

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT BOARD

8 March 2010

Present: Councillor May in the Chair

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

36 **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) and Sherratt (Coleshill) were deemed to be declared at the meeting.

Councillors Lewis and Phillips declared an interest in Minute No.38 (Financial Assistance to Outside Organisations) by reason of being associated with WCAVA.

37 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2010, copies having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

38 **Financial Assistance to Outside Organisations**

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) outlined two requests for assistance through the provision of an annual grant, one of which was from WCAVA, which is now supported through a three-year countywide arrangement. Additionally, the Board was requested to note the support currently being provided to Warwickshire Rural Community Council and to further consider the Authority's future working relationship with this organisation.

Resolved:

- a **That the draft Service Level Agreement for further negotiation with NW CAB and the two awards for Annual Grants to Voluntary Organisations be approved and administered as indicated in the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development);**

- b That subject to the prior agreement of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board, the second instalment payments be made;**
- c That Members note that, in line with the Third Sector Strategy timetable, Volunteer and Third Sector Support Services (VATS Services) in Warwickshire are now jointly monitored through a single tendered three-year (April 2010 to March 2013) agreement, which includes an option to extend for a further period, up to a maximum of three years, and that this agreement is currently held with WCAVA;**
- d That the methods for monitoring the VATS Service, as identified in paragraph 4.3 of the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development), be noted;**
- e That the progress in respect of the review of the services provided by WRCC through funding received from the Borough Council, be noted; and**
- f That a decision on the preferred option for the future development of this relationship be deferred and a further report be brought to the next meeting of the Board.**

39 Allotments Development Programme

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) reported on the progress in respect of the implementation of the Allotments Development Programme and sought the Board's approval for a revision of the Allotments Policy Statement, originally approved in 2009, and highlighted further work to be undertaken in respect of the leasing and protection of allotment sites.

Resolved:

- a That progress in respect of the Allotments Development Programme, as set out in the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) and detailed in Appendix A, be noted and approved;**
- b That the revised Allotments Policy Statement set out at Appendix B of the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development), be approved; and**
- c That the proposal to carry out further work in respect of the leasing and protection of allotment sites, as set out in paragraph 9.1 of the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development), be approved and that a further report on this matter be presented to an early future meeting of the Board.**

40 **North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy Action and Funding Plan**

The Board was updated on progress in respect of the implementation of Year 2 (2009/10) of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy Action and Funding Plan and Members were informed of the work proposed to be undertaken in Year 3 (2010/11).

Resolved:

- a **That progress in respect of the implementation of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy Action and Funding Plan be noted;**
- b **That discussions are held with the Community Partnership's Environment Theme Group regarding the possibility of it taking a more active role in advancing the objectives of the Green Space Strategy and that the outcome of these discussions are reported to a future meeting of the Board; and**
- c **That the activities proposed for the future development within the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy Action and Funding Plan, be approved.**

41 **Streetscape Value for Money Reviews**

The Assistant Director (Streetscape) outlined the reviews undertaken of its Amenity Cleansing and Refuse Collection functions, as part of the Council's policy of reviewing its key services to assess the degree to which they provide Value for Money to Council Tax payers and to establish which areas of its services are costly or efficient.

Members were asked to draw their own conclusions and to recommend further action as appropriate.

Resolved:

- a **That the content of the reports and supporting information, be noted; and**
- b **That a further report on waste minimisation be brought to a future meeting of this Board.**

42 **Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April 2009 – January 2010**

The Board was informed of the actual performance and achievement against the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Board for the period April 2009 to January 2010.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

43 Tree Management

The Board was informed of the Authority's approach in respect of tree management, as set out in the Briefing Note attached at Appendix A to the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development).

Resolved:

That the contents of the Tree Management Briefing Note, as set out in Appendix A of the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development), be approved and noted.

44 North Warwickshire Play Strategy and Play Partnership

Members were updated on the progress being made in the delivery of the North Warwickshire Play Strategy.

Resolved:

That the progress of the North Warwickshire Play Partnership in its delivery of relevant actions identified in the Borough-wide Play Strategy, be noted.

45 Play Area Development Programme

The Board was informed on progress in respect of the implementation of the Council's Play Area Development Programme.

Resolved:

That the progress in respect of the Play Area Development Programme be noted and approved.

46 Minutes of the Environment Portfolio Group held on 14 January 2010

Minutes of the Environment Portfolio Group held on 14 January 2010 were received and noted.

M.MAY
Chairman