

CABINET
15TH FEBRUARY 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet of Flintshire County Council held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday 15th February 2022.

PRESENT: Councillor Ian Roberts (Chair)

Councillors: Glyn Banks, Chris Bithell, Derek Butler, Dave Hughes, Paul Johnson, and Christine Jones.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive, Chief Officer (Governance), Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy), Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation), Chief Officer (Education and Youth), Chief Officer (Social Services), Corporate Finance Manager, Strategic Executive Officer, Social Value Development Officer and Team Leader – Democratic Services.

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor David Evans.

Councillor Roberts paid tribute to Mr Aled Roberts, the Welsh Language Commissioner, who had sadly passed away. He said he was kind to Welsh learners, giving them confidence to speak the language. On behalf of the Cabinet, he passed on condolences to his family at this sad time. Tributes were also made from Cabinet Members and officers.

APOLOGY:

Councillor Billy Mullin.

107. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Banks declared an item in agenda item number 10: Welsh in Education Strategic 10 Year Plan 2022-2032 as he was a school governor at two Welsh Medium schools. Councillor Bithell declared a personal interest in agenda item number 4: Budget 2022/23 – Final Closing Stage as he was a trustee of DASU.

108. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2022 were submitted and confirmed as a correct.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record.

109. BUDGET 2022/23 FINAL CLOSING STAGE

Councillor Roberts thanked everybody for their involvement in the budget process. He also expressed his thanks to the Welsh Government (WG) for the best

settlement the Council had received to date. However, there were challenges ahead that would be faced.

The Corporate Finance Manager said Cabinet received an update on the key headlines and financial impacts of the Welsh Local Government Provisional Settlement at its meeting on 18th January 2022.

Fundamentally, the settlement included confirmation of the need to meet the costs of some new responsibilities – the most significant of which being (1) full costs of future pay awards; (2) implementation of the Real Living Wage; (3) cessation of the hardship fund; and (4) Specific Grant impacts.

Due to the above some urgent prioritised work was required and the outcome of that work was set out in the report. The report recommended solutions and set out recommendations for the Council to be able to reach a legal and balanced budget. The report also set out the Council Tax recommendation for setting local taxation levels for 2022/23. A formal resolution was proposed for Council later that day as notification had been received of the precepts of the Police and Crime Commissioner and all town and community councils within Flintshire.

The level of annual increase in Council Tax was a decision for full Council. In previous years, Council had set a clear direction that any annual increase should be at 5% or less. The Council had to include a number of additional pressures to provide for the new responsibilities identified in the Welsh Local Government Provisional Settlement which had increased the budget requirement. Based on the final additional budget requirement of £30.562m an overall annual increase of 3.3% was required on Council Tax for Council Services and 0.65% for additional contributions to North Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Regional Coroners Service and Regional Education Consortium GwE. That equated to an overall uplift of 3.95% and provided overall additional yield of £3.825m in 2022/23. That amounted to an annual increase of £55.08 per annum and brought the amount to £1,449.58 on a Band D equivalent (£1.06 per week).

The Police precept and town and community council precepts for 2022/23 had all been notified to the Council as the Council Tax collection authority and a separate report was on the Council agenda to discussion later that day.

Councillor Johnson commented on the challenges that the Council would face in years 2 and 3, including the additional pressures such as the rise in inflation and energy costs.

The Chief Executive said a recent announcement had been made by WG on the cost of living payment of £150 to all households in Bands A-D, and the detail of that needed to be understood.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the revised additional budget requirement for 2022/23 be noted and approved;

- (b) That the final proposals for the corporate efficiencies which will contribute to the budget be approved;
- (c) That Cabinet recommends to Council a legal and balanced budget based on the calculation as set out in the report;
- (d) That the open risks which remain to be managed in the 2022/23 financial year be noted;
- (e) That an overall annual increase in Council Tax for 2022/23 of 3.3% for Council Services and 0.65% for contributions to North Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Regional Coroners Service and Regional Education Consortium GwE – an overall uplift of 3.95%, be recommended to Council;
- (f) That an additional £3.250m be transferred from the Contingency Reserve to the Emergency Reserve to safeguard against the ongoing financial risks of the pandemic in 2022/23;
- (g) That Council be invited to pass the formal Council Tax resolution now that notification of the precepts of the Police and Crime Commissioner and all town and community councils within Flintshire had been received; and
- (h) That the medium-term forecast as a basis for the next revision of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) be noted.

110. MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION – 2022/23 POLICY

Councillor Johnson introduced the report and explained that local authorities were required to set a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy each financial year. Local authorities were required to set aside some of their revenue resources as provision for the repayment of debt.

The Council, as part of the budget strategy, conducted detailed reviews of its MRP policy in 2016/17 and 2017/18 and amended the policy as a result.

Changes were required to the policy for 2022/23 with regard to the MRP for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). No changes were required to the policy for the Council Fund (CF) MRP.

The report would be considered at County Council later that day.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the following be recommended to County Council for Council Fund (CF) outstanding debt that:
 - Option 3 (Asset Life Method) be used for the calculation of the MRP in financial year 2022/23 for the balance of outstanding capital expenditure funded from supported borrowing fixed as at 31st March 2017. The calculation will be the 'annuity' method over 49 years

- Option 3 (Asset Life Method) be used for the calculation of the MRP in 2022/23 for all capital expenditure funded from supported borrowing from 1st April 2016 onwards. The calculation will be the ‘annuity’ method over an appropriate number of years, dependent on the period of time that the capital expenditure is likely to generate benefits
 - Option 3 (Asset Life Method) be used for the calculation of the MRP in 2022/23 for all capital expenditure funded from unsupported (prudential) borrowing or credit arrangements. The calculation will be the ‘annuity’ method over an appropriate number of years, dependent on the period of time that the capital expenditure is likely to generate benefits
- (b) That the following be recommended to County Council for Housing Revenue Account (HRA) outstanding debt that:
- Option 3 (Asset Life Method) be used for the calculation of the HRA’s MRP in 2022/23 for the balance of outstanding capital expenditure funded from debt fixed as at 31st March 2021. The calculation will be the ‘annuity’ method over 49 years
 - Option 3 (Asset Life Method) be used for the calculation of the HRA’s MRP in 2022/23 for all capital expenditure funded from debt from 1st April 2021 onwards. The calculation will be the ‘annuity’ method over an appropriate number of years, dependent on the period of time that the capital expenditure is likely to generate benefits
- (c) That is be approved and recommended to County Council that MRP on loans from the Council to North East Wales (NEW) Homes to build affordable homes through the Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP) (which qualify as capital expenditure in accounting terms be as follows:
- No MRP is made during the construction period (of short duration) as the asset has not been brought into use and no benefit is being derived from its use
 - Once the assets are brought into use, capital (loan) repayments will be made by NEW Homes. The repayments made by NEW Homes will be classed, in accounting terms, as capital receipts, which can only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt. The capital repayment / capital receipt will be set aside to repay debt, and is the Council’s MRP policy for repaying the loan.

111. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) 30 YEAR FINANCIAL BUSINESS PLAN

Councillor Hughes introduced the report which dealt with the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) draft 30 year Financial Business Plan and the proposed HRA Budget for 2022/23.

The Chief Executive explained that the rent increase proposed in the business plan applied an overall uplift of 1.18% to all tenants and, in addition, applied the transitional uplift of £2 to tenants who currently paid at least £3 under target rent.

That equated to an overall rent increase of 2% in the business plan. An overall inflationary increase of 2% forecast rental income at £38.047m for 2022/23.

The proposed garage rent and garage plot increase was 2% for 2022/23, which equated to £0.20 per week for garage rent and took the rent per week to £10.23. The proposed garage plot increase was £0.03 per week taking the garage plot rent to £1.66 per week.

The business plan anticipated income levels of £0.395m for garages and garage plots.

Service charges would be frozen again for the financial year 2022/23.

The total proposed capital programme for 2022/23 was £25.074m and was summarised in appendix C to the report.

The report was considered at Community, Housing and Assets Overview and Scrutiny Committee who were supportive of the content.

RESOLVED:

That the Housing Revenue Account budget for 2022/23 as set out in the appendices be supported and approved.

112. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2022/23 – TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT, PRACTICES AND SCHEDULES 2022 TO 2025

Councillor Johnson introduced the report which presented the draft Treasury Management Strategy 2022/23 for approval and recommendation to Council, in conjunction with:

- Draft Treasury Management Policy Statement 2022 to 2025
- Draft Treasury Management Practices and Schedules 2022 to 2025

The report had been considered in detail by the Governance and Audit Committee on 26th January 2022.

Training for all Members of the Council on treasury management had been delivered on 8th December 2021.

