

## NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES BOARD

17 November 2014

Present: Councillor N Dirveiks in the Chair

Councillors Davis, Humphreys, Johnston, Moore, Phillips and Winter.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Butcher (Substitute Councillor Phillips) and Holland.

Councillor Pickard was also in attendance.

#### 33 **Disclosable Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

Councillor N Dirveiks declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No 52, Supporting People Programme, by reason of being a member of Warwickshire County Council.

#### 34 **Minutes of the Resources Board held on 1 September 2014**

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 1 September 2014, copies having previously been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 35 **Coleshill Leisure Centre – Site Disposal**

The Assistant Director (Streetscape) updated Members on the options available for the disposal of the current leisure centre site at Coleshill and recommended a course of action over the coming months.

##### **Recommended:**

- a That the site of the existing leisure centre at Coleshill be declared surplus to requirement from the date that the new facility at Coleshill School becomes operational; and**
- b That the proposals set out in paragraph 3 of the report of the Assistant Director (Streetscape) for the future marketing and disposal of the current leisure centre site be agreed.**

**36 Revisions to Parking Places Order**

The Assistant Director (Streetscape) sought Members' approval for a revised Parking Places Order and associated Schedule(s) covering all the Borough Council owned and operated off-street car parks.

**Resolved:**

**That the revised Parking Places Order and associated Schedule(s) be approved.**

**37 Land at Sycamore Crescent, New Arley**

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) set out a proposal for the registration of an area of informal open space at Sycamore Crescent in New Arley as a Village Green.

**Recommended:**

**That the land comprising the informal open space at Sycamore Crescent in New Arley, as shown in Appendix A to the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development), remain in Borough Council ownership and be registered as a Village Green.**

**38 Treasury Management Update**

The Deputy Chief Executive reported on the Treasury Management activity for the period up to the end of October 2014.

**Resolved:**

**That the Treasury Management Report for the period up to the end of October 2014 be noted.**

**39 Capital Programme – 2014/15 Update and Bids for the 2015/16 Three Year Capital Programme**

The Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) updated Members on the progress of the 2014/15 Capital Programme in terms of expenditure up to the end of October 2014, and put forward two schemes to be considered for inclusion in the 2015/16 three year capital programme.

**Resolved:**

- a That the progress made against the 2014/15 Capital Programme be noted; and**

## **Recommendation to the Executive Board**

- b That the capital scheme regarding ICT Backing Up in 2016/17 be included with the 2015/16 Three Year Capital Programme.**

**40 General Fund Budgetary Control Report 2014/15 Period Ended 31 October 2014**

The Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) reported on revenue expenditure and income for the General Fund between 1 April 2014 and 31 October 2014. The 2014/15 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.

**Resolved:**

**That the report be noted.**

**41 Housing Revenue Account Budgetary Control Report 2014/15 Period Ended 31 October 2014**

The Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) reported on the total Housing Revenue Account revenue expenditure and income for the period from 1 April to 31 October 2014.

**Resolved:**

**That the report be noted.**

**42 Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April-September 2014**

The Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive informed Members of the progress with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Resources Board for April 2014 to September 2014.

**Resolved:**

**That the progress with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Resources Board for April to September 2014 be noted.**

**43 Internal Audit – Performance for Second Quarter 2014-15**

The Deputy Chief Executive reported on the progress of the Council's Internal Audit function against the agreed plan of work for the year.

**Resolved:**

**That the report be noted.**

**44 CCTV in Atherstone – Annual Report**

The Assistant Director (Housing) outlined progress in respect of the Council's management and operation of the Atherstone Town Centre CCTV scheme and its impact over the last 12 months in relation to the corporate priority to tackle crime and the fear of crime.

**Resolved:**

**That the continued and positive impact of the Atherstone Town Centre CCTV scheme in tackling local crime be noted.**

**45 Minutes of the Housing Sub-Committee held on 6 October 2014**

The minutes of the Housing Sub-Committee held on 6 October 2014 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 items of business, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Schedule 12A to the Act.**

**47 Housing Maintenance Service – Review of Team Structure**

The Assistant Director (Housing) provided the Board with information about the Maintenance Section and proposed some changes to the staff structure.

**Resolved:**

**a That the revised staff structure for the Housing Maintenance Section be approved; and**

**b That the evaluated job descriptions and financial implications of the new structure as set out in the report of the Assistant Director (Housing) be agreed.**

**48 Cover for 24/7 Community Support Service**

The Assistant Director (Housing) sought approval for a proposal for staff cover for the 24/7 Community Support Service.

