# HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the COUNCIL held in the Burgess Hall, Westwood Road, St Ives PE27 6WU on Wednesday, 23 February 2022

PRESENT: Councillor L W McGuire – Chairman.

Councillors B S Banks. Mrs M L Beuttell, G J Bull. E R Butler. S Bywater, B S Chapman, J R Clarke. Mrs S Conboy, J C Cooper-Marsh, S J Corney, R D'Souza, Mrs A Dickinson. D B Dew. R Fuller. I D Gardener. Dr P L R Gaskin, J A Grav. M S Grice, K P Gulson, M Haines, M J Humphrey, Mrs M Kadewere, P Kadewere, D N Keane, D J Mead, J Neish, J M Palmer, B M Pitt, K I Prentice, A Roberts, T D Sanderson, Shellens, C Smith, D Terry, R G Tuplin, D M Tysoe, S Wakeford, R J West and Mrs S R Wilson.

APOLOGY(IES): Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors L A Besley, S M Burton, S J Criswell, D A Giles, Mrs S A Giles, Mrs P A Jordan, C J Maslen, H V Masson and J P Morris.

IN ATTENDANCE: (delete if not needed)

#### 58 PRAYER

Councillor J A Gray, Executive Councillor for Strategic Finance, opened the meeting with a prayer.

#### 59 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 7th December 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 60 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor I D Gardener declared a non-statutory disclosable interest in Item No. 68 by virtue of his position as Chairman of Grafham Parish Council.

#### 61 CHAIRMAN'S ENGAGEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Council noted those engagements attended by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman since the last meeting (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book).

# 62 FINAL 2022/23 REVENUE BUDGET & MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (2023/24 TO 2026/27)

In conjunction with a report by the Chief Financial Officer and a PowerPoint presentation (copies of which are appended in the Minute Book), Councillor J A Gray, Executive Councillor for Strategic Finance presented to Members the 2022/23 Revenue Budget, the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for the period 2023/24 to 2026/27, the Fees and Charges schedule for 2022/23, the Treasury Management Strategy, the Capital Strategy, the Investment Strategy, the Annual Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement for 2022/23 and other associated matters for the Council's consideration and approval.

In accordance with Section 30 (2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the Council also considered proposals for levels of Council Tax in 2022/23 for various parts of Huntingdonshire District.

By way of introduction and with the assistance of a power-point presentation (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book), Councillor Gray proceeded to set out the guiding principles which had been used to put together the Budget for 2022/23. He drew attention to the challenging and complicated budget setting process on this occasion and extended his gratitude to the Managing Director and her staff in support of this process, as well as his Cabinet colleagues. He also referred to the impact of COVID and the ongoing macro-economic conditions that had contributed to the creation of a financial environment which was hard to predict.

Members were advised that the Budget had been built to protect frontline services and invest in areas that were important to residents and their priorities. In noting that the Council had benefited from the one-year settlement from government for 2022/23, this presented continued uncertainty and difficulty in forecasting the MTFS.

Councillor Gray highlighted the Council Tax requirement for 2022/23 and the Administration's intention to keep any Council Tax rises low but affordable which had resulted in an average increase of 1.8% per annum over the past 4 years. It was proposed that in 2022/23 Band D should be set at £150.86. He further explained that the Section 151 Officer had confirmed the robustness of the Budget and that the proposed 2022/23 Budget should not give Members any significant concerns with regards to the Council's financial position.

Members' attention was drawn to the statement of reserves, with £2.175M being maintained in the General Fund, the General Reserve that would be used up over the course of 2022/23 and the Commercial Investment Reserve which would be utilised to balance the Budget. In referring to the plan for the MTFS, Councillor Gray explained that he had confidence in the levers at the Council's disposal and their ability to influence the cost of services, funding from grants and tax and income from traded services. Members also noted the assumptions that had been made to meet the challenges which included, keeping the minimum General Fund reserve, 2% annual pay rise, continued growth of the National Living Wage and the requirement for the Council to remain dynamic and innovative.