RESOLVED:

That the following document be approved and recommended to Council:

- Draft Treasury Management Strategy 2022/23
- Draft Treasury Management Policy Statement 2022 to 2025
- Draft Treasury Management Practices and Schedules 2022 to 2025

113. DEVELOPING FLINTSHIRE'S HOUSING SUPPORT PROGRAMME STRATEGY 2022-2026

Councillor Hughes introduced the report which provided an overview of the Housing Support Programme (HSP) Strategy requirements and the approach taken in Flintshire to develop and adopt the HSP Strategy by the end of March 2022.

The HSP Strategy was appended to the report for final review, along with details for delivery and monitoring of the HSP Strategy and supporting Action Plan for the period 2022-2026.

The Chief Executive added that Welsh Government (WG) required Local Authorities to develop a HSP every four years, with a mid-point review every two years. The HSP outlined the strategic direction of the local authority for housing related support services, providing a single strategic view of the local authority's approach to homelessness prevention and housing support services. As such, it included both statutory homelessness functions funded through the revenue settlement and non-statutory preventive services funded through the Housing Support Grant (HSG).

The HSG had increased from £5,950,818 to £7,828,610 which was a significant increase and reflected the priority that WG placed on the funding stream and the importance of housing related support and the prevention of homelessness. Details of the current services provided through the HSG were outlined in the report.

Also outlined in the report was the HSP Strategy Vision, Principles and Priorities.

Members welcomed the report.

RESOLVED:

That the Housing Support Programme Strategy be approved.

114. CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

Councillor Roberts introduced the report and explained that in 2019 the Welsh Government (WG) called for the Public Sector to become carbon neutral by 2030. Following that declaration, Cabinet resolved in December 2019 to a Climate Change Strategy which would set key aims and actions for creating a carbon neutral Council by 2030.

The Climate Change Strategy detailed the Council's work undertaken so far: its baseline carbon emissions; and areas that needed to be progressed and projected future state should those actions be completed to propel the Council towards its net zero carbon / carbon neutral goal by 2030.

He said everybody was responsible for helping to reach the goal of carbon neutrality. The new school in Mynydd Isa would be the first one in the county to be

carbon neutral. He thanked everybody involved, including the previous Cabinet Member who had been instrumental in driving it forward.

Councillor Bithell welcomed the report which was comprehensive and positive, adding that he was encouraged by the interest shown in the subject by young people.

The Chief Officer (Environment and Economy) thanked Councillor Sean Bibby who was Chair of the Climate Change Board and had led the production of the document before Members.

In response to a comment from Councillor Butler, the Chief Officer (Education and Youth) explained that climate change played a key part of the strategy within schools and in the youth service, which provided support to people aged 11-25.

The Chief Officer (Environment and Economy) said a briefing on carbon reduction would be delivered to new Members following the election, and it would also form part of the induction programme. The website would also be updated.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That progress made in delivering carbon reduction measures to date be acknowledged;
- (b) That the Climate Change Strategy for 2022 – 2030 and its aims therein be endorsed;
- (c) That a briefing for new Members following the election be arranged to highlight the work undertaken to date and the commitments of the Council moving forward, and that the Climate Change Strategy forms part of the Member Induction Programme; and
- (d) That the Council's website be updated to include the Climate Change Strategy.

115. WELSH IN EDUCATION STRATEGIC 10 YEAR PLAN 2022-2032

Councillor Roberts introduced the report which had been developed to provide Members with an overview of the draft plan for the next Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) which would run from September 2022 until 2032.

The Council believed that the Welsh Language belonged to everyone. The WESP in Flintshire was a long-term strategic tool for the Council to contribute its part in the country-wide goal of a million Welsh speakers by 2050. The Council was committed to increasing the number of those speaking Welsh within the wider community, with the aim of creating an increasingly bilingual county and country.

The first ten year plan would commence on 1st September 2022 and would expire on 31st August 2032. Each further plan would commence on 1st September in the year during which the previous ten year plan would come to an end i.e. 1st September 2032 to 31st August 2042. The plan must include a target outlining the

expected increase in the number of Year 1 learners taught through the medium of Welsh in the local authority area during the lifespan of the plan.

The WESP 2019 Regulations made provisions requiring a local authority to design their plans on the basis of a target. The Council was therefore required to set a ten year target outlining the expected increase in Year 1 children who were taught through the medium of Welsh in Flintshire.

