

Committee	COUNCIL MEETING
Date	14th December 2020
Agenda Item	9

District Councillor Report

Performance Management Board

On 18th November I chaired my first meeting as Chairman of the Performance Management Board.

The main topic for discussion was the first presentation by cabinet of the budget priorities for 2021/22 and the draft Medium-Term Financial Strategy. All BDC councillors were invited to attend as part of the Member Development programme and to ask questions.

Currently there are many unknown elements contributing to uncertainty to the final budget. BDC are still awaiting the government funding settlement details. The potential loss of income following the effects of Covid-19 is adding uncertainty.

The current assumption is a Council tax increase of 2%.

A strong capital programme is planned to support growth of the Horizon 120 business park, a new Enterprise Centre and other items.

The items currently in the capital programme that directly affect Halstead are, a provision for contribution towards the Community Centre (as per carried forward from previous years), town centre public realm improvements, CCTV upgrade in town centre and new CCTV in public gardens,

The budget includes a proposal to distribute the council tax collection fund surplus back to town/parish councils. This includes a one-off payment to £2,662 to HTC. This item was later approved by full council on 11th December.

The next meeting of the PMB is on 3rd February 2021 when the updated budget will be reviewed.

Halstead Public Realm Improvement Project

BDC has progressed with this project and included funding in the budget for next year. Initial schemes have been shared with Halstead BDC members and also with HTC. BDC will progress this project in the coming months and would look for a small working group from HTC to work with them including site visits to discuss details.

Full Council Meeting

A full council meeting was held on 7th December which I attended. The topics discussed were the new Scheme of Delegation for planning, review of licensing policy, reports from scrutiny groups into Community Woodlands, Vaccinations, Leisure provision and access to sport. We also received various reports from cabinet members.

Recommendation: that HTC members note this report.

Cllr. Mick Radley
Braintree District Council
Halstead St Andrews Ward