Councillor Gray explained that officers would be held to account over their service budgets and income, highlighted the detailed Capital Programme over the MTFS, the Treasury Management activity, the proposals for the levels of

Council Tax to protect frontline services, applicable fees and charges for 2022/23 and the robustness of the 2022/23 Budget and MTFS.

In concluding, Councillor Gray referred to the achievement of delivering yet another surplus Budget without service reductions and which was based upon realistic forecasts with funding committed to resident's values and investing in future priorities. These included the ongoing commitment to town centre developments, taking the Environment Strategy forward, developing the leisure centres and the ongoing economic development recovery post-pandemic. He explained that the MTFS was the priority and continued service delivery for the residents of the District.

Councillor Gray moved the recommendations which were duly seconded by the Executive Leader Councillor R Fuller who reserved his right to speak.

In response and on behalf of the HDC Independent Group, the Leader of the Principal Opposition Group, Councillor T D Sanderson thanked Councillor Gray for his presentation, together with the efforts of Executive Councillors and the Officers involved in this process. In concurring with the difficulty of the budget setting process and the macro-economic situation, he was pleased that the Council was still committed to helping its communities with money for Disabled Facilities Grants, Active Lifestyles, tackling homelessness and partnership working.

Councillor Sanderson then went on to question whether the Revenue Support Grant payment would be made over the course of the MTFS, whether One Leisure would be achieving the predicted income surplus, with a request for a breakdown by leisure centre and the rationale for the Council tax increase as well as the remaining COVID budget available.

On behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group, Councillor S Conboy took the opportunity to respond to the Budget and to thank officers and Councillor Gray for the work undertaken, as well as the clear presentation to Members. In doing so, she expressed some concern regarding the Budget and MTFS, specifically relating to the proposed use of reserves. She also suggested that the Administration's failure to increase Council Tax over the course of the previous years, in accordance with their Manifesto commitments had led to the current scenario. It was noted that the pandemic was not something anyone could have planned for and the impact of COVID on income and expenditure would continue to have its effect. In referring to the proposal to increase Council Tax coming at the worst possible time for the public, with the rising costs in food and heating bills not in line with wage increases, Councillor Mrs Conboy explained that this was leading to difficult choices concerning eating or heating.

On behalf of the Labour Group, Councillor S Wakeford thanked Councillor Gray for his hard work and congratulated the Council and staff in handling the extreme challenges that they had faced over the past two years. Looking ahead, it was suggested that extreme resilience was required in managing the Budget that would be in deficit going forward and the spending of reserves to break even. Councillor Wakeford referred to the breaking of the Manifesto pledge on the increase in Council Tax, however he recognised that the impact of COVID 19 on the Council's Budget could not have been foreseen. He also suggested that had the Council Tax base been increased year on year, there would have been less requirement for the drilling down on reserves in the current proposals.

In line with the budget decision in 2021/22, Councillor Wakeford referred to the challenging times and the difficulties in proposing an alternative Budget again this year. Whilst he agreed with the proposal to increase the Council tax for 2022/23, he suggested that this had identified a number of questions that would need to be asked going forward.

In commending the preparation of the Council's budget, Councillor R J West referred to the achievement of the administration in setting a balanced Budget for 2022/23 which had been confirmed by the Council's Responsible Financial Officer as robust. He further drew attention to opposition resistance to the Commercial Investment Strategy that had been a success and credited the Executive Leader and Cabinet Members in creating a wealth for the Council. He commended the performance of the Executive Leader, as well as the expertise of Councillor Gray and the Managing Director and Senior Leadership Team.

Councillor A Roberts highlighted the successes of the administration in keeping services running, reserves at healthy levels and levels of Council Tax low. This had been reflected in resident's feedback in the protection of key services, such as green bin collections, that had been suspended by many authorities during the pandemic, the programme of town centre enhancements, parks and open spaces initiatives, whilst remaining one of the lowest charging authorities of Council Tax in the country.

In commending the Budget, Councillor D B Dew referred to the successes of the Administration in the budget setting process, including the avoidance of moving the leisure centres into trust status and the benefits achieved from the Council's Commercial Investment Strategy. He expressed his appreciation to all the Officers involved.

