

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL
HOUSE, SOUTH STREET, ATHERSTONE ON
WEDNESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2018**

Present: Councillor Waters in the Chair.

Councillors Bell, Chambers, Clews, L Dirveiks, N Dirveiks, Farrell, Gosling, Hanratty, Hayfield, Henney, Humphreys, Ingram, Jarvis, Jenns, Lea, Lewis, Morson, Moss, Payne, Phillips, Reilly, Simpson, Singh, Smitten, Sweet, Symonds, A Wright and D Wright

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Davey, Davis, Ferro, Smith and M Stanley

Before the commencement of business Gill Noble, Lay Reader for the Parishes of The Whitacres, Lea Marston and Shustoke led the Council in Prayer.

34 Disclosable Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillors L Dirveiks, Jarvis, Singh and D Wright declared non-prejudicial interests in Minute No 41 – The Arcade - Update (Community and Environment Board held on 22 January 2018) by reason being members of Atherstone Town Council.

Councillors L Dirveiks, Jarvis, Singh and D Wright declared non-prejudicial interests in Minute No 75 – CCTV Service for Atherstone (Resources Board held on 29 January 2018) by reason being members of Atherstone Town Council.

35 Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 6 December 2017

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 6 December 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

36 Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor announced the following

- that Brian Edward (Ted) Tunnicliffe had died on 14 February 2018. Tributes were paid to Ted the first Mayor of North Warwickshire Borough Council and condolences were offered to his family. The Council observed a moment's silence;
- he outlined details of the forthcoming Community Awards Scheme;
- that he continued to represent the Council at events in the Borough and neighbouring authorities

- that a successful charity Burns night had been held at Maxstoke Castle;
- that his Civic Service was being held in Curdworth on Sunday 22 April 2018

37 Chris Brewer - Deputy Chief Executive

The Mayor reported that Chris Brewer was retiring from the Council at the end of March. Members paid tribute to Chris for his service to North Warwickshire and wished him well for a long and happy retirement.

38 Questions Pursuant to Standing Order No. 7

The following question was received from Andrew Crow pursuant to Standing Order No 7

“There is a recommendation in the Strategic Review of Leisure and Community Development that the operational management delivery options be retained “in house” for twenty four months with a Service Improvement Plan (SIP) putting in place ways of improving the operational position of the current service.

Can Councillors explain if this process is to apply to both Arley Sports Centre and Atherstone Memorial Hall and if not, why not?”

The response from Councillor David Humphreys, Leader of the Council, was

“The outcomes of the Strategic Review of Leisure and Community Development Services process, including in respect of the options for future operational management, have still to be determined by Councillors and, therefore, no decision has been made in respect of the Service Improvement Plan proposed by external consultants.”

Two questions were submitted after the deadline which the Leader of the Council had responded to and copies of the answers had been circulated to all Members

39 Minutes of Boards/Committees

a) Standards Committee – 18 December 2017

It was proposed by Councillor D Wright, seconded by Councillor Hayfield and

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 18 December 2017 be approved and adopted.

b) Planning and Development Board – 15 January and 5 February 2018

i) Minute No 49b – Planning Applications (Application No 2017/0156 - Land South of Dairy House Farm (Phase 2), Spon Lane, Grendon)

A revised plan showing an amended drainage scheme had been sent electronically to all Members and was circulated at the meeting. Members confirmed they had received the plan and that they had read the report on this application.

It was proposed by Councillor Sweet and seconded by Councillor Phillips by way of amendment:

“That Planning Application No 2017/0156 (Land South of Dairy House Farm (Phase 2), Spon Lane, Grendon) be refused.”

Upon being put to the meeting the Mayor declared the amendment to be lost.

The substantive motion was then put to the meeting as follows

“b That Application No 2017/0156 (Land South of Dairy House Farm (Phase 2), Spon Lane, Grendon) be approved subject to the following

- i The completion of a Section 106 Agreement to include all of the contributions set out in the report of the Head of Development Control for the purposes as outlined and the review of the condition relating to surface water drainage;**
- ii The inclusion in that Agreement of a financial contribution, to be agreed with the applicant and Highways England, for the provision of a signalised pedestrian crossing over the A5 in a position similarly to be agreed and that if no such provision is made within fifteen years of the date of the Agreement, the contribution be returned; and**
- iii Amendment of the conditions to reflect the revised plan relating to drainage and the remaining planning conditions set out in the report.”**

Upon being put to the meeting the Mayor declared the substantive motion to be approved.

