

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

12 February 2024

Present: Councillor D Wright in the Chair

Councillors Bell, Clews, Dirveiks, Gosling, Parsons, H Phillips, Ridley, Simpson, Symonds and Whapples.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Reilly (Substitute Councillor Jenns).

Councillor Stuart was also in attendance and with the permission of the Chair spoke on Minute No 53

48 **Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest**

None were declared at the meeting.

49 **Minutes of the Executive Board held on 27 November 2024**

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 27 November 2024, copies having been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

50 **Public Spaces Protection Order – Dog Fouling**

The Chief Executive asked Members to consider the results from the consultation on the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to control dog fouling issues within the Borough of North Warwickshire and requested that the order be made.

Resolved:

- a **That the results from the consultation be noted; and**
- b **That the Public Spaces Protection Order, as set out in the report of the Chief Executive, be made.**

51 **Safeguarding Update**

The Director of Leisure and Community Development updated Members on the Authority's progress in respect of its safeguarding responsibilities, further to the adoption of its Safeguarding Policy and Procedure (2022 to 2025) in June 2023.

Resolved:

That the Authority's progress in respect of its safeguarding responsibilities, further to the adoption of its Safeguarding Policy and Procedure (2022 to 2025) in June 2023, be noted.

52 Water Orton Conservation Area Designation

The Chief Executive sought the Board's support for the designation of an extension to the Conservation Area for the village of Water Orton and sought approval for the Water Orton Conservation Area Boundary Map, Appraisal and Management Plan for adoption.

Recommended:

That the designation of the extended Water Orton Conservation Area, associated Appraisal and Management Plan be approved.

53 Residents Survey 2023

The Interim Corporate Director – Streetscape reported on the results of the latest Residents' Survey 2023. Julie Hollingsworth and Jamie Lawson from DJS Market Research gave a presentation of the key messages and findings of the survey.

Resolved:

- a That the results of the North Warwickshire Residents Survey 2023 be noted; and**
- b That the questions raised by Members be considered and a response given.**

54 The Proposed 3 Year Capital Programme 2024/25 to 2026/27

The Interim Corporate Director – Resources (Section 151 Officer) put forward proposals for the Three Year Capital Programme, outlined the availability of capital resources to fund the programme and recommended the options available.

Resolved:

- a That the Revised Capital Programme for 2023/24, as set out in Appendix A to the report of the Interim Corporate Director – Resources, be approved;**
- b That, subject to the transfer of funding from the Business Rate Fluctuation Reserve totalling £1,553,580 to fund vehicle purchases, the Three Year Capital**

Programme for the period 2024/25 to 2026/27, as set out in Appendix B to the report of the Interim Corporate Director – Resources, be approved; and

Recommended:

- c That the prudential indicators set out in Section 9 of the report of the Interim Corporate Director – Resources (Section 151 Officer), be approved.**

55 General Fund Revenue Budget – 2023/24 Revised and 2024/25 Estimates

The Interim Corporate Director – Resources (Section 151 Officer) detailed the revised budget for 2023/24 and an estimate of expenditure for 2024/25, together with forward commitments for 2025/26, 2026/27 and 2027/28.

Resolved:

- a That the revised budget for 2023/24 be approved; and**
- b That the 2024/25 estimates, presented in the report of the Interim Corporate Director – Resources (Section 151 Officer), be included in the overall budget considered in a later agenda item.**

56 General Fund Revenue Estimates Summary – 2023/24 Revised and Tax Set 2024/25

The Interim Corporate Director – Resources (Section 151 Officer) presented the General Fund revenue estimates for revised 2023/24 and original 2024/25 as presented to the individual Boards and the overall Tax Set Summary for 2024/25, along with recommendations to support the figures presented.