Councils had been grouped by Welsh Government (WG) into different categories reflecting the current similarities and differences between the 22 local authorities in Wales. The factors considered when grouping included the percentage of learners taught in Welsh in an area; the models of Welsh-medium education provision adopted and the linguistic nature of the area. For that purpose, Flintshire had been placed in Group 4. The definition of Group 4 was 12% or fewer of Year 1 children in those local authorities were being taught through the medium of Welsh in 2017/18. There was a choice between Welsh-medium education and English-medium in those local authorities.

The Chief Officer (Education and Youth) added that WG had established a lower range and an upper range target for Flintshire. That represented a 6 percentage point increase (lower range) and 10 percentage point increase (upper range) in the number of Year 1 pupils being taught through the medium of Welsh. Whilst the lower range was the minimum to be achieved, the upper range should not be treated as a maximum. There was a need to look to increase the number of Year 1 pupils being taught through the medium of Welsh to between 225 and 295 pupils over the 10 years of the Plan. She paid tribute to Sian Hilton and Vicky Barlow who had led the development of the Plan.

In response to a comment from Councillor Bithell, the Chief Officer (Education and Youth) explained that teaching Welsh in English schools was a statutory function and the authority was committed to ensuring teachers were equipped to deliver Welsh in both primary and secondary schools.

RESOLVED:

That feedback on the consultation for the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032 be received and the plan be approved for implementation by the Council, subject to approval by Welsh Ministers.

116. MULTIPLYING IMPACT – FLINTSHIRE INTEGRATED YOUTH PROVISION DELIVERY PLAN 2021-2024

Councillor Roberts introduced the report which provided details of the new plan that had been developed for the delivery of the Council's youth services, known as Integrated Youth Provision, for the period 2021-2024.

The plan had been prepared following consultation with young people, with staff in the Integrated Youth Provision Team and with key partners who supported the Council in its delivery of services to young people aged 11 to 25 in Flintshire. It had been developed within the context of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic which

was widely acknowledged to have had a significant impact on the emotional, mental and physical health of young people.

Aspects of the delivery plan were already being actioned as the service had continued its support for children and young people throughout the pandemic. It had been offered in different ways from traditional youth work activities due to the COVID-19 restrictions that had been in place at different times.

The title of the plan **Multiplying Impact**, was deliberate in order to demonstrate how lessons learned about service delivery during the pandemic were embedded in youth work going forward and also how effective partnership working between the Council and its key partners in that area positively benefitted young people and maximised its impact.

The plan outlined the national and local context for youth work, referenced the feedback from the consultation process on which the plan had been built and set out ambitious priorities for the future development of the service.

The Chief Officer (Education and Youth) explained that the report had been considered at Education, Youth and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee the previous week and a discussion had taken place on how young people were supported once they left education, which was through the Integrated Youth Provision which was a statutory responsibility. She explained that the traditional delivery of youth work during the pandemic had been curtailed but a lot of services had been provided via a digital platform. The authority aimed to maintain youth clubs in large communities where there was demand, but in addition, pop up facilities were being provided where there was a need. In addition, Youth Workers were working within high schools where pupils could receive advice and be signposted to appropriate services.

The Chief Officer and Cabinet Members paid tribute to Ann Roberts who had led this piece of work, who was retiring from the authority.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the vital work of the Integrated Youth Provision during the COVID-19 pandemic in supporting Flintshire's children and young people be positively acknowledged; and
- (b) That the 'Multiplying Impact – Flintshire Integrated Youth Provision Delivery Plan 2021-2024' be endorsed.

117. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2021/22 (MONTH 9)

Councillor Johnson introduced the report which provided the latest detailed revenue budget monitoring position in 2021/22 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account for the financial year and presented the position, based on actual income and expenditure, as at Month 9.

The report projected how the budget would stand at the close of the financial year, without new actions to reduce cost pressures and/or improve the financial return on efficiency planning and cost control was:

Council Fund

- An operating surplus of (£1.537m) (excluding the impact of the NJC pay award which would be met by reserves) which was a favourable movement of (£0.821m) from the surplus figure of (£0.716m) reported at Month 8
- A projected contingency reserve balance as at 31st March 2022 of £7.407m

Housing Revenue Account

- Net in-year revenue expenditure forecast to be £0.437m higher than budget
- A projected closing balance as at 31st March 2022 of £4.035m

The Corporate Finance Manager explained that the report also detailed the position by portfolio; significant variances that month; achievement of planned in-year efficiencies; emergency funding, unearmarked reserves and earmarked reserves.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the estimated financial impact on the 2021/22 budget be noted; and
- (b) That the carry forward requests be approved.

118. CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2021/22 (MONTH 9)

Councillor Johnson introduced the report which summarised the changes made to the Capital Programme 2021/22 since it was set in December 2020 to the end of month 9 (December 2021), along with expenditure to date and projected outturn.

The Capital Programme had seen a net increase in budget of £6.626m during the period which comprised of:

- Net budget increase in the programme of £10.337m (Council Fund (CF) £9.222m, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) £1.115m)
- Net Carry Forward to 2022/23, approved at month 6, of (£0.687m) and additional School Maintenance Grant (£2.638) (all CF)
- Identified savings at month 9 of (£0.386m) (CF)

Actual expenditure was £52.871m.

Capital receipts received in the third quarter of 2021/22, along with savings identified, totalled £0.757m. That gave a revised projected surplus in the Capital Programme at month 9 of £4.904m (from a month 6 funding position surplus of £4.147) for the 2021/22 – 2023/24 Capital Programme, prior to the realisation of additional capital receipts and/or other funding sources.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be approved; and
- (b) That the carry forward adjustments be approved.

119. ANNUAL AUDIT SUMMARY FOR FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL 2020/21

The Chief Executive introduced the report and explained that the Annual Audit Summary set out the audit and regulatory work undertaken by Audit Wales of Flintshire County Council. It provided an update on the previous report which was published in January 2021.

Overall the Auditor General for Wales had reached a positive conclusion “*The Auditor General certified that the Council had met its remaining Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 duties for the financial year 2020-21, as saved by an order made under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021*”.

No formal recommendations had been made during the year.

There were a number of new proposals for improvement and proposals of development arising from the reviews undertaken by Audit Wales.

The Auditor General had provided an unqualified true and fair opinion on the Council’s financial statements on 29th September 2021, two months ahead of the statutory deadline.

Councillor Johnson said in comparison to other Councils Flintshire had done well.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet be assured by the content and observations of the Auditor General for Wales’ Annual Audit Summary Report for 2020/21.

120. TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION HOMELESSNESS AUDIT 2021 FINDINGS REPORT

Councillor Hughes introduced the report which confirmed the outcome of a recent Audit of the management of temporary accommodation within Flintshire. The audit had highlighted a number of areas for improvement and was categorised as a Red Audit Report.

The Audit Report was due to be presented to Governance and Audit Committee on 14th March 2022. The report provided background to the request for the audit, the audit key findings and the process of service improvement required to address the risks identified.

The Chief Executive explained that temporary accommodation was “interim housing” which was provided to people who were homeless (singles / couples /

families) and were owed duties under the Housing Wales Act (2014) by the Council. The service was delivered through the Homeless Team.

The current portfolio of properties was a mixture of houses of multiple occupation (HMO), self-contained flats and houses which were leased from private landlords, along with a small number of Council HRA properties.

The demand for Temporary Accommodation and Emergency Accommodation had grown significantly on the back of the COVID-19 pandemic with Welsh Government requiring all homeless people to be accommodated through the “everyone in” directive. Pre-COVID-19 the portfolio had a high number of vacancies with properties empty, but since COVID-19 and the additional duties to house more people, extra properties via HRA had been secured to meet the increased demand. The service also relied on hotel and B&B accommodation. Demand was likely to continue to grow as the pandemic was exited and recovery entered into.

RESOLVED:

That any comments be provided ahead of the report being presented to Governance and Audit Committee on 14th March 2022.

121. PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES ANNUAL LETTER 2020-21 AND COMPLAINTS MADE AGAINST FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 2021-22

The Chief Officer (Governance) introduced the report the purpose of which was to share the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual Letter 2020-21 for Flintshire County Council.

The Ombudsman’s Annual Letter provided an overview of the annual performance of the Council in relation to complaints investigated in 2020-21.

The report also provided an overview of complaints received by each portfolio of the Council between the period 1st April – 30th September 2021.

The number of complaints received by the Ombudsman about local authorities across Wales decreased by 12.5% in 2020-21 which reflected the reduction in complaints being reported by local authorities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Ombudsman intervened (upheld, settled or resolved at an early stage) the same proportion of complaints about public bodies, 20%, compared with 2019-20.

