

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

16 June 2015

Present: Councillor Humphreys in the Chair

Councillors Chambers, Farrell, Hayfield, Lea, Phillips, Reilly, Smith and D Wright

An apology for absence was received from Councillor M Stanley (Substitute Councillor Farrell)

1 **Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest.**

None were declared at the meeting.

2 **Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 10 February 2015.**

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 10 February 2015, copies having been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3 **Overview of the Terms and Reference of the Executive Board**

The Chief Executive provided an overview of the Terms of Reference of the Executive Board.

4 **Council Constitution Priorities and Corporate Plan – Implications arising from the 2015 Elections**

The Chief Executive reported on potential changes to the Council's Constitution, Priorities and Corporate Plan following the Elections in May 2015. He sought authority for the Special Sub-Group to review these issues and to a further report being brought to next Executive Board meeting recommending changes and the action necessary to achieve them including any consequential financial implications.

Recommended:

- a **That the Special Sub-Group be authorised :-**
 - i) **To review and where appropriate, make interim arrangements to revise the Council's Corporate Plan, Priorities and Key Actions;**
 - ii) **To review the Council's constitutional arrangements relating to Boards;**

- iii) **In the event of there being any proposed changes arising from (ii) to request the views of the Independent Panel on Members' Allowances to review and report implications for Members allowances of these changes;**
 - iv) **To consider any urgent items regarding Combined Authorities or related matters; and**
 - v) **To consider any matters that would have previously been reported to the Democratic Structures Task and Finish Group.**
- b) **That following the review a further report be brought to the next Executive Board meeting recommending any changes to the Council's Constitution, Corporate Plan Priorities and Key Actions required including consequential financial implications;**
 - c) **That the Housing Sub-Committee be removed from the Constitution, that body's terms of reference be returned to the Resources Board and the Constitution be amended accordingly;**
 - d) **That the revised arrangements relating to the Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer contained within the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 be incorporated into the Council's Constitution.**

5 Local Authority Devolution and Alternate Governance Models

The Chief Executive and the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council reported on the background to the issue of potential membership of a Combined Authority and sought feedback from Members to help devise some parameters to assist the Leader and Chief Executive in discussions with other Councils in the Coventry and Warwickshire sub-region, and beyond, about a way forward.

Recommended:

- a) **That the report be noted;**
- b) **That this Council engages in discussions with Councils in the Midlands regarding the issue of Combined Authorities;**
- c) **That the business case for the options for Combined Authorities continues to be developed; and**

- d That a meeting of the Full Council be held on Wednesday 15 July 2015 to consider the issues around Combined Authorities.**

6 Capital Programme – 2014/15 Final Position

The Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) updated Members on the final position of the 2014/15 Capital Programme and highlighted those schemes which had not progressed as quickly as expected and which were recommended to be carried forward into the 2015/16 Capital Programme.

Recommended:

- a That the level of expenditure incurred (both actual and committed) to the end of March 2015 against the 2014/15 Revised Capital Programme be noted;**
- b That the schemes which have not progressed as expected during the year be noted; and**
- c That both the committed expenditure and schemes which have not progressed during the year be agreed as slippage to be carried forward into the 2015/16 Capital Programme.**

7 Capital Accounts 2013/14

The Board was informed that the Capital Accounts for 2014/15 had been prepared. Members were invited to approve the methods of funding used. A revised Appendix A was circulated at the meeting.

Recommended:

That the methods of funding to meet capital expenditure incurred in 2014/15 be approved.

8 Earmarked Reserves 2015/16

The Deputy Chief Executive reported on the level of reserves at 31 March 2015. Members were asked to approve the proposed use of reserves in 2015/16.

Recommended:

That the reserves held at 31 March 2015, and the planned use of reserves in 2015/16 be approved.

9 **Annual Governance Statement 2014/15**

The Deputy Chief Executive reported on the Annual Governance Statement setting out the arrangements the Council had put in place for the governance of its affairs and facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, including arrangements for the management of risk. Members were asked to approve the Statement and Improvement Plan.

Recommended:

- a **That, subject to the amendment of the word “acceptable” to read “excellent” in the second line of paragraph 5 of the section entitled “The governance framework”, the Annual Governance Statement for 2014/15, attached as Appendix A to the report of the Deputy Chief Executive be approved; and**
- b **That the Improvement Plan, attached as Appendix C to the report be approved and progress against the plan be reported to Board.**

10 **Financial Statements 2014/15**

The Deputy Chief Executive reported on the Annual Financial Statements for 2014/15 and Members were asked to agree a suggested course of action.

Resolved:

That the position on the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account at 31 March 2015 be noted.

11 **Membership of the Democratic Structures Task and Finish Group.**

This matter was considered earlier in the meeting under Minute No 4.

12 **Child Protection Policy 2015 to 2019**

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) presented a revised and updated Child Protection Policy for approval.

Recommended:

That, subject to a number of amendments raised at the meeting, the revised Child Protection Policy, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report Assistant Director (Leisure and

Community Development), be adopted and implemented with immediate effect.

13 Hurley Daw Mill Sports Ground Capital Works

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) and the Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) reported on a proposed project at Hurley Daw Mill Sports Ground and sought approval for its inclusion in the 2015/16 capital programme.

Resolved:

That the proposal to include the project at Hurley Daw Mill Sports Ground in the 2015/16 capital programme be approved.

14 Waste Management Vehicles – Capital Replacement

The Assistant Director (Streetscape) updated Members on the outcome of the recent tender exercise for the purchase of various waste management vehicles and proposed changes to the capital programme to reflect the revised replacement costs.

Recommended:

a That £196,000 is brought forward into 2015/16 from the 2016/17 capital programme; and

b That the additional cost of £48,437 is added to the 2015/16 capital programme.

15 Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April 2014 to March 2015

The Chief Executive reported on the progress with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets applicable to Executive Board for April 2014 to March 2015.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

16 Pay Policy Statement 2015/16

The Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) presented the Pay Policy Statement for consideration.

Recommended:

That the Pay Policy Statement 2015/16, attached as an Appendix to the report of the Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) be agreed.

17 **Budgetary Control Report 2015/2016 – Period Ended 31 May 2015**

The Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) reported on the revenue expenditure and income for the period from 1 April 2015 to 31 May 2015. The 2015/2016 budget and the actual position for the period, compared with the estimate at that date were detailed, together with an estimate of the out-turn position for services reporting to the Board.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

David Humphreys
Chairman