Recommended:

- a That the revised budget for 2023/24, as set out in Appendices A and B to the report of the Interim Corporate Director – Resources (Section 151 Officer), be approved;**
- b That the revenues estimates for 2024/25, as set out in Appendices A & B to the report of the Interim Corporate Director – Resources (Section 151 Officer), be approved;**
- c That the Council Tax base for 2024/25, as set out in Appendix C to the report of the Interim Corporate Director – Resources (Section 151 Officer), be noted;**

- d That a Council Tax increase of 2.99% £6.84 per annum (13p per week) on a Band D property for 2024/25, be approved;
- e That the transfer of £2,611,310 from the Business Rates Fluctuation Reserve to fund the vehicles capital programme from 2023/24 to 2027/28 be approved;
- f That the minimum general fund balances of £1.2m as risk assessed by the Section 151 Officer and set out in Appendix E to the report of the Interim Corporate Director – Resources (Section 151 Officer), be approved;
- g That a review of the revenue and capital specific reserve funds be approved; and
- h That a Council Tax resolution be prepared for consideration by the Council, using the recommendation agreed by this Board.

57 Pay Policy Statement 2024/25

The interim Corporate Director – Resources (Section 151 Officer) reported on the requirement under Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011 for Councils to have and to publish a Pay Policy Statement, agreed by full Council, which would be subject to review at least annually. Details of the purpose for and the areas to be covered in the Pay Policy Statement were given.

Recommended:

That the Pay Policy Statement 2024/25 be adopted.

58 External Auditors Annual Report 2020/21

The Interim Corporate Director – Resources (Section 151 Officer) presented the Annual Audit Report received from the Council's external auditor, Ernst & Young LLP.

Recommended:

That the Annual Audit Report 2020/21, attached as Appendix A to the report of the Corporate Director – Resources (Section 151 Officer), be noted.

59 Safer Warwickshire Partnership Serious Violence Strategy 2024-30

The Chief Executive detailed the progress in the development of the Strategic Needs Assessment and the Safer Warwickshire Partnership Serious Violence Strategy 2024-30, and asked the Board to endorse the Strategy, thereby meeting the Council's Serious Violence Duty as set out under the Police Crime Sentencing and Courts Act 2022.

Resolved:

- a That the Safer Warwickshire Partnership Serious Violence Prevention Strategy 2024-30 be approved and included in the Council's Constitution in the list of Council Plans and Strategies;**
- b That the lead role of Warwickshire County Council in its development and future delivery be noted; and**
- c That the involvement of key services across the Council to implement the delivery plan to meet the outcomes as set out in the Safer Warwickshire Partnership Serious Violence Strategy 2024-30 be supported.**

60 Electoral Review – Future Council Size

Following the meetings of the Electoral Review Advisory Committee held on 9 November 2023 and 10 January 2024, the Chief Executive asked Members to consider a draft Council Size Report for submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBCE).

Recommended:

That the draft Council Size Report, attached at Appendix A to the report of the Chief Executive, be submitted to the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBCE).

61 Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service – Proposed Service Model Consultation

The Chief Executive informed Members of a consultation being carried out by Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service (WFRS) on a new service model.

Resolved:

- a That the consultation be noted; and**
- b That the comments made in the briefing session prior to the meeting be forwarded to the Service.**

62 Minutes of the Safer Communities Sub-Committee held on 20 November 2023

The minutes of the meeting of the Safer Communities Sub-Committee, held on 20 November 2023, were received and noted.

63 Minutes of the Senior Management Recruitment Sub-Committee held on 27 November 2023

The minutes of the meeting of the Senior Management Recruitment Sub-Committee held on 27 November 2023, were received and noted.

64 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.

65 Staffing Matter

The Management Team and Head of Human Resources sought approval for a restructure as detailed in the report.

Recommended:

That recommendation (a) - (d), as set out in the report of the Management Team and Head of Human Resources, be approved.

66 Exempt Extract of the minutes of the Executive Board held on 27 November 2023

The exempt extract of the minutes of the Executive Board held on 27 November 2023, copies having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

67 Exempt Extract of the minutes of the Senior Management Recruitment Sub-Committee held on 27 November 2023

The exempt extract of the minutes of the meeting of the Senior Management Recruitment Sub-Committee held on 27 November 2023, were received and noted.

D Wright
CHAIR