

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

21 November 2022

Present: Councillor D Wright in the Chair

Councillors Bell, Chambers, Davey, Gosling, Hayfield, D Humphreys, H Phillips, Reilly, Simpson and Symonds.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jenns (Substitute Councillor Davey) and Morson.

33 **Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest**

None were declared at the meeting.

34 **Minutes of the Executive Board held on 12 October 2022**

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 12 October 2022, copies having been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

35 **Calendar of Meetings 2022/23 and 2023/24**

The Chief Executive sought approval for changes of dates of three Boards meetings in January and February 2023 and a calendar of meetings for 2023/24.

Recommended:

- a That the revised calendar of meetings for 2022/23, as submitted at Appendix A to the Chief Executive's report be approved;**
- b That the draft calendar of meetings for 2023/24, as submitted at Appendix B to the Chief Executive's report be approved; and**
- c That a Member briefing session on the Local Authority Trading Company (LATCo) be held on 16 January 2023.**

36 **Elections May 2023 – Voter ID, polling stations and scale of fees**

The Chief Executive set out the changes that would be implemented at the May 2023 elections as a consequence of the Elections Act 2022 (including Voter ID) and actions that would be undertaken by the Democratic Services Team and others in order to prepare for and organise those polls.

Resolved:

- a That the preparations to date and proposed actions to implement Voter ID and other changes in May 2023 be noted;
- b That the reinstatement of Chancery Court as a polling station in Hartshill Ward and the use of Austrey Village Hall as a polling station in the Newton Regis and Warton Ward be noted;
- c That the Chief Executive (following consultation with Group Leaders) be given delegated authority to make amendments to the scheme of polling districts/polling places, as necessary, to ensure the running of the May 2023 polls; and
- d That the Chief Executive be given delegated authority to, where necessary, increase the fees paid to elections staff to reflect new responsibilities arising out of the Elections Act 2022, as detailed in his report.

37 Corporate Plan Performance Update

The Chief Executive asked the Board to note the Corporate Plan Performance Update and identify any areas where further information was required.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

38 Budgetary Control Report 2022/23 Period Ended 31 October 2022

The Corporate Director – Resources reported on the revenue expenditure and income for the period from 1 April 2022 to 31 October 2022. The 2022/23 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.

Recommended:

That the report be noted.

39 Report of Members' Independent Remuneration Panel

The Corporate Director – Resources detailed the key recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel following a review of the current Members' Allowances Scheme.

Recommended:

- a That the Independent Remuneration Panel's report, as set out in Appendix A to the report of the Corporate Director - Resources, be noted; and
- b That the following be approved;
 - 1) That the Special Responsibility Allowances for the roles listed in paragraph 7.1 remain unaltered;
 - 2) That the Vice Chair of Executive Board be paid an SRA of £2,988, with effect from 4 May 2022;
 - 3) That travel allowances are maintained, with the addition of the allowances for travel by motorcycle and bicycle, and the passenger supplement, set out in paragraph 8.2 of the report of the Corporate Director - Resources;
 - 4) That the Travel Allowance Scheme highlights that electric / hybrid travel is payable at the HMRC rate of 45p per mile;
 - 5) That no changes are made to the current definition and scope of approved duties for which Members can claim travel allowances;
 - 6) That no changes are made to current rates and conditions in the Travel Allowance scheme where Members travel by public or other means of transport;
 - 7) That there are no changes to subsistence rates and approved duties, other than to specify that a Member is unable to claim subsistence when attending an approved duty within the Borough of North Warwickshire;
 - 8) That there are no changes to the scope or levels payable in the Dependent Carer's Allowance Scheme; and
 - 9) That indexation, as set out in paragraph 10.1, is applied from 1 April 2022 until March 2026.

40 Debate Not Hate – LGA campaign

The Chief Executive asked the Board to note the Local Government Association's (LGA) campaign and to adopt the public statement.

Resolved:

That the Council becomes a signatory to the Debate Not Hate campaign public statement.

41 West Midlands Land Charter

The Chief Executive reported that the West Midlands Combined Authority was seeking the Borough Council's endorsement of the Public Land Charter.

Resolved:

That the West Midlands Public Land Charter be endorsed.

42 Draft Local Transport Plan LTP4 Consultation

The Chief Executive & Corporate Director – Streetscape detailed a consultation, being carried out by Warwickshire County Council, on the Draft Local Transport Plan LTP4. The closing date for comments was formally 2 November 2022, however the Borough Council had been given a time extension for responses by 30 November 2022.

Resolved:

- a That the Borough Council supports the work on the LTP4; and**
- b That the County note the comments on the LTP4 strategies, set out in the report of the Chief Executive & Corporate Director - Streetscape in relation to local issues that should be taken into account in the production of the final LTP.**

43 Climate Change Action Plan Update

The Corporate Director – Streetscape updated Members on the responses to the public consultation on the Council’s Climate Change Action Plan and recommended that the amended plan, updated in light of comments received, be adopted.

Resolved:

That the text of the Climate Change Action Plan be agreed and adopted, and a final version of the plan be prepared for publication in consultation with the Chairs and Opposition Spokesperson of the Executive and Community & Environment Boards.

44 Cost of Living Pressures

The Chief Executive informed Members of the key outcomes from the Cost of Living Engagement Forum held on 29 September 2022.

Resolved:

- a That the report be noted; and**
- b That Councillor Reilly and one Labour Group Member (to be advised) be appointed as Member Champions to provide Councillor oversight of work in this area.**

45 **Minutes of the Safer Communities Sub-Committee held on 27 June 2022 and 14 November 2022**

The minutes of the Safer Communities Sub-Committee held on 27 June and 14 November 2022 were received and noted.

46 **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.

47 **Senior Management Recruitment Process**

The Chief Executive updated Members on the Senior Management recruitment process.

Resolved:

That recommendations (a) and (b) set out in the report of the Chief Executive be approved.

David Wright
CHAIRMAN