

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

21 SEPTEMBER 2020

Present: Councillor D Wright in the Chair

Councillors Bell, Deakin, Farrell, Gosling, D Humphreys, M Humphreys Reilly, Rose, and Symonds.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Simpson (substitute Councillor M Humphreys)

Councillors Chambers, D Clews, Dirveiks, Jenns, Lees ,Macdonald and McLauchlan were also in attendance.

7 **Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest**

Councillor Gosling declared a non-disclosable pecuniary interest by reason of being a Director of Jelly Beans Nursery .

8 **Budgetary Control Report 2020/21 – Period Ended 31 July 2020**

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

Recommended:

That the report be noted.

9 **Capital Programme – 2019/20 Final Position**

The Corporate Director Resources updated Members on the position of the 2019/20 Capital Programme at the end of March 2020.

Recommended:

- a **That the level of expenditure incurred to the end of March 2020 against the 2019/20 Revised Capital Programme, be noted; and**
- b **That the carry forward schemes identified in column 6 of Appendix A to the report of the Corporate Director Resources be approved and added to the 2020/21 Capital Programme.**

10 **Financial Strategy 2020 - 2025**

The Corporate Director Resources summarised the Authority's Financial Strategy, projects forward the Authority's General Fund budgets to 2024/25, and suggested a detailed budget approach for the 2021/22 General Fund Budget.

Councillor Farrell moved to add a further recommendation (d) to those in the report which was agreed.

Recommended:

- a **That the Financial Strategy shown as Appendix A to the report of the Corporate Director Resources, be approved;**
- b **That the General Fund budget projections for 2021/22 to 2024/25 be noted;**
- c **That the budget approach, as set out in section 8 of the report of the Corporate Director of Resources, be adopted; and**
- d **That Council writes to the Government requesting that the Council be fully compensated for the costs of the COVID-19 pandemic and that they review the funding formula for local government finance to provide North Warwickshire Borough Council with the funding it requires to deliver services.**

11 **Capital Accounts 2019/20**

The Corporate Director Resources reported that the capital accounts for 2019/20 had been prepared and detailed expenditure for the year, together with the methods of funding used.

Recommended:

That the methods of funding to meet capital expenditure incurred in 2019/20, be approved.

12 **Annual Governance Statement 2019/20**

The Corporate Director Resources presented the revised Code of Corporate Governance 2020/21 and the Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20 for approval.

Recommended:

- a **That the Code of Corporate Governance 2020/21 as set out in Appendix A to the report of the Corporate Director of Resources, be approved; and**

- b That the Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20 as set out in Appendix B to the report of the Corporate Director Resources, be approved.**

13 Financial Management System Procurement

The Board were asked to consider the procurement of a replacement Financial Management System.

Resolved:

That the procurement of a Cloud based financial system, be approved.

14 Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April 2019 - March 2020

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

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

15 Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April - June 2020

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

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

16 Planning Consultations

The Chief Executive provided a summary and comments on the recent consultation relating to Planning, including the White Paper "Planning for the Future".

Resolved:

- a That the report be considered by Planning and Development Board and the Local Development Framework Sub-Committee; and**

- b That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, Chairs of the above Boards and Opposition Spokespeople, send a response to meet the deadline of 1 October and 29 October for each of the consultations.**

17 Request for a Supplementary Capital Scheme – Parking

Further to the Resources Board consideration of a proposal to fund works to Water Orton car park, Members approval was sought for a supplementary estimate to enable the work to be undertaken.

Recommended:

That a supplementary capital sum of £85,000, to enable work at Water Orton Car Park be approved.

18 Delegation of Powers – unlawful encampments

The Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer presented a proposal to delegate powers to officers to enhance the enforcement process for dealing with unlawful occupation of land in the Council's area.

Resolved:

- a That the powers in sections 77 and 78 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 be delegated to the Chief Executive and the Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer; and**
- b That guidelines in relation to when those powers should be used be adopted by the Council to make it clear when enforcement action is appropriate; and**
- c That the Council considers taking steps to mitigate any harm which is caused by encampments in appropriate cases.**

19 Amendment of Constitution – voting and signature of documents

The Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer sought approval of amendments to the Constitution to make further provision for voting at remote meetings and to allow electronic signatures on certain documents required to be served under the Constitution.

Recommended:

- a That Standing Order 45 be amended to require voting by roll-call as indicated in paragraph 2.1.5 of the report of the Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer; and**
- b That Standing Order 45 be amended to permit electronic signature of certain documents during restrictions which are in place due to Covid19 pandemic as indicated in paragraph 2.2.3 of the report of the Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer.**

20 Appointment to Boards and Outside Bodies

The Board were asked to consider appointments to certain Boards and Sub-Committees following Councillor Lebrun cessation of membership of the Conservative Group, together with appointment of members to certain outside bodies.

Recommended:

- a That Councillor Lebrun be appointed as a member of the bodies referred to in paragraph 3.4 of the report of the Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer;**
- b That, in order to facilitate the above, Councillor Hayfield ceases to be a member of the Licensing Committee and Councillor Parker ceases to be a member of the Safer Communities Sub-committee;**
- c That Councillor Macdonald be appointed as the Council's representative on the Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee in place of Councillor Bell; and**
- d That Ben Henry be appointed to the Coleshill Grammar School Endowment Foundation.**

David Wright
CHAIRMAN