NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

13 February 2023

Present: Councillor D Wright in the Chair

Councillors Bell, Chambers, Gosling, Hayfield, D Humphreys, Jenns, Morson, O Phillips, Reilly, Simpson and Symonds.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor H Phillips (Substitute Councillor O Phillips)

48 **Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest**

None were declared at the meeting.

49 Minutes of the Executive Board held on 21 November 2022

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 21 November 2022, copies having been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

50 Minutes of the Senior Management Recruitment Sub-Committee held on 21 November 2022

The minutes of the meeting of the Senior Management Recruitment Sub-Committee held on 21 November 2022, copies having been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

51 Key Corporate Issues

The Chief Executive drew Members' attention to the key corporate issues facing the Council in the mid-term and sought to assist them in addressing those issues when the Corporate Plan was reviewed after the Borough Elections.

Resolved:

- a That the issues raised in the report of the Chief Executive be noted;
- b That a presentation be arranged for all Members on the Corporate Plan prior to its adoption; and
- c That the life of the current Corporate Plan be extended until September 2023 as it will be reviewed following the Borough Elections in May.

52 **The Capital Strategy**

The Corporate Director – Resources gave an update on the Capital Strategy approved by the Council in February 2022.

Recommended:

That the Capital Strategy, attached at Appendix A to the report of the Corporate Director – Resources, be approved.

53 The Proposed 3 Year Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2025/26

Management Team put forward proposals for the 3 Year Capital Programme and outlined the availability of capital resources and the options to meet any shortfalls.

Resolved:

- a That the Revised Capital Programme for 2022/23, as set out in Appendix A to the report of Management Team, be adopted;
- b That the 3 Year Capital Programme for the period 2023/24 to 2025/26, as set out in Appendix B to the report of Management Team be adopted, subject to the transfer of funding from the Business Rate Reserve, considered later in the agenda; and

Recommended:

c That the prudential indicators, as set out in Section 9 of the report of Management Team, be approved.

54 General Fund Revenues Estimates 2023/24

The Corporate Director - Resources reported on the revised budget for 2022/23 and an estimate of expenditure for 2023/24, together with forward commitments for 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27.

Resolved:

- a That the revised budget for 2022/23 be accepted; and
- b That the Estimates of Expenditure for 2023/24, as submitted in the report of the Corporate Director – Resources, be included in the overall budget considered in a later agenda item.

55 General Fund Revenue Estimates 2023/24 and Setting of the Council Tax 2023/24

The Corporate Director – Resources set out the proposed General Fund Revenue Estimate for 2023/24 and the options available when setting the 2023/24 Council Tax for the Borough in the context of the Authority's Finance Settlement, and the effect on General Fund balances.

Recommended:

- a That the savings of £857,860, as detailed in Appendix H to the report of the Corporate Director Resources, be approved;
- b That subject to the inclusion of reimbursement of the HS2 staff post the revised estimate for the year 2022/23 and the revenue estimates for 2023/24 be approved;
- c That the Council Tax base for 2023/24, as set out in Appendix G to the report of the Corporate Director Resources, be noted;
- d That a Council Tax increase of 2.95% for 2023/24 be approved;
- e That the amount of £3,100,000 from the Business Rate Reserve, to fund capital expenditure on the refuse vehicles purchased in 2022/23 be approved and the proposed 3 year capital programme be supported;
- f That the comments of the Corporate Director Resources on the minimum acceptable level of general reserves be noted;
- g That the workforce estimates for the year 2023/24 as set out in Appendix L to the report of the Corporate Director – Resources, be approved; and
- h That the Council Tax resolution be prepared for consideration by the Council, using the recommendations agreed by this Board.

56 Leisure Facilities: Local Authority Trading Company

The Director of Leisure and Community Development sought the Board's consideration and approval of the legal arrangements and formal documentation that would govern the relationship between the Borough Council and its proposed wholly owned Leisure Facilities Local Authority Trading Company.

Resolved:

- a That the Leisure Services Agreement (Contract), Member Agreement and Articles of Association that will govern the relationship between the Borough Council and its wholly owned Leisure Facilities Local Authority Trading Company be approved, and the Chief Executive be authorised to finalise the content of the documentation in consultation with the Head of Legal Services and the Council's external legal advisors;
- b That, in accordance with the aforementioned documentation, the initial term of the Contract to be held between the Borough Council and the Leisure Facilities Local Authority Trading Company be set at five years;
- c That the proposal to appoint the Chief Executive, the Interim Corporate Director – Streetscape and an Independent Director (Mr Richard Dobbs) to the Board of Directors of the Leisure Facilities Local Authority Trading Company be approved; and
- d The Chief Executive be authorised to formally establish the Leisure Facilities Local Authority Trading Company, in the name of North Warwickshire Leisure Limited.

57 **Constitutional and Delegation Matters**

The Chief Executive sought approval for some limited constitutional and delegation changes.

Resolved:

That the delegations and changes to the constitution set out in the report of the Chief Executive be agreed.

58 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.

59 Staffing Matter

The Chief Executive Updated Members on the progress with Senior Management recruitment.

Resolved:

That recommendations a and b, as set out in the report of the Chief Executive be noted and confirmed.

60 Confidential Extract of the Minutes of the of Executive Board held on 21 November 2022

The confidential extract of the minutes of the Executive Board held on 21 November 2022, copies having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

61 Confidential Extract of the minutes of the Senior Management Recruitment Sub-Committee held on 21 November 2022

The confidential extract of the minutes of the Senior Management Recruitment Sub-Committee held on 21 November 2022, copies having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

> David Wright CHAIRMAN