

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES BOARD

8 September 2020

Present: Councillor Symonds in the Chair

Councillors Davey, Deakin, Dirveiks, Hayfield, D Humphreys, Simpson and Singh.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chambers and Farrow.

Councillors Bell, D Clews, T Clews, Downes, M Humphreys, Jenns, Lees, Macdonald, Moss, Smith and D Wright were also in attendance.

1 **Disclosable Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

None were declared at the meeting.

2 **Internal Audit Plan 2020-21 and Counter Fraud Activity 2019-20**

The Corporate Director Resources set out the proposed Internal Audit Plan for 2020-21 and updated Board Members on the work of the Counter Fraud Officer.

Resolved:

That the Internal Audit Plan as set out in Appendix A to the report of the Corporate Director Resources be approved and that the work of the Counter Fraud Officer be noted.

3 **Internal Audit Annual Report 2019-20**

The Corporate Director Resources presented the Head of Internal Audit's Annual report 2019-20.

Resolved:

- a That the findings of an assessment of the internal audit function against the PSIAS and the quality assurance programme be noted;**
- b That the summary of internal audit work as set out in Appendix A of the report of the Corporate Director**

Resources, which supports the Head of Internal Audit's opinion be noted; and

- c That the Head of Internal Audit's overall opinion on the control of the environment, be noted.**

4 Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April 2019 – March 2020

Members were informed of the progress with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Resources Board for April 2019 to March 2020.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

5 Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April – June 2020

Members were informed of the progress with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Resources Board for April to June 2020.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

6 Parking in North Warwickshire

Members were asked to note the submission of a joint application from Warwickshire County Council and North Warwickshire Borough Council to the Department of Transport to begin the formal process for the implementation of Civil Parking Enforcement across the Borough by 1 November 2021 at the latest. Members were also asked to recommend that the Executive Board allocates funding within this year's capital programme to enable improvement works at Water Orton car park.

Resolved:

- a That the formal submission of the application for the implementation of a Civil Enforcement Area to the Department for Transport with the aim of the Civil Parking Enforcement being in place by 1 November 2021 at the latest be noted; and**

Recommendation to Executive Board

- b That a supplementary budget of £85,000 be added to this year's capital programme to fund improvement works to Water Orton car park.**

7 Capital Programme 2020/21 Period Ended 31 July 2020

The Corporate Director Resources updated Members on the progress of the 2020/21 Capital Programme in terms of expenditure up to the end of July 2020.

Resolved:

That a virement of £257,630 from Kitchens and Bathrooms to the Multi Trade budget, be approved.

8 General Fund Budgetary Control Report 2020/21 Period Ended 31 July 2020

The Corporate Director Resources reported on revenue expenditure and income for the period from 1 April 2020 to 31 July 2020. The 2020/21 budget and the actual position for the period, compared with the estimate at that date were given together with an estimate of the out-turn position for services reporting to the Board.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

9 Housing Revenue Account Budgetary Control Report 2020/2021 Period Ended 31 July 2020

The Corporate Director Resources reported on the Housing Revenue Account revenue expenditure and income for the period from 1 April to 31 July 2020.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

10 Annual Treasury Report for 2019/20

The Corporate Director Resources reported on the out-turn for 2019/20 and highlighted any areas of significance.

Resolved:

- a That the Annual Treasury Report for 2019/20 be noted; and**

Recommended:

b That the Annual Treasury Report be approved.

11 Risk Management Annual Report 2019/20

Members were informed of risk management actions undertaken during 2019/20 and the risk identified for 2020/21.

Resolved:

That progress be noted.

12 Members' Allowances 2019/20

The Corporate Director Resources advised Members of the allowances paid for 2019/20. The Council also has a duty to publish the amounts paid to Members under the Members' Allowance Scheme.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

13 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 items of business, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Schedule 12A to the Act.

14 Request to Purchase Garages

The Director of Housing informed the Board of a request to purchase garages on the Council garage site in Coleshill.

Resolved:

That the request to purchase the garages in Coleshill shown at Appendix A be declined and that instead a license be offered to the applicant.

15 Procurement of Contracts

The Board were provided with information about the progress of two capital works contracts and requests for an extension to both.

Resolved:

- a That the contract with G Purchase be extended until November 2021 on the current terms; and**
- b That the contract with Danescourt be extended until March 2022 on the current terms.**

16 Housing Service Area

The Director of Housing reported on a proposal for the future of part of her Service Area in consideration of the Council's General Fund savings programme.

Under Standing Order No 9 (9) the following amendments to the recommendation contained in the report were proposed by Councillor Deakin and seconded by Councillor Dirveiks:

- a That the need for savings in the General Fund be noted;**
- b That consideration be given to changing the way the Council provides that service in order to provide savings and a sustainable service for the people of North Warwickshire;**
- c That a Task and Finish Group be established of 5 Members, to consider other service delivery methods to report back within 4 weeks;**
- d That, any decision to change the service will be subject to a detailed report at a future meeting of Resources Board, setting out the full implications and feedback from consultation with unions, staff, customers and other agencies; and**
- e That the format of the communication with customers to consult with them on future changes be agreed through the Task and Finish Group.**

On being put to the vote the amendment was declared as lost.

The following amendment to the recommendations contained in the report were proposed by Councillor Symonds and seconded by Councillor Davey.

- a That the need for savings in the General Fund be noted;**
- b That consideration be given to ending the direct provision of that service in this Borough in order to provide sufficient contribution to the savings required and**

offering to facilitate the transfer of customers to another suitable alternative provider;

- c That, a detailed report be submitted to a future meeting of the Resources Board setting out the full implications and feedback from consultation with Unions, staff and customers;**
- d That the format of the communication with customers to inform them of the Council's proposals and consult with them be agreed with the Chair of the Resources Board; and**
- e That a Task and Finish Group be formed to explore how the Council can work with the voluntary sector to support vulnerable residents of the Borough.**

Upon being put to the vote the amendments were carried.

(The Chief Executive has subsequently received a notice signed by Councillors Chambers, Deakin, Dirveiks and Farrow) under Standing Order No 30(1)(b) (Minority Report) with regard to the decision of the Board on this matter and it is therefore referred to Council for confirmation.)

**C Symonds
Chairman**