It was then proposed by Councillor Simpson, seconded by Councillor Sweet and

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meetings of the Planning and Development Board held on 15 January and 5 February 2018, together with the recommendations contained therein as amended at i) above, be approved and adopted.

c) Community and Environment Board – 22 January 2018

i) Minute No 41 – The Arcade - Update

It was proposed by Councillor Farrell and seconded by Councillor Chambers by way of amendment:

“a) That the report be noted; and

b) That the Assistant Director (Streetscape) be authorised to arrange a meeting with members of Atherstone Town Council and the Community and Environment Board to further discuss the community use of the property.”

Upon being put to the meeting the Mayor declared the amendment to be lost.

It was then proposed by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Smitten and

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community and Environment Board held on 22 January 2018, together with the recommendations contained therein, be approved and adopted.

d) Resources Board – 29 January 2018

It was proposed by Councillor D Wright, seconded by Councillor Hayfield and

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of Resources Board held on 29 January 2018, together with the recommendations contained therein, be approved and adopted.

e) Licensing Committee – 30 January 2018

It was proposed by Councillor Jenns, seconded by Councillor Morson and

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of Licensing Committee held on 30 January 2018, together with the recommendation contained therein, be approved and adopted.

f) Executive Board – 12 February 2018

In moving the minutes for the meeting Councillor Humphreys, seconded by Councillor D Wright, gave notice of his alteration of the motion comprising Minute No 61 – The Proposed 3 Year Capital Programme 2018/19 – 2020/21, Minute No 63 - General Fund Revenue Estimates 2018 – 2019 and Setting the Council Tax 2018 – 2019 and Minute No 71 – Strategic Review of Leisure and Community Development Services.

i) Minute No 61 – The Proposed 3 Year Capital Programme 2018/19 – 2020/21

It was proposed by Councillor D Wright and seconded by Councillor Symonds by way of amendment:

“That £150,000 be allocated for the repair and maintenance of playing pitches in North Warwickshire.”

Upon being put to the meeting the Mayor declared the amendment to be approved.

It was then proposed by Councillor Farrell and seconded by Councillor Henney by way of further amendment:

“The Council currently has unallocated funding in its Housing Revenue Account capital programme of £5,454,000 and £2,195,000 in its general fund over the next three-year financial period.

Labour proposes to use this money to invest in our communities rather than let it sit in the Council coffers:

- a) Allocate £5,000,000 from the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme unallocated funding to deliver at least 50 new social houses by 2021. When added to the already programmed delivery of social housing, this will deliver at least 90 new social homes by 2021.**
- b) Allocate £1,574,000 from the General Fund Capital Programme unallocated funding to refurbish Arley Sports Centre, making it fit for the future.**
- c) Bring forward the plans to improve Cole End Park, Coleshill from the non-approved capital programme to the capital programme for 2018/2019**

This would leave a Housing Revenue Account unallocated capital resources of £454,000 and in the General Fund £591,000 at the end of the three year financial period to 2020-2021.”

Upon being put to the meeting the Mayor declared the further amendment to be lost.

ii) **Minute No 63 - General Fund Revenue Estimates 2018 – 2019 and Setting the Council Tax 2018 – 2019**

It was proposed by Councillor Humphreys, seconded by Councillor D Wright

- “a That the savings of £574,630 be approved (Appendix D);
- b That the growth of £104,310 be approved (Appendix D1)
- c That the revised revenue estimate for 2017/18 and the revenue estimate for 2018/19 be approved (Appendix E);
- d That the preferred Council Tax option for 2018/19 be a 0% increase on Band D;
- e That the Deputy Chief Executive’s comments on the minimum acceptable level of general reserves be noted (Appendix F);
- f That the manpower estimate for the year 2018/19 be approved (Appendix G);”

It was then proposed by Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor Chambers by way of amendment

“That recommendation a and b are replaced by the following:

- a That the savings of £574,630 in Appendix D are amended by £236,000 set out below:

Additional Savings	2018/19 £
Senior Management Restructure – part year (redundancy costs to be met from earmarked reserves)	148,000
Reduce Corporate Communication activity, to leave a £10,000 budget	45,000
Reduce the provision for training	9,000
Reduce the Civic Hospitality budget	8,000
Reduce the contribution to the Building Maintenance Fund	21,000
Remove Corporate subscriptions to Outside Bodies	5,000
TOTAL	236,000

- b That the growth set out in Appendix D1 report is increased by an amount of £350,000 (ongoing) to include:**

Growth	2018/19 £
To enable a passport to leisure to be available for swimming, for over 60's and under 18's	24,000
To increase opening hours at Arley Leisure Centre back to full opening	35,000
To fund free breakfasts for all primary school children	150,000
To enable reduced membership costs of £10 per month for gym users, for over 60's and under 18's, plus family membership for a family of 4 for £25 per month	70,000
To provide a discretionary fund able to support the service costs for 400 Borough Care customers	71,000
TOTAL	350,000

That recommendation c and d are replaced by the following:

- c That the revised revenue estimate for 2017/18 and the revenue estimate for 2018/19, as amended by the additional savings and growth, be approved;**
- d That the preferred Council Tax option for 2018/19 be a 0% increase on Band D;**

recommendations e, f and g remain as set out."

