

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

12 February 2013

Present: Councillor M Stanley in the Chair

Councillors Fowler, Hayfield, Humphreys, Moore, Morson, Phillips, Smith and Sweet

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Simpson.

Councillor Lewis was also in attendance.

70 **Disclosable Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests.**

None were declared at the meeting.

71 **Minutes of the meetings of the Board held on 26 November 2012 and 17 January 2013.**

The minutes of the meetings of the Board held on 26 November 2012 and 17 January 2013, copies having been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

72 **External Audit Plan 2012/13**

The Deputy Chief Executive reported on the External Auditors' plan for their work related to the 2012/13 financial year. Alison Breadon from PricewaterhouseCoopers was in attendance.

Recommended:

That the contents of the External Auditors' report be noted.

73 **Corporate Plan 2013/14**

The Chief Executive presented the Corporate Plan for 2013/14. Members were also asked to agree the 2013/14 Forward Work Plan for the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council.

Recommended:

- a **That, with the amendment referred from the Housing Sub-Committee, 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 2012-13 budget;**

- b That this Council's nomination for 2013/2014 for representation on Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board be Councillor Pickard;**
- c That the Chief Executive be given delegated authority to finalise the format of the Plan; and**
- d That the Service Plan for the Assistant Chief Executive & Solicitor to the Council, as set out in Appendix B to the report, be agreed.**

Resolved:

- e That following a request for a financial contribution from the LEP the action of the Leader of the Council in requiring a proper business case to be put forward before a contribution is made be endorsed.**

74 The 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.

75 The Proposed 3 Year Capital Programme

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

Resolved:

- a That the Revised Capital Programme for 2012/13 as set out in Appendix A, be adopted;**
- b That the 3 Year Capital Programme for the period 2013/14 to 2015/16 as set out in Appendix B, be adopted; and**

Recommended:

- c That the prudential indicators set out in the revised version of Appendix F, be approved.**

76 General Fund Fees and Charges 2013 – 2014

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council reported on proposed fees and charges for 2013/14 and the Board was asked to agree a suggested course of action.

Recommended

That the schedule of fees and charges for 2013/14, set out in the report of the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council, be accepted.

77 General Fund Revenue Estimates 2013 – 2014

The Deputy Chief Executive reported on the revised budget for 2012/13 and an estimate of expenditure for 2013/14, together with forward commitments for 2014/15 and 2015/16.

Recommended:

- a That the revised budget for 2012/13 be accepted; and**
- b That the Estimates of Expenditure for 2013/14, as submitted, be included in the budget to be brought before the meeting for consideration under Minute No. 78.**

78 General Fund Revenue Estimates 2013 – 2014 and Setting the Council Tax 2013 – 2014

The Deputy Chief Executive set out the proposed General Fund Revenue Estimate for 2013/14, and the options available when setting the 2013/14 Council Tax for the Borough in the context of the Authority's Revenue Support Grant settlement, and the effect on General Fund balances.

Recommended:

- a That the savings of £902,600 shown in Appendix G to the report be approved;**
- b That the revised estimate for the year 2012/13 and the revenue estimates for 2013/14 be approved;**
- c That the preferred Council Tax option for 2013/14 be 0% ;**
- d That the Deputy Chief Executive's comments on the minimum acceptable level of general reserves be noted;**

- e That the manpower estimates for the year 2013/14 be approved; and
- f That a Council Tax resolution be prepared for consideration by the Council, using the recommendations agreed by this Board.

79 **Update on Outreach Proposals – B.O.B. Hubs and the B.O.B. Mobile Service**

The Assistant Chief Executive (Community Services) presented an update on the outreach proposals across North Warwickshire and the Board was asked to agree a suggested course of action.

Recommended:

- a That the progress made with regard to the roll out of B.O.B Hubs across the Borough be noted;
- b That the budget used to fund the current operation of the B.O.B mobile bus and B.O.B. hubs be used in a different way to ensure the best use of resources and value for money with immediate effect; and
- c That the extension of the temporary contract of the B.O.B Community Hub Support Officer to 30 June 2014 at which time a further review of the need for this post will be undertaken, be approved.

80 **HS2 Exceptional Hardship Scheme**

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council sought delegated power to prepare a response to the Government's consultation on an Exceptional Hardship Scheme announced as part of Phase 2 of HS2.

Recommended:

That the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council prepares a final response in consultation with the Leader, Leader of the Opposition, Chairman of Planning and Development Board and Opposition Spokesperson, HS2 Spokesperson and Opposition HS2 Spokesperson to meet the consultation deadline.

81 **Local Development Scheme 2013**

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council sought approval for the revised Local Development Scheme.

Recommended:

That the Local Development Scheme be approved.

82 Community Governance Review – Parish of Middleton

The Board was invited to consider the second stage of the Community Governance Review for Middleton and confirm the Council's final decision.

Recommended:

That the final recommendation not to increase the number of Parish Councillors for the Parish of Middleton be endorsed and the Chief Executive be authorised to give notice of the decision accordingly.

83 Approach to Shared Services

The Chief Executive reported on the Council's current position on Shared Services and recommended an approach for evaluating prospective future collaborations.

Recommended:

That the approach to evaluating joint service projects, as set out at Appendix A to the report of the Chief Executive, be adopted.

84 Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April 2012 – December 2012.

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 April to December 2012.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

85 Minutes of the meeting of the Safer Communities Sub-Committee held on 26 January 2012

The minutes of the meeting of the Safer Communities Sub-Committee held on 26 January 2012 were received and noted.

86 **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.

87 **Minutes of the meeting of the Special Sub-Group held on 28 January 2013**

The minutes of the meeting of the Special Sub-Group held on 28 January 2013 were received and noted.

M Stanley
Chairman