NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES BOARD

20 June 2022

Present: Councillor Symonds in the Chair

Councillors Chambers, T Clews, D Clews, Hancocks, D Humphreys, Jordan, Morson, Moss, H Phillips, O Phillips and Simpson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Davey (Substitute Jordan) and Dirveiks (Substitute H Phillips)

1 Disclosable Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None were declared at the meeting.

2 Minutes of the Resources Board held on 28 March 2022

The minutes of the Resources Board held on 28 March 2022, copies having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3 Members Allowance 2021/22

The Corporate Director – Resources advised Members of the allowances paid for 2021/22, which the Council had a duty to publish under the Members' Allowance Scheme.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

4 Risk Management Annual Report 2021/22

The Corporate Director – Resources informed Members of risk Management actions undertaken during 2021/22 and the risks identified for 2022/23.

Resolved:

That progress be noted.

5 Annual Treasury Report for 2021/22

The Corporate Director – Resources reported on the out-turn for 2021/22 and highlighted any areas of significance.

Resolved:

a That the Annual Treasury Report for 2021/22 be noted; and

Recommended:

b That the Annual Treasury Report be approved.

6 Internal Audit Annual Report 2021/22

The Corporate Director – Resources presented the Annual Report on Internal Audit.

Resolved:

- a That the findings of an assessment of the internal audit function against the PSIAS and quality assurance programme be noted;
- b That the summary of internal audit work, attached to the report of the Corporate Director Resources at Appendix A, which supports her opinion be noted; and
- c That the Corporate Director Resources' overall opinion on the control environment be noted.

7 Internal Audit Plan 2022/23 and Counter Fraud Activity

The Corporate Director – Resources detailed the proposed internal Audit plan for 2022/23 and updated Board Members on the work of the Counter Fraud Officer.

Resolved:

That the Internal Audit Plan, attached at Appendix A to the report of the Corporate Director – Resources, be approved, and the work of the Counter Fraud Officer be noted.

8 Revisions to Lettings Scheme & Addressing Housing Needs of Refugees & Asylum Seekers

The Director of Housing informed the Board that the Housing Task and Finish Group had considered the Council's Lettings Scheme and proposed some amendments to ensure the housing needs of applicants were being met. Information was also provided about the current Government arrangements for Asylum Seekers and Refugees and the implications for the Council.

Resolved:

- a That the amendments to the Lettings Scheme be agreed;
- b That the amended Scheme be noted, subject to consultation, and a further report be submitted to the Board when feedback is received from stakeholders; and
- c That the national arrangements for Asylum Seekers and Refugees and the implications for additional demand on the Council's property vacancies be noted.

9 Housing Task and Finish Group

Following the establishment of a Housing Task and Finish Group to consider the Council's landlord services, the Director of Housing provided feedback from the most recent meetings of the Group.

Resolved:

- a That the considerations of the Housing Task and Finish Group be acknowledged and supported; and
- b That the terms of reference of the Group be confirmed.

10 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.

11 Land Sales

The Corporate Director – Streetscape asked Members to consider two separate requests to purchase different parcels of Council owned land and to agree a course of action in respect of each site.

Resolved:

To defer a decision on the two requests to purchase Council owned land to a later meeting, to allow the possibility of Council development of the land to be explored.

12 Confidential Extract of the minutes of the Resources Board held on 28 March 2022

The confidential extract of the minutes of the Resources Board held on 28 March 2022, copies having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C Symonds Chairman