed.

AGREED:

That the Chair of this Commission be asked to advise the Overview Select Committee that this Commission is satisfied with the City Mayor's budget proposals for 2018/19 to 2020/21 for the services falling within its remit, it being recognised that the Council is under significant budgetary pressures.