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Meeting	Executive
Date	14 February 2019
Present	Councillors Gillies (Chair), Aspden, Ayre, Runciman and Waller
Apologies	Councillors Brooks, Dew and K Myers

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## **Part B - Matters Referred to Council**

### **111. Consultation on Disposal of Open Space at Rowntree Park Lodge & Update of Financial Business Case**

*[See also under Part A]*

The Assistant Director of Regeneration & Asset Management presented a report which informed Members of comments received under Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 (the Act) regarding the proposed 'disposal of open space' at Rowntree Park Lodge and provided an updated business case for the proposal.

On 25 January 2018, the Executive had approved the lease of the upper floors of the Lodge as a holiday let, with revenue to be ring-fenced for the upkeep of the Park (Minute 108 of that meeting refers). This change in use was classed by the Act as a disposal of open space, requiring public advertisement and consideration of any responses. 42 responses had been received, all objecting to the proposals, as summarised in paragraphs 17-18 of the report. Officers' responses to the objections were set out in paragraph 19.

An update to the original business case was set out in paragraphs 20-30. This reflected the development of the proposal to provide a greater area of accommodation with a higher specification, resulting in an increased projected income, and the cost of this and of further works to remove asbestos and replace the roof of the dormer section. The revised scheme cost and funding were shown in the table at paragraph 29. The additional costs would require a further £110k budget, funded from prudential borrowing to be paid back over 15 years, during

which time a net profit of £380k was projected for use in the Park.

The Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Tourism endorsed the proposals while stressing the need to maintain the trust of local residents, in particular the Friends of Rowntree Park, and engage them in further consultation. Officers confirmed that, although a recommendation to Council on the budget was required today, a decision on delivery of the scheme could be deferred to an Executive Member Decision Session. Ideally, work on site would begin in September, subject to planning consent in July. Having noted the comments made under public participation, it was

Recommended: (i) That Council allocate a further £110,000 capital budget, funded from prudential borrowing, to facilitate the regeneration of Rowntree Park Lodge in accordance with the revised business case, this allocation to be funded from the revenue receipts from the holiday lets together with funds from existing budgets to deal with property maintenance.

(ii) That the decision to commence delivery of the scheme be delegated to a future Decision Session of the Executive Leader (Incorporating Finance & Performance) following further consultation and engagement with the Friends of Rowntree Park and local residents to establish how funding priorities will be identified using the net income from Rowntree Lodge.

Reason: To support Rowntree Park and its stakeholders in developing the facilities on a long term sustainable basis.

## **112. Capital Programme - Monitor 3 2018/19**

*[See also under Part A]*

The Director of Customer & Corporate Services presented a report which set out the projected out-turn position of the council's 2018/19 capital programme, including any under or overspends and adjustments.

A net decrease of £15.952m was reported on the approved capital budget, resulting in a revised programme of £106.291m. Variances in each portfolio area were outlined in Table 1 at paragraph 6 of the report, and detailed in paragraphs 8 to 57. The effect of the revisions was shown in Table 2, at paragraph 58.

The changes included a request from contingency for £120k to cover additional structural and conservation works at the Mansion House.

Recommended: That Council approve the adjustments resulting in a decrease of £15.952m in the 2018/19 budget, as detailed in the report and in Annex A.

Reason: To enable the effective management and monitoring of the council's capital programme.

Cllr I Gillies, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 7.20 pm].