Councillor B M Pitt referred to his attendance at his first Budget setting meeting for the Council and commended the presentation of the figures. He drew comparisons to budget allocations proposed at neighbouring South Cambridgeshire District Council on climate change and queried whether the Commercial Investment fund could be used for the greater good of future environmental initiatives.

In complimenting officers on the work undertaken on the 2022/23 Budget, Councillor M F Shellens suggested that the Council Tax increase of 5% was at the limit of what was permitted by government. Although he accepted the difficulties that rising inflation, fuel costs and COVID related costs had incurred. He went on to express concern regarding the impact of car parking income.

With regard to the comments made by Members, the Executive Leader, Councillor R Fuller, expressed his disappointment at some of the comments of the opposition particularly as an alternative budget had not been forthcoming and there had been little clarity on what the opposition groups would do differently. In referring to the comparison with South Cambridgeshire, Councillor Fuller reminded Members that they had not had their accounts signed off for the past four years and had increased their Council Tax year on year. He further disputed the suggestion that the Administration were breaking their Manifesto commitment on a Council Tax increase as the proposal was for next year's Budget which was outside of the Manifesto pledge. Councillor Fuller also drew attention to the sound financial position of the Council and in doing so explained that the reserves that had been presented did not represent the full picture of those which were available, with a further £34M and £75M in commercial assets. He reiterated that the proposed Budget was intended to protect all the Council's services, as well as delivering better service provision. It was also predicted that there would be over a £1M surplus at the end of this financial year. In concluding his remarks, the Executive Leader expressed his gratitude to the Managing Director, Officers and Councillor Gray.

In his concluding the discussion, Councillor Gray thanked those Members who had contributed to the debate and welcomed their continued engagement in the use of the Budget going forward. Councillor Gray also took the opportunity to respond to a number of the comments which had been made by individual members. In doing so, Members were advised that he suspected that the position at South Cambridgeshire regarding investments related to capital borrowing and also corrected the suggestion which had been made that the Council Tax increase was in fact 3.4% as opposed to 5%. Whilst acknowledging that car parking would remain an issue for the year ahead, Councillor Gray expressed his disappointment with some of the comments made on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group given that the Council had successfully delivered two surplus budgets with outputs that had been exceeded. Finally, he thanked Members for their contributions, despite disagreement in some cases with regard to the direction and reiterated that he believed in the vision for the future of the Council that delivered what was best for its residents.

It having been previously moved and seconded, upon being put to the vote it was

# RESOLVED

- a) that the proposed overall Budget 2022/23 and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2023/24 to 2026/27 (Appendix 1) to include the Revenue Budgets at Section 2, the Capital Programme at Section 3 and the 2022/23 Fees and Charges at Section 7, Annex A be approved;
- b) that an increase of 3.43% Council Tax for 2022/23 be approved, i.e. the Band D Charge will increase to £150.86;
- c) that the Council note the Council Tax Base for the whole Council area and individual Towns and Parishes (para 6.2) as approved by the Chairman of Corporate Governance Committee and Section 151 Officer on the December 2021 (and subsequently publication as a key decision).

The tax base (T) which is the amount anticipated from a District Council Tax of £1 is £64,501;

d) that the following amounts calculated by the Council for 2022/23 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by the Localism Act 2011 (the Act), the Local Government Finance Act 2012 and associated regulations :-

- the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) (a) to (f) of the Act Gross revenue expenditure including benefits, Town/Parish Precepts £71,838, 629
- ii. the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) (a) to (d) of the Act
  Revenue income including reimbursement of benefits, specific and general grants, use of reserves and any transfers from the collection fund £54,564,732
- iii. the amount by which the aggregate at (i) above exceeds the aggregate at (ii) above in accordance with Section 31A (4) of the Act
  This is the "Council Tax Requirement" including Parish / Town

This is the "Council Tax Requirement" including Parish / Town Precepts (item i minus item ii). It is the cash sum to be funded from District, Town and Parish Council Taxes - £17,273,897

- iv. the Council Tax requirement for 2022/23 divided by the tax base (T) in accordance with Section 31B (1) of the Act
   District plus average Town/Parish precepts (item iii divided by District taxbase) - £267.81
- v. the aggregate of all "Special items" referred to in Section 34 (1) of the Act.
  The total value of Parish/Town precepts included in i and iii above £7,542,822
- vi. the Basic Amount of Council Tax for 2022/23 being item iv less item v divided by the tax base (T) in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act.

