

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES BOARD

30 January 2023

Present: Councillor Symonds in the Chair

Councillors Chambers, D Clews, T Clews, Davey, Dirveiks, D Humphreys, M Humphreys, Morson, O Phillips and Simpson

An apology for absence was received from Councillors D Hancocks (Substitute Councillor M Humphreys) and M Parker

34 **Disclosable Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

None were declared at the meeting.

35 **Minutes of the Resources Board held on 7 November 2022**

The minutes of the Resources Board held on 7 November 2022, copies having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

36 **Housing Maintenance Service & Asset Management Plan**

The Director of Housing updated Members on the delivery of the Asset Management Plan for the Council's Landlord stock and informed the Board about the challenges posed by an ageing stock profile and proposed a review of the Maintenance Team to support future service delivery.

Resolved:

- a That the delivery of the current Housing Asset Management Plan be noted and the necessity to update the Plan be agreed;**
- b That the implications of the Social Housing (Regulation) Bill would be considered by the Housing Task and Finish Group at its meeting on 7 February for inclusion in the revision of the Asset Management Plan and 30 Year Housing Revenue Account Business Plan subject to being further adapted and amended to the extent required when finally implemented;**
- c That the delivery of the major works programme at Alexandra Court and Drayton Court be commended and the**

plans to continue the programme to Abbey Green Court be noted;

- d That the necessity to update the stock condition data be noted and the proposed resource for undertaking it be agreed;
- e That the proposal to recruit a Maintenance Manager be deferred for review at the Housing Task and Finish Group on 7 February 2023, with the decision delegated to the Director of Housing in conjunction with the Chair of Resources, Vice Chair of Resources and Opposition Spokesperson of Resources ; and
- f That the proposal to change the structure of the Housing Direct Works Team to include two additional tradesmen to lead on delivering a planned works programme – including those needed to repair and maintain fascia’s and garages be deferred for review at the Housing Task and Finish Group on 7 February 2023, with the decision delegated to the Director of Housing in conjunction with the Chair of Resources, Vice Chair of Resources and Opposition Spokesperson of Resources.

37 Private Sector Shared Services & HEART Partnership

The Director of Housing updated the Board on the HEART shared service partnership and made a proposal for future joint working.

Resolved:

To move item 7 into Private and Confidential to enable full discussion of contractual terms.

38 General Fund Fees and Charges 2023/24

The Chief Executive, The Corporate Director – Streetscape, , The Corporate Director – Resources and the Director of Housing reported on the fees and charges for 2022/23 and the proposed fees and charges for 2023/24.

Resolved:

That the schedule of fees and charges for 2023/24, as set out in the report of the Chief Executive, The Corporate Director – Streetscape, The Corporate Director – Resources and the Director of Housing be accepted.

39 General Fund Revenue Estimates 2023/24 – Services Recharged Across All Boards

The Corporate Director – Resources reported on the revised budget for 2022/23 and gave an estimate of expenditure for 2023/24, together with forward commitments for 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27.

Resolved:

- a That the revised budget for 2022/23 be accepted; and**

Recommendation to the Executive Board:

- b That the Estimates of Expenditure for 2023/24, as submitted in the report of the Corporate Director - Resources, be included in the budget to be brought before the meeting of the Executive Board on 13 February 2023.**

40 General Fund Revenue Estimates 2023/24 – Services Remaining within the Board

The Corporate Director – Resources reported on the revised budget for 2022/23 and gave an estimate of expenditure for 2023/24, together with forward commitments for 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27.

Resolved:

- a That the revised budget for 2022/23 be accepted; and**

Recommendation to the Executive Board:

- b That the Estimates of Expenditure for 2023/24, as submitted in the report of the Corporate Director - Resources for be included in the budget to be brought before the meeting of the Executive Board on 13 February 2023.**

41 General Fund Revenue Estimates 2023/24 – Summary

The Corporate Director – Resources reported on the revised budget for 2022/23 and gave an estimate of expenditure for 2023/24, together with forward commitments for 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27.

Recommendation to the Executive Board:

That the following items be recommended to the Executive Board for consideration in setting the Council Tax of the Borough Council:

- a The revised budget for 2022/23; and**
- b The schedule of expenditure requirements totalling £9,936,110 for 2023/24.**

42 Housing Revenue Account Estimates 2023/24 and Rent Review

The Corporate Director – Resources reported on the revised budget for 2022/23 and gave an estimate of expenditure for 2023/24, together with forward commitments for 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27.

Resolved:

- a That the revised estimate for 2022/23 be accepted;**
- b That the rent be increased by 7% in 2023/24 in line with the social rent policy set by the Government;**
- c That the proposed fees and charges for 2023/24, as set out in Appendix D by the Corporate Director – Resources, be approved;**
- d That the service charges for the cleaning of communal areas, as set out in Appendix E to the report of the Corporate Director – Resources, be approved from April 2023;**
- e That the service charges for window cleaning, as set out in Appendix F of the report of the Corporate Director – Resources, be approved from April 2023; and**
- f That the Estimates of Expenditure for 2023/24, as submitted, be accepted.**

43 Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2025/26

The Corporate Director – Resources identified changes to the Council’s 2022/23 capital programme and proposals for schemes to be included within the Council’s capital programme over the next three years.

Resolved:

- a To review the suitability of alternate fuels for replacement vehicles, with a view to their use in the vehicle renewal programme where this is appropriate;**

Recommendation to the Executive Board

- b That the changes to the 2022/23 revised capital programme be supported;**
- c That the proposed three-year capital programme, which includes the growth bids, set out in Appendix A to the report of the Corporate Director - Resources, be supported; and**
- d That the proposed vehicle replacement schedule, shown in Appendix B to the report of the Corporate Director - Resources, be supported**

44 **Review of Car Parking**

The Corporate Director – Streetscape updated Members on the outcomes of the implementation of CPE and the changes to the Council's off-street Parking places Order which took effect in February 2022. The report also set out some of the next steps in relation to on street and off-street parking in the Borough over the coming months.

Resolved:

That the contents of the report be noted.

45 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

Resolved:

That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Schedule 12A to the Act.

46 **Private Sector Shared Services & HEART Partnership**

The Director of Housing updated the Board on the shared service with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council to deliver private sector housing condition oversight and enforcement duties and on the HEART shared service partnership and made proposals for future joint working in both areas.

Resolved:

- a That the progress of the HEART shared service review be noted, that the Council agrees to enter into a further contractual partnership for 5 years from 1 April 2023 and that authority is delegated to the Director of Housing in consultation with the Chair and Opposition Spokesperson of Resources Board and Head of Legal Services to determine the final contract terms;**
- b That the work undertaken by the Private Sector Housing shared service be noted; and**
- c That the change to providing resources into the Private Sector shared service team and the growth bid of £45,000 be agreed.**

Recommendation to Council

- d That all functions to be exercised by the HEART shared service be delegated to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough**

Council, so that its officers have all necessary powers to perform those functions

C Symonds