**Resolved:**

- a That a part-time (18 hours), temporary Community Support Officer (18 months) be appointed; and**
- b That the review of the Community Support Service considers how to effectively cover the 24/7 requirements of the service from the current staffing establishment.**

**49 Land at Grange Road, Hartshill**

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) set out a proposal for the sale of a small parcel of land within the Recreation Ground at Grange Road in Hartshill to the owners of an adjoining property.

**Recommended:**

- a That the parcel of land within the Recreation Ground at Grange Road, Hartshill, and adjacent to 4 Cottage Gardens, as identified on the plan attached as Appendix A to the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development), be declared surplus to requirements; and**
- b That the land be offered for sale to the owners of 4 Cottage Gardens, Hartshill on the terms set out in paragraph 3.3 of the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development).**

**50 Irrecoverable Local Taxation Debts**

The Assistant Chief Executive (Community Services) detailed the amounts recommended for write off in accordance with the write off policy agreed by the Resources Board on 25 March 2013.

**Resolved:**

- a That the write off of a balance over £5,000, totalling £5,081.73, in respect of unpaid Council Tax be approved;**
- b That the write off of 5 balances over £5,000, totalling £45,798.59, in respect of unpaid Non Domestic Rates be approved;**

- c** That the write off of a balance over £5,000, totalling £6,874.15, in respect of unpaid Housing Benefit Overpayment be approved;
- d** That the write off of 37 balances under £5,000, totalling £14,482.67, in respect of unpaid Council Tax be noted;
- e** That the write off of 6 balances under £5,000, totalling £10,869.59, in respect of unpaid Non Domestic Rates be noted;
- f** That the write off of 138 balances under £5,000, totalling £52,788.77, in respect of uncollected overpaid Housing Benefit be noted;
- g** That the write off of 20 balances under £5,000, totalling £7,240.71, in respect of uncollected Former Tenant Arrears be noted;
- h** That the write back of 2 balances, totalling £155.04, in respect of overpaid Council Tax be noted;
- i** That the write back of 2 balances, totalling £18,764.93, in respect of overpaid Non Domestic Rates be noted; and
- j** That the write back of 2 balances, totalling £2,692.74, in respect of overpaid Housing Benefit be noted.

## **51 Council New Build Schemes**

The Assistant Director (Housing) proposed a partnership approach to developing a number of affordable housing schemes in Atherstone and Mancetter.

### **Resolved:**

- a** That the Board supports the recommendation that the Council continues to work in partnership with Waterloo Housing Group to develop affordable homes as part of a consortium in order to attract grant funding from the Homes and Communities Agency;
- b** That to support the arrangements detailed in (a) above, Contract Standing Orders relating to the requirement for competition are waived on the basis that no genuine competition can be obtained as grant funding can only be accessed, at this time, through a consortium relationship with Waterloo Housing Group;

- c That the Council redevelop its land and properties at Lister Road and Church Walk, Atherstone to provide for new affordable homes for rent;
- d That the Housing Division consider the viability of redeveloping its land at Ridge Lane to provide for affordable housing;
- e That the Council supports Waterloo's intention to develop land in Hartshill and that the Housing Division enter into negotiations to purchase some of the properties being developed for its own stock;
- f That the Housing Division considers whether any estates or schemes in its current stock would benefit from regeneration in consultation with Local Ward Members and that a report be brought to the Board in January 2015 with any proposals;
- g That the reward monies provided by the County Council to fund affordable housing in the Borough be used to fund the developments at Church Walk, Mancetter and Lister Road, Atherstone, as the sites present a number of abnormal issues; and
- h That the commuted sums from developments where an off-site contribution for affordable homes was agreed are used for schemes which the Council wants to support to ensure their delivery.

**52 Supporting People Programme – Housing Related Support Budget Reduction**

The Assistant Director (Housing) reported on funding for the Supporting People Programme and the implications for North Warwickshire.

**Resolved:**

- a That the Assistant Director (Housing) responds on behalf of the Council to the consultation; and
- b That, when the County Council has processed the feedback from the consultation and has confirmed its decision, a further report be brought back to the Board for consideration.

53 **Sundry Debtor Irrecoverable Debts**

The Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) advised Members of debts which were considered to be irrecoverable.

**Resolved:**

**That the debts totalling £9,073.81 detailed in paragraph 4.4 of the report of the Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) be written off.**

Chairman