The District Council's Band D Tax for 2022/23 - £150.86.

- vii. the basic amounts of Council Tax for 2022/23 for those parts of the District to which one or more special items (Parish/Town precepts) relate in accordance with Section 34 (3) of the Act are shown by adding the Huntingdonshire District Council amount to the appropriate Parish Council amount in column "band D" set out in Table 1 attached.
- viii.the amounts to be taken into account for 2022/23 in respect of categories of dwellings listed in particular valuation bands in accordance with Section 36 (1) of the Act are shown by adding the Huntingdonshire District Council amount to the Parish Council amount for each of the valuation bands in the columns "bands A to H" set out in Table 1 attached.
- e) That the amounts of the precept issued to the Council by Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridgeshire Police Authority, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority and for each Parish Council for each of the categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands in accordance with Section 40 of the Act shown in para 6.3 attached be noted.

- f) That having regard to the calculations above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30 (2) of the Act, hereby sets the figures shown in para 6.4 as the amounts of Council Tax for 2022/23 for each of the categories of dwelling shown. This is the total Council Tax to be collected, incorporating the requirements of all of the relevant bodies, for each town or parish area.
- g) The Council notes that, in accordance with Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the basic amount of Council Tax for 2022/23 is not excessive. The basic amount at b(vi) above is not excessive as defined by the Government.

#### Tax Base 2022/23

Abbots Ripton	141
Abbotsley	262
Alconbury	561
Alconbury Weston	297
Alwalton	123
Barham & Woolley	30
Bluntisham	771
Brampton	2477
Brington & Molesworth	188
Broughton	99
Buckden (incorporating Diddington)	1277
Buckworth	53
Bury	715
Bythorn & Keyston	157
Catworth	163
Chesterton	65
Colne	379
Conington	78
Covington	47
Denton & Caldecote	30
Earith	607
Easton	82
Ellington	237
Elton	295
Farcet	540
Fenstanton	1331
Folksworth & Washingley	354
Glatton	136
Godmanchester	2951
Grafham	235
Great & Little Gidding	125
Great Gransden	494
Great Paxton	373
Great Staughton	333
Haddon	23
Hail Weston	245
Hamerton & Steeple Gidding	54
Hemingford Abbots	334
Hemingford Grey	1298

Hilton Holme	455 250
Holywell-cum-Needingworth	1024
Houghton & Wyton	799
Huntingdon	7653
Kimbolton & Stonely	601
Kings Ripton	84
Leighton Bromswold	78
Little Paxton	1562
Morborne	12
Offord Cluny & Offord D'Arcy	542
Old Weston	104
Oldhurst	98
Perry	264
Pidley-cum-Fenton	191
Ramsey	3095
Sawtry	1966
Sibson-cum-Stibbington	234
Somersham	1402
Southoe & Midloe	156
Spaldwick	255
St Ives	6034 11208
St Neots	
Stilton Stow Longo	772
Stow Longa	73 1069
The Stukeleys Tilbrook	128
Toseland	38
Upton & Coppingford	91
Upwood & The Raveleys	445
Warboys	1596
Waresley-cum-Tetworth	146
Water Newton	40
Winwick	53
Wistow	230
Woodhurst	155
Woodwalton	83
Wyton-on-the-Hill	441
Yaxley	2961
Yelling	153
Total	64,501

- h) that the future savings targets of £0.4m of Net Expenditure by 2025/26 be approved (Appendix 2); and
- i) that the 2021/22 Treasury Management, Capital and Investment Strategies, MRP Statement and Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy be approved (Appendix 3).

