

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES BOARD

27 January 2014

Present: Councillor Moore in the Chair

Councillors Barber, Butcher, N Dirveiks, Forwood, Humphreys, Johnston and Winter.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Davis (Substitute Councillor Barber).

Councillors Lewis and Phillips were also in attendance.

50 **Disclosable Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

None were declared at the meeting.

51 **Minutes of the Resources Board held on 18 November 2013**

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 18 November 2013, copies having previously been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

52 **Local Investment Plan**

The Assistant Director (Housing) presented an early draft of the Local Delivery Plan for 2015-2018 and provided information about sites in the Council's ownership that could be considered for development as part of the Plan.

Resolved:

- a That the draft Local Development Plan be agreed; and**
- b That the Council owned sites set out in the report of the Assistant Director (Housing) be given consideration as future development sites for Council properties.**

53 **Corporate Plan 2014-15**

The Chief Executive sought approval for the Corporate Plan Key Actions for which is was responsible and to agree the 2014-15 Service Plans for the Finance and Human Resources, Community Services and Corporate Services Divisions and the Internal Audit Service.

Recommendation to the Executive Board:

- a **That Corporate Priority 8 – Access to Services be amended to:-**

“Providing easier access to Council and other public services, particularly through the internet and local community facilities”;

- b **That those Corporate Plan Key Actions, as set out in Appendix A to the report of the Chief Executive, for which the Resources Board is responsible be agreed;**

Resolved:

- c **That those elements of the Service Plans that are the responsibility of the Resources Board, as set out in Appendix B to the report of the Chief Executive, be agreed.**

54 General Fund Fees and Charges 2014/2015

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council, Assistant Director (Streetscape), Assistant Chief Executive (Community Services), Assistant Director (Housing), and Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) reported on the fees and charges for 2013/14 and the proposed fees and charges for 2014/2015.

Resolved:

That the schedule of fees and charges for 2014/2015, set out in the report of the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council, Assistant Director (Streetscape), Assistant Chief Executive (Community Services), Assistant Director (Housing) and Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) be agreed.

55 General Fund Revenue Estimates 2014/15 – Services Recharged Across All Boards

The Deputy Chief Executive reported on the revised budget for 2013/14 and gave an estimate of expenditure for 2014/15, together with forward commitments for 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18 for those services recharged across all Boards.

Resolved:

- a **That the revised budget for 2013/14 be accepted; and**

Recommendation to Executive Board:

- b That the Estimates of Expenditure for 2014/2015, as submitted in the report of the Deputy Chief Executive, be included in the budget to be brought before the meeting of the Board on 11 February 2014.**

56 General Fund Revenue Estimates 2014/15 – Services Remaining Within the Board

The Deputy Chief Executive reported on the revised budget for 2013/14 and gave an estimate of expenditure for 2014/2015, together with forward commitments for 2015/2016, 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 for those services remaining within the Board.

Resolved:

- a That the revised budget for 2013/14 be accepted; and**

Recommendation to Executive Board:

- b That the Estimates of Expenditure for 2014/2015, as submitted in the report of the Deputy Chief Executive, be included in the budget to be brought before the meeting of the Board on 11 February 2014.**

57 General Fund Revenue Estimates 2014/2015 – Summary

Summary

The Deputy Chief Executive reported on the revised budget for 2013/14 and gave an estimate of expenditure for 2014/15, together with forward commitments for 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/2018.

Recommendation to Executive Board:

That the following items be recommended to the Executive Board for consideration in setting the Council Tax of the Borough Council:

- a The revised budget for 2013/14; and**
- b The schedule of expenditure requirements totalling £8,863,030 for 2014/2015, and the growth item set out in paragraph 7.2 of the report of the Deputy Chief Executive.**

58 Housing Revenue Account Estimates 2014/15 and Rent Review

The Deputy Chief Executive reported on the revised budget for 2013/14 and gave an estimate of expenditure for 2014/15, together with forward commitments for 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18.

Resolved:

- a That the revised estimates for 2013/14 be accepted;**
- b That rent increases, calculated on the basis that the Council will continue to move properties towards their individual target rents, be adopted;**
- c That the proposed fees and charges for 2014/15 as set out in Appendix D to the report of the Deputy Chief Executive, be approved;**
- d That the service charges for the cleaning of communal areas, as detailed in Appendix E to the report of the Deputy Chief Executive, be approved from April 2014;**
- e That the service charges for window cleaning, as detailed in Appendix F to the report of the Deputy Chief Executive, be approved from April 2014;**
- f That the Estimates of Expenditure for 2014/15, as submitted, be approved;**
- g That growth bids of £248,000 in 2014/15 and £210,000 in 2015/16 be approved, subject to Housing Sub-Committee approving the detailed proposals; and**
- h That one off growth bids of £390,000 in 2014/15 funded through the use of earmarked reserves be approved, subject to Housing Sub-Committee approving the detailed proposals.**

59 Capital Programme Bids 2014/15 to 2016/17

The Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) identified proposals for schemes to be included within the Council's capital programme over the next three years.

Resolved:

- a That the schemes shown in Appendix A to the report of the Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources), previously approved within the Council's three-year**

capital programme, including any 2016/17 additions relating to previously approved schemes be approved;

- b** That the schemes shown in Appendix B to the report of the Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) which will not be included within the capital programme be noted; and
- c** That the proposed vehicle replacement schedule, shown in Appendix C to the report of the Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) be approved.

60 Internal Audit – Performance for Third Quarter 2013-14

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

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

61 Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April – December 2013

The Chief Executive and 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 to December 2013.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

62 Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for 2014/15

The Deputy Chief Executive outlined the Treasury Management Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Investment Strategy for 2014/15.

Resolved:

That the proposed strategies for 2014/15 be approved.

63 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.

64 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 7 balances over £5,000, totalling £88,718.92 in respect of unpaid Non Domestic Rates be approved;**
- b That the write off of 31 balances under £5,000, totalling £12,838.10 in respect of unpaid Council Tax be noted;**
- c That the write off of 10 balances under £5,000, totalling £13,277.86 in respect of unpaid Non Domestic Rates be noted;**
- d That the write off of 60 balances under £5,000, totalling £11,279.61 in respect of uncollected overpaid Housing Benefit be noted;**
- e That the write off of 92 balances under £5,000 totalling £16,702.09, in respect of uncollected Former Tenant Arrears;**
- f That the write back of 13 balances totalling £1,386.96 in respect of overpaid Council Tax be noted; and**
- g That the write back of 6 balances totalling £9,652.45, in respect of overpaid Non Domestic Rates be noted.**

J Moore
Chairman