

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET

AVON PENSION FUND COMMITTEE

Monday, 4th October, 2021

Present:- Councillors Paul Crossley (Chair), Shaun Stephenson-McGall (Vice-Chair), Bruce Shearn, Chris Dando and Paul May

Also in attendance: Tony Bartlett (Service Director - Financial Control and Pensions), Nathan Rollinson (Investments Manager), Geoff Cleak (Pensions Manager) and Carolyn Morgan (Governance and Risk Advisor)

35 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Democratic Services Officer advised the meeting of the procedure.

36 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

The Democratic Services Officer announced that this meeting was being held with only a quorum of the Committee due to ongoing social distancing measures resulting from Covid-19.

He said that an informal virtual meeting of the Committee had been held on Friday 24th September for all members where they had agreed provisional recommendations.

37 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

38 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

There was none.

39 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS

There were none.

40 ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTED AND ADDED MEMBERS

There were none.

41 MINUTES: 28TH JUNE 2021

The minutes were approved as a correct record.

42 PENSION BOARD MINUTES: 21ST SEPTEMBER 2021

The Committee noted the draft minutes of the Pension Board from their meeting that took place on September 21st 2021.

43 EQUITY PORTFOLIO REVIEW

The Committee, having been satisfied that the public interest would be better served by not disclosing relevant information, **RESOLVED**, in accordance with the provisions of the Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 that the public should be excluded from the meeting for this item of business, because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act as amended.

44 ANNUAL REVIEW OF RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

The Committee **RESOLVED** to note the following:

- (i) The Risk Management Strategies are all achieving their strategic objectives.
- (ii) There are no strategic changes required to any of the strategies.
- (iii) There is adequate collateral to support the strategies.

45 BRUNEL UPDATE

The Committee **RESOLVED** to note the information set out in the report and appendices.

46 INVESTMENT PANEL ACTIVITY

The Committee **RESOLVED** to note the draft minutes of the Investment Panel meeting on 17th September at Appendix 1 and Exempt Appendix 2.

47 INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

The Investments Manager introduced this report. He gave a brief summary of the discussion from the Informal Virtual Meeting held on 24th September.

- The funding level is estimated to have improved from 97% to 101% over Q2 as asset growth outweighed the rise in the value of the liabilities. It is estimated to have increased by 9% over the year to 30 June 2021.
- The benefit of now having a Dynamic Equity Protection Strategy would be that the protection will evolve in line with the markets. The protection would be in

place from the first -10% move in equities and that permanent protection would be in place if markets fell from -10% to -30%

- The portfolio was well positioned with indirect inflation protection for the exposure to real assets and there was also potential to rebalance inflation hedging within the risk management mandate.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to note the information set out in the report and appendices.

48 UPDATE ON LEGISLATION

The Committee **RESOLVED** to note the current position regarding the developments that could affect the administration of the fund.

49 PENSION FUND ADMINISTRATION - PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND RISK REGISTER

The Service Director for Financial Control and Pensions informed the Committee that following a representation from the Chairman some staff within the service were now due to receive laptops sooner than expected through the rollout programme.

Councillor Shaun Stephenson-McGall asked if there was any update with regard to staff being able to return to work within Keynsham Civic Centre.

The Service Director for Financial Control and Pensions replied that a remodelling of the River Suite was also planned as part of the refurbishment and that a walkabout of the site was due to take place next week to assess the feasibility for staff within the service to use this space once work had been completed.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to note:

- (i) The Fund performance for the three months to 30th June 2021.
- (ii) The current Risk Register.

50 BUDGET & CASH FLOW MONITORING

The Committee **RESOLVED** to note:

- (i) The administration and management expenditure incurred for the year to 31 March 2022.
- (ii) The Cash Flow report for the year to 31 March 2022.
- (iii) The Going Concern Statement for the Pension Fund as currently drafted.

51 WORKPLANS

The Committee **RESOLVED** to note the Committee & Investment Panel work plans and training programme for the relevant period.

The meeting ended at 9.40 am

Chair(person)

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services