35 of Flintshire’s complaints were premature and that accounted for 59% of the complaints. Across North Wales the average number of premature complaints was 11. That analysis explained that whilst the overall number of complaints made against Flintshire was high, it attributed to a higher than average number of premature complaints.

There was a need to review how the authority promoted its own complaints procedure and the importance of keeping complainants informed about the progress of their complaint to reduce the number of premature referrals to the Ombudsman.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the annual performance of the Council in respect of complaints made to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales during 2020-21 be noted;
- (b) That the 2021-22 half year performance of the Council in respect of complaints made to services in line with its complaints procedure be noted; and
- (c) That the actions outlined in the report to improve complaints handling across the Council be supported.

122. SOCIAL VALUE

Councillor Johnson introduced the report and explained that delivering social value from Council activity and expenditure was a corporate priority for the Council and the Council was recognised for its positive work on social value, with the Social Value Development Officer in high demand for their knowledge, skills and expertise.

The Social Value Development Officer explained that the social value programme, had, since its inception, thrived, with around 90% of all procurement activity supported to include social value deliverables. Between January and September 2021 over £2.2m actual social value had been recorded as delivered in Flintshire.

To sustain the positive impact social value delivered for local communities, Flintshire County Council had already committed to an ongoing programme of social value work by making the position of the Social Value Development Officer permanent.

The report highlighted some of the positive outcomes to date and looked to maintain the Council's priority of delivering social value with revised targets for 2022/23.

The report was submitted to the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee the previous week where it was well received.

Members thanked the Strategic Executive Officer and the Social Value Development Officer for all of their work on this.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the performance of the social value programme to date be noted;

- (b) That the proposal around performance reporting and to secure an achievable social value work programme for 2022/23, given available resource, be endorsed; and
- (c) That Cabinet continue to support the social value programme, understanding that further opportunities exist to enhance this but these will require additional capacity / resource to progress.

123. EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS

An information item on the actions taken under delegated powers was submitted. The actions were as set out below:-

Streetscene and Transportation

- **The Flintshire County Council (Various Roads Within Buckley, Mynydd Isa, Drury, New Brighton, Burntwood, Bryn Y Baal and Alltami, Flintshire) (20mph Speed Limit) Order 202-**
To advise Members of the objection received following the advertisement of the proposed 20mph speed limit on various roads within Buckley, Mynydd Isa, Drury, New Brighton, Burntwood, Bryn Y Baal and Alltami, Flintshire.
- **Proposal to Construct a Zebra Crossing on Coed Onn Road, Flint**
To advise Members of the objections received following the advertisement of the proposal to construct a Zebra Pedestrian Crossing on Coed Onn Road, Flint.
- **Grant Funding Application to Promote Repair and Reuse Initiatives**
The Welsh Government's 'Beyond Recycling' strategy provides local authorities with clear direction that the emphasis on positive waste management and the move towards a circular economy starts with ensuring that items are kept in use for as long as possible. This is achieved by adopting the waste hierarchy of reusing, repurposing or repairing items as the first option before choosing recycling or disposal. To embed this principle in Council policy, options have been considered as to how to deliver a service where items deemed as waste are intercepted or diverted at the point of disposal and directed back to reuse. The report requests delegated authority to implement a pilot scheme to deliver a reuse pilot scheme on the Household Recycling Centres in partnership with Refurbs Flintshire. This pilot scheme requires grant funding to be delivered so an application has been submitted to the Landfill Disposal Tax Community Scheme for consideration for the nationally significant project fund.
- **Street Works Fees and Charges for 2022/2023**
The fees and charges levied for various licenses and applications issued within Street Works have been reviewed and the proposed charges for 2022//23 are set out in the table.

Education and Youth

- **Whitford V.A. School Transfer of Land**
Surrender of land to Mostyn Estates (Landlord), and the landlord to transfer the land to the St. Asaph Diocesan Board of Finance.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 – TO CONSIDER THE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting for the following items by virtue of exempt information under paragraph(s) 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

124. NORTH EAST WALES (NEW) HOMES BUSINESS PLAN 2022/2051

Councillor Hughes introduced the report which set out the key elements of the company’s proposed Development Strategy to increase the number of Affordable Rent Properties delivered over the next two years.

RESOLVED:

That the North East Wales (NEW) Homes Business Plan 2022/2051 be approved.

125. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There were no members of the press or public in attendance.

(The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. and ended at 12.30 p.m.)

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Chair