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Order) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 the following Members voted for, against or abstained from the Motion -

For the Motion – Alban, Banks, Beuttell, Bull, Butler, Bywater, Chapman, Clarke, Cooper-Marsh, Corney, Dew, Dickinson, D'Souza, Fuller, Gardener, Gaskin, Gray, Gulson, Haines, M Kadeware, P Kadeware, Keane, McGuire, Mead, Neish, Palmer, Prentice, Roberts, Sanderson, C Smith, Terry, Tuplin, Tysoe, Wakeford and West.

Against the Motion – Grice.

Abstentions – Conboy, Humphrey, Pitt, Shellens and Wilson.

#### 63 PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2022-23

In compliance with the requirements of Sections 38-43 of the Localism Act 2011, Councillor D Keane the Executive Councillor for Corporate Services presented a report by the Strategic HR Manager (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) in connection with the District Council's Pay Policy Statement for 2022/23.

The Statement, which is required to be approved by Council by 31 March 2022 and produced annually, details the Council's policies relating to Officer remuneration.

It was moved by Councillor Keane, duly seconded and

#### RESOLVED

that the Pay Policy Statement for 2022/23 be approved.

# 64 MODEL COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT

Councillor G J Bull, Chairman of the Corporate Governance Committee introduced a report inviting the Council to consider whether to adopt the new Model Code of Conduct developed by the Local Government Association.

The report had been considered by the Corporate Governance Committee at their meeting on 26th January 2022, who had endorsed the recommendations.

Whereupon and having been duly moved and seconded, it was

#### RESOLVED

to approve and adopt the LGA Model Code and Guidance to take effect from May 2022.

# 65 LEAD AND DEPUTY INDEPENDENT PERSONS

In conjunction with consideration of the item at the meeting of the Corporate Governance Committee on 26th January 2022, the Chairman of the Committee, Councillor G J Bull presented to the Council a report by the Elections and Democratic Services Manager (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) seeking the re-appointment of the Lead and Deputy Lead Independent Persons for a further two-year period. Councillor Bull reminded Members that in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, it was necessary for the Council to appoint one or more Independent Persons and acquainted the Council with the backgrounds to the proposed appointments and their agreements to continue in their roles.

Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the re-appointment of Mrs Gillian Holmes and Mr Peter Baker to the posts of Lead and Deputy Independent Persons respectively be reaffirmed for a further two-year period to 30 April 2024 without the need for further ratification each year by the Council at its Annual Meeting.

# 66 INVITATION TO BECOME AN OPTED IN AUTHORITY: THE LOCAL AUDIT AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT 2014 AND THE LOCAL AUDIT (APPOINTING PERSON) REGULATIONS 2015

Councillor G J Bull, Chairman of the Corporate Governance Committee introduced a report inviting the Council to consider whether to opt into a national scheme for the appointment of their External Auditors from 2023/24.

The report had been considered by the Corporate Governance Committee at their meeting on 26th January 2022, who had endorsed the recommendations.

Whereupon and having been duly moved and seconded, it was

# RESOLVED

to opt Huntingdonshire District Council into the national scheme by Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) for the appointment of external auditors.

# 67 PROPOSAL TO UPLIFT THE CODE OF PROCUREMENT THRESHOLDS

In conjunction with consideration of the item at the meeting of the Corporate Governance Committee on 26th January 2022, the Chairman of the Committee, Councillor G J Bull presented to the Council a report by the Assistant Director (Corporate Services) (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) outlining a proposal to uplift the Council's Code of Procurement to include higher purchasing thresholds and simplify the procurement process.

Whereupon and having been duly moved and seconded, it was

#### RESOLVED

to approve the changes to the Code of Procurement to raise the thresholds for the lower levels and simplify the level structure within the existing regulations, as amended by EU exit legislation.

