

Chairman - Councillor A M Loughran

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

I D Fordham

P W Jones

R A James

J A Nixon

Cabinet Member - Councillor R M Smith - Deputy Leader and Resources Portfolio

Officers in attendance:-

Mrs J Aupers - Head of Governance

Mrs E Fullager - Chief Accountant

Mr A Bailey - Scrutiny Officer

Also present:-

Mr A Sohar - Director, Grant Thornton

AAC25 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 30 March 2022, as previously circulated, were agreed as a correct record.

AAC26 Apologies

An Apology for absence was received from Councillor M G Dodson.

AAC27 The Audit Findings for Stafford Borough Council for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Considered the report of Grant Thornton outlining the Audit Findings for Stafford Borough Council for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Arising from consideration of the report specific reference was made to:-

- PPE Valuation
- Reasons for the delay in the Value for Money Work
- Fees

The representative from Grant Thornton responded accordingly to the following queries raised by Members:-

- Other Land and Buildings Valuations
- Certification of the closure of the Audit
- Certification of Housing Benefit Claim
- Unpresented Cheques

Members subsequently voted on the associated recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the Audit Findings for Stafford Borough Council for the year ended 31 March 2021 be noted.

AAC28 Statement of Accounts

Considered the report of the Interim Head of Finance presenting the audited Statement of Accounts for 2020/21 to the Audit and Accounts Committee for approval.

The Committee discussed the following aspects of the report with the Chief Accountant:-

- Development Control - reduced planning fee income
- Planned future developments - Meecebrook
- Balance Sheet:-
 - Property, Plant and Equipment
 - Short Term Creditors
 - Pensions
 - Usable Reserves
 - Unusable Reserves

On conclusion of the debate Members voted on the recommendation as set out, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the audited Statement of Accounts for 2020/21 be approved.

AAC29 Financial Statements Audit 2020/21 - Management Representation Letter

Considered the report of the Interim Head of Finance (V1 19/04/22) presenting the Management Representation Letter for 2020/21.

The Chief Accountant reminded Members of the formal conclusion process for the Council's accounts.

Members then voted on the recommendation as set out, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee the Management Representation Letter for 2020/21 be endorsed.

The Management Representation Letter was subsequently signed by the Chairman of the Committee.

CHAIR