Upon being put to the meeting the Mayor declared the amendment to be lost.

The substantive motion was then put to the meeting as follows

- "a That the savings of £574,630 be approved (Appendix D);**
- b That the growth of £104,310 be approved (Appendix D1)**
- c That the revised revenue estimate for 2017/18 and the revenue estimate for 2018/19 be approved (Appendix E);**
- d That the preferred Council Tax option for 2018/19 be a 0% increase on Band D;**
- e That the Deputy Chief Executive's comments on the minimum acceptable level of general reserves be noted (Appendix F);**
- f That the manpower estimate for the year 2018/19 be approved (Appendix G);"**

Upon being put to the meeting the Mayor declared the substantive motion to be approved.

In accordance with Standing Order No11(3) the recorded vote on the substantive motion was as follows

For – Councillors Bell, Clews, Hanratty, Hayfield, Humphreys, Ingram, Jarvis, Jenns, Lea, Payne, Reilly, Simpson, Singh, Symonds, A Wright and D Wright (16)

Against – Councillors Chambers, L Dirveiks, N Dirveiks, Farrell, Gosling, Henney, Lewis, Morson, Moss, Phillips and Sweet (11)

Abstentions – Councillor Waters (1)

iii) Minute No 69 – Constitution

It was proposed by Councillor Humphreys and seconded by Councillor Farrell and agreed

“That the Task and Finish Group comprise Councillors Davis, Morson, Moss, Symonds and D Wright.”

iv) Minute No 71 – Strategic Review of Leisure and Community Development Services

It was proposed by Councillor Humphreys and seconded by Councillor D Wright by way of amendment:

- “a That the work undertaken by external consultants in respect of the commission to undertake a Strategic Review of Leisure and Community Development Services and their preparation of supporting draft strategies be noted;**
- b That a potential asset transfer of Arley Sports Centre by means of a sole negotiation with Elite Sports Development be pursued as the best option to secure the continued and enhanced provision of leisure facilities in Arley;**
- c That if such a negotiation proves to be unsuccessful the Council pursues this option through an open procurement exercise;**
- d That Officers be instructed to undertake a detailed feasibility study into the options of replacing both Atherstone Leisure Complex and Polesworth Sports Centre and to report back to relevant Board(s) on the outcome of this undertaking in due course;**

- e That Officers be instructed to enter into formal discussions with representatives of Polesworth School, with a view to securing a short-term extension of the current dual-use agreement on improved financial terms for the Borough Council, and to report back to the Executive Board prior to the finalisation of any such agreement;
- f That Members note the inclusion of the planning policy implications arising from the draft Supplementary Planning Document and from the Leisure Facilities, Green Space and Playing Pitch Strategies within the draft Local Plan consultation process;
- g That the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) be instructed to amend and finalise the Leisure Facilities Strategy, taking account of the outcomes of Members' consideration of the recommendations made by the external consultants;
- h That Full Council approves the recommendations made by the external consultants in respect of the Leisure Facilities Operational Review and the associated Appraisal of Future Delivery Options and that Officers be instructed to draft a Leisure Facilities Service Improvement Plan for the consideration of, and regular monitoring by, the Community and Environment Board;
- i That Officers be instructed to summarise the draft Green Space and Playing Pitch Strategies for the future consideration of the Community and Environment Board; and,
- j That, upon its production by the external consultants, the draft Health, Wellbeing and Leisure Strategy be presented to both the Health and Wellbeing Working Party and the Community and Environment Board for their consideration,
- k That Extraordinary Meetings of the Executive Board and Council be held on 22 March 2018 to consider the next steps for the Local Plan."

Upon being put to the meeting the Mayor declared the amendment to be approved.

It was then proposed by Councillor Humphreys, seconded by Councillor D Wright and

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of Executive Board held on 12 February 2018, together with the recommendations contained therein as amended at i), ii), iii) and iv) above and as set out in Appendix 1 hereto, be approved and adopted.

40 Notice of Motion under Standing Order No. 10

There were no Notices of Motion received under Standing Order No 10.

41 The Common Seal

It was proposed by Councillor Waters, seconded by Councillor Moss and

Resolved:

That the Chief Executive be authorised to affix the Common Seal to any document as necessary to give effect to the decisions of the Council, in accordance with Article 13.05 of the Articles of the Constitution.

Chairman of the next ensuing meeting of the Council