# 68 GRAFHAM AND ELLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Having regard to a report by the Strategic Growth Manager (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) on the referendum of the Bury Neighbourhood Plan held on 27th January 2022, the Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning acquainted Members with the results of the referendum with 95.7% voting in favour of supporting the making of the Neighbourhood Plan. As the result exceeded the 50% threshold, the Council was required to make the Neighbourhood Plan part of the Statutory Development Plan for Huntingdonshire. Councillor D Tysoe thanked the committee of volunteers from Grafham and Ellington who had been involved in the work, as well as Officers of the District Council. Whereupon, the Council

#### RESOLVED

that the Grafham and Ellington Neighbourhood Plan as attached at Appendix 1 to the report now submitted be adopted with immediate effect to become part of the Statutory Development Plan for Huntingdonshire.

# 69 QUESTIONS TO MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

In response to a question from Councillor B S Chapman regarding the progress being made with the Future High Streets Fund and specifically the redevelopment of the Old Falcon Hotel, the Market Square, High Street and Priory Quarter in St Neots, the Executive Leader Councillor R Fuller referred to the recently published Agenda for the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Performance and Growth) which provided an update on the Market Towns Programme. Councillor Fuller explained that work was progressing on each of these projects and discussions were ongoing with the current owner of the Old Falcon Hotel. Councillor Fuller undertook to arrange a separate discussion on the market square proposals to provide further detail in due course.

Following a question from Councillor S Wakeford concerning the proposal to uplift the Code of Procurement thresholds (Minute No. 21/67 ante refers), reassurance was sought that the District Council would be committed to ensuring social value was part of the procurement process. In response, Councillor Fuller confirmed that this would be the Council's intention. Councillor Wakeford also asked for an update on the lobbying efforts in relation to the plans for the Huntingdon Railway Station area and Councillor Fuller reported that a meeting had been held with partners to address issues associated with the landscaping and cycle paths. A further meeting was scheduled to discuss progress shortly.

Arising from a question from Councillor B M Pitt on the current status of the St Neots Master Plan Group, Councillor Fuller explained that the Group had been paused due to the pandemic. It would now be re-profiled with the agreement of the Combined Authority to look at the activity of the Master Plan in conjunction with the Future High Streets Fund, together with the governance arrangements of the Master Plan Steering Group.

Following a question from Councillor A Roberts seeking an update on the Kickstart Scheme at the District Council, Councillor D N Keane Executive Councillor for Corporate Services reported that the District Council had been working with the Department for Work and Pensions since February 2021. Since this time, the Council had been successful in the placement of 33 individuals, many who had gone on to be successful in other roles or gone into other jobs

externally. Councillor Keane also took the opportunity to thank Officers for their support of these individuals during their placements.

# 70 CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY -UPDATE

In conjunction with the decision summaries of the recent meetings of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (copies of which are appended in the Minute Book), Councillor R Fuller presented an update of their activities. In doing so, the Council were informed of his attendance with the Managing Director at a workshop meeting to consider doing things differently and delivering a vision, with the support of the new Chief Executive of the Combined Authority. Councillor Fuller also drew specific attention to the lack of progress made with regards to the upgrade of the A141, despite the Deputy Leader contacting the Mayor in an attempt to make progress on the issue.

Councillors S Corney and D B Dew provided an update on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Council were advised of the cancellation of one meeting owing to insufficient business and also the attendance by the Mayor at recent meeting to discuss the roll out of bus services across the county. Councillor D B Dew referred to his questions to the Mayor regarding the St Ives Transport studies and cycling routes and active travel in St Ives and Huntingdon.

Members were provided with an update on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Audit and Governance Committee by Councillor G J Bull. Councillor Bull reported that the new Chief Executive had been in attendance at their meeting in January 2022 and the Committee had discussed a range of matters including the progress made against the internal audit plan and the terms of reference of the committee in relation to the Combined Authorities' Trading Companies.

# 71 OUTCOMES FROM COMMITTEES AND PANELS

A copy of the list of meetings held since the last meeting of the Council held on 7th December 2021 is appended in the Minute Book and Members were advised that any issues or questions could be raised in relation to these meetings.

# 72 VARIATIONS TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS

On the recommendation of Councillor T D Sanderson, it was

# RESOLVED

that Councillor T D Sanderson be appointed to the membership of the Senior Officers Committee in place of Councillor D A Giles.

The meeting ended at 8.53pm.

Chairman