

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

7 February 2011

Present: Councillor Hayfield in the Chair

Councillors Bowden, Fox, Lewis, May, Moore, B Moss, Phillips, Simpson, Smith, Swann, Sweet and Zgraja

53 **Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest.**

Any personal interests arising from the membership of Warwickshire County Council of Councillors Fox, Hayfield, May, B Moss and Sweet and membership of the various Town/Parish Councils of Councillors Fox (Shustoke), Lewis (Kingsbury), Moore (Baddesley Ensor), Phillips (Kingsbury) and Zgraja (Over Whitacre) were deemed to be declared at this meeting.

54 **Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 29 November 2010.**

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 29 November 2010, copies having been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

55 **Corporate Plan 2011/12**

The Chief Executive presented the Corporate Plan for 2011/12. Members were also asked to agree the 2011/12 Forward Work Plan for the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council.

Recommended:

- a **That the Corporate Plan, as set out in Appendix A to the report, be agreed, subject to any further amendments which may be needed as a result of the adoption of the 2011-12 budget;**
- b **That the Chief Executive be given delegated authority to finalise the format of the Plan; and**
- c **That the Service Plan for the Assistant Chief Executive & Solicitor to the Council, as set out in Appendix B to the report, be agreed.**

56 **Capital Strategy**

The Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) presented an update on the Capital Strategy and the Board was asked to agree the suggested course of action.

Recommended:

That the Capital Strategy, attached as Appendix A to the report of the Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources), be approved.

57 **The Proposed 3 Year Capital Programme**

Management Team put forward proposals for the Three Year Capital Programme and outlined the availability of capital resources.

Recommended:

- a **That the Revised Capital Programme for 2010/11 as set out in Appendix A be adopted;**
- b **That the additional schemes shown in Appendix C for provisional inclusion in the 3 Year Capital Programme be noted;**
- c **That the 3 Year Capital Programme for the period 2011/12 to 2013/14 as set out in Appendix E be adopted and referred to the Resources Portfolio Group; and**
- d **That the prudential indicators set out in Appendix H, subject to any changes that may be required as a result of decisions taken during this evening's meeting, be approved.**

58 **General Fund Fees and Charges 2011 – 2012**

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council reported on proposed fees and charges for 2011/12 and the Board were asked to agree a suggested course of action.

Recommended

That the schedule of fees and charges for 2010/11, set out in the report of the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council, be accepted.

59 **General Fund Revenue Estimates 2011 – 2012**

The Director of Resources reported on the revised budget for 2010/11 and an estimate of expenditure for 2011/12, together with forward commitments for 2012/13 and 2013/14.

Recommended:

- a That the revised budget for 2010/11 be accepted; and
- b That the Estimates of Expenditure for 2011/12, as submitted, be included in the budget to be brought before the meeting for consideration under Minute No. 60.

60 **General Fund Revenue Estimates 2011 – 2012 and Setting the Council Tax 2011 – 2012**

The Director of Resources set out the proposed General Fund Revenue Estimate for 2011/12, and the options available when setting the 2011/12 Council Tax for the Borough in the context of the Authority's Revenue Support Grant settlement, and the effect on General Fund balances. He also reported on the revised settlement figures.

Recommended:

- a That the total amount of growth to be included within the 2011/12 budget estimates be noted;
- b That the savings of £489,145 shown in Appendix 3 be approved;
- c That the proposed savings recommended by service boards be approved;
- d That the revised estimate for the year 2010/11 and the revenue estimates for 2011/12 be approved;
- e That the preferred Council Tax option for 2011/12 be 0% and referred to the meeting of the Council on 23 February 2011 for approval;
- f That the comments of the Deputy Chief Executive on the minimum acceptable level of general reserves be noted;
- g That schedule of Earmarked Reserves set out in Appendix 5 be referred to the Resources Portfolio Group for consideration;

- h That the manpower estimates for the year 2011/12 are approved; and**
- i That the Council Tax resolution be forwarded to the Council for consideration.**

61 Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April 2010 – December 2010.

The Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive informed Members of the actual performance and achievement against the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Executive Board for the third quarter of 2010/11 from April to December 2010.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

62 West Midlands Councils - Constitution

The Chief Executive reported on changes to the Constitution of the West Midlands Councils (formerly West Midlands LGA). The Board was asked to consider the revised Constitution and authorise the Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to settle past pension liabilities.

Recommended:

- a That consideration of the revised Constitution of West Midlands Councils be deferred and a further report be submitted to a future meeting of the Board; and**
- b That the Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to settle past pension liabilities.**

63 The Future of Planning Policy

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council reported on proposed changes to the planning regime and the Board was asked to agree a suggested work programme. In addition a draft letter to the two MPs representing North Warwickshire expressing concern about the changes to the planning system was circulated.

Recommended:

- a That the report be noted;**

- b. That the draft letter to the Borough's MPs on this Council's concerns about the changes to the planning system be sent;**
- c. That a Sub-Committee of the Executive Board be set up to replace the existing LDF Advisory Panel, consisting of 5 Members to be nominated by the Leader of the Council and 3 Members nominated by the Leader of the Opposition; and**
- d. That this Sub-Committee proposes draft terms of reference for the next Executive Board meeting.**

64 Local Investment Plan – to Deliver Affordable Housing

The Board was invited to endorse a Local Investment Plan to deliver affordable housing. The Plan had been considered and agreed by the Resources Board.

Recommended:

That the Local Investment Plan be endorsed.

C Hayfield
Chairman