

## NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT BOARD

24 January 2011

Present: Councillor May in the Chair

Councillors L Dirveiks, Fox, Freer, Gordon, Lewis, M Moss, Phillips, Pickard, Sherratt, Smitten, Y Stanley and Wykes.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Payne.

#### 32 **Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interests**

Any personal interests arising from the membership of Warwickshire County Council of Councillors Fox and May and membership of the various Town/Parish Councils of Councillors Fox (Shustoke), Freer (Atherstone), Lewis (Kingsbury), M Moss (Kingsbury), Phillips (Kingsbury), Sherratt (Coleshill), Smitten (Polesworth) and Y Stanley (Polesworth) were deemed to be declared at the meeting.

Councillor Smitten declared a personal interest in Minute No. 36 Financial Assistance to Outside Organisations and Minute No. 37 Leisure and Community Development Division – Proposed Revenue Savings 2011/12 by reason of being a trustee of the Citizens Advice Bureau.

Councillors Phillips and Lewis declared personal interests in Minute No. 36 Financial Assistance to Outside Organisations and Minute No. 37 Leisure and Community Development Division – Proposed Revenue Savings 2011/12 by reason of being members of NWCAVA Local Members Committee.

#### 33 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2010, copies having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 34 **Corporate Plan 2011-12**

The Board's approval was sought to those parts of the Corporate Plan for which the Board was responsible. Members were also asked to agree the 2011-12 Service Plans for the Leisure and Community Development, Streetscape and Environmental Divisions.

#### **Recommendation to the Executive Board:**

- a **That the Executive Board be recommended to agree those parts of the Corporate Plan for which the Community and Environment Board is responsible**

**as set out in Appendix A to the report of the Chief Executive; and**

**Resolved:**

- b That the Service Plans as set out in Appendix B to the report of the Chief Executive, be approved.**

**35 General Fund Fees and Charges 2011/12**

The Board was asked to consider the fees and charges for 2010/11 and the proposed fees and charges for 2011/12.

**Resolved:**

**That the schedule of fees and charges as set out in Appendix A to the report, be accepted.**

**36 Financial Assistance to Outside Organisations**

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) detailed two requests for assistance through the provision of an annual grant; one from Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action (WCAVA) for funding towards the second year of its three-year countywide agreement and the other from North Warwickshire Citizens Advice Bureau (NWCAB).

**Resolved:**

- a That the progress made by WCAVA in its delivery of Volunteer and Third Sector Support Services (VATS Services) in Warwickshire be noted and that an award of £10,759 for the second year of the three-year countywide contract be approved; and**
- b That the draft 2011 Service Level Agreement for further negotiation with NWCAB and the proposed financial award for 2011/12 be approved and administered as indicated in the report, including the provision for the second instalment to be made subject to the prior agreement of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board.**

**37 Leisure and Community Development Division – Proposed 2011/12 Revenue Savings**

The Assistant Director presented potential areas for revenue savings within the Leisure and Community Development Division for inclusion in the 2011/12 revenue estimates.

**Recommendation to the Executive Board:**

- a That the proposed budget savings within the Leisure and Community Development Division be included in the 2011/12 revenue estimates; and**
- b That as part of the preparation of the annual budget setting process consideration be given to the need to make provision for arts services in the Borough.**

**38 Proposed 2011/12 Revenue Savings**

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council presented potential areas for revenue budget savings for inclusion in the 2011/12 revenue estimates.

**Recommendation to the Executive Board:**

**That the savings identified in the report of the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council be included in the 2011/12 revenue estimates.**

**39 Recycling Promotion**

The Assistant Director (Streetscape) highlighted some of the work carried out recently to promote the Council's recycling services and sought the Board's approval to reduce the budget for recycling promotion by £5,000 from 2011/12 onwards as part of savings identified within the Streetscape Division.

**Resolved:**

- a That the contents of the report of the Assistant Director (Streetscape), be noted; and**

**Recommendation to Executive Board:**

- b That a reduction of £5,000 in the annual budget for recycling promotion, be approved.**

**40 Waste Management: Sub-Regional Working**

The Assistant Director (Streetscape) summarised the work which was being undertaken by Warwickshire's County and District Councils in partnership with Coventry MBC and Solihull MBC on a variety of waste management services. The aims of the programme being followed by the partners were to improve service delivery, increase efficiency and reduce costs through greater collaborative working, joint procurement and sharing of best practice.

**Resolved:**

- a That the contents of the report of the Assistant Director (Streetscape) be noted; and**

- b That the potential impacts of the work programme for this authority, be noted.**

**41 General Fund Revenue Estimates 2011/12**

The Deputy Chief Executive detailed the revised budget for 2010/11 and an estimate of expenditure for 2011/12, together with forward commitments for 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15.

**Resolved:**

- a That the revised budget for 2010/11, be accepted;**

**Recommendation to Executive Board:**

- b That the growth item for 2011/12, as set out in paragraph 7.1 of the report of the Deputy Chief Executive, be approved; and**
- c That the Estimates of Expenditure for 2011/12 as submitted in the report of the Deputy Chief Executive be accepted, and included in the Council's overall budget for 2011/12.**

**42 Capital Programme 2011/12 to 2013/14**

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

**Resolved:**

- a That the scheme previously approved within the Council's three-year capital programme, be supported; and**
- b That the schemes which will not be included within the capital programme, be noted.**

**43 Leisure Facilities Bank Holiday Opening**

As requested previously by the Board, the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) provided the indicative costs of opening leisure facilities on Bank Holidays.

**Resolved:**

**That in view of the identified cost and service implications associated with opening leisure centres on Bank Holidays, the originally proposed schedule of facility closures, as set out in paragraph 3.1 of the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development), be approved.**

**44 Play Area Development Programme**

The Board was informed of progress in respect of the implementation of the Play Area Development Programme.

**Resolved:**

- a That progress in respect of the Play Area Development Programme be noted and approved;**
- b That Baxterley Parish Council's offer of funding towards the renewal of play facilities at the recreation ground in the village, be accepted;**
- c That the proposal to extend the current contract with Wicksteed Leisure Ltd, in accordance with Contract Standing Order 5.5.(5), be approved; and**

**Recommendation to Executive Board:**

- d That a growth bid in respect of ongoing maintenance and replacement costs for the proposed new play facilities at Baxterley Recreation Ground from 2012/13, be approved.**

**45 Parks, Open Spaces and Horticultural Service Performance and Grounds Maintenance Service Review**

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) updated the Board with regard to the annual benchmarking exercise for parks, open spaces and horticultural services, advised on progress of the Grounds Maintenance Service Review and sought approval of the new Grounds Maintenance Specification and its proposed implementation with effect from April 2011.

**Resolved:**

- a That the performance of the Parks, Open Spaces and Horticultural Service, be noted;**

- b That the progress in respect of the approach being taken to improve service standards, be noted;**
- c That the new Grounds Maintenance Specification, be approved; and**
- d That subject to there being no adverse impact on the Council's 2011/12 revenue budget, a phased implementation of the new Grounds Maintenance Specification, as set out in the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) be undertaken with effect from April 2011.**

**46 Private Water Supplies Regulations 2009**

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council informed the Board of the requirements of the Private Water Supplies Regulations 2009, the implications for this Authority and sought approval of a scale of charges to be levied for risk assessment and sampling visits.

**Resolved:**

**That the scale of charges as detailed in the report of the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council be agreed.**

**47 Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets April – September 2010**

Members were informed of progress with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Community and Environment Board for April to September 2010.

**Resolved:**

**That the report be noted.**

M May  
Chairman