

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL
HOUSE, SOUTH STREET, ATHERSTONE ON
WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2019**

Present: Councillor Clews in the Chair.

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

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Davis, Smith and Waters.

35 Disclosable Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None were declared at the meeting.

36 Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 5 December 2018

The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 5 December 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

37 Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor announced that the Council had recently been awarded £90,000 to support the delivery of housing and community facilities from One Public Estate for use in North Warwickshire, including projects centred around Atherstone and Coleshill.

The Mayor also announced that she would be hosting two events. An Elvis night on 16 March 2019 at Mancetter Memorial Hall, and Tea with the Mayor to be held in the Civic Suite on 27 March 2019. Members were asked to nominate two volunteers from their ward area for the Mayor to invite along to this event.

38 Questions Pursuant to Standing Order No. 7

The following question was received from Councillor M Humphreys pursuant to Standing Order No 7:-

"I understand that the new management at Elite Sports Centre (previously Arley Sports Centre) has been operational for over a month now. I have anecdotal evidence that indicates that the Centre is proving to be very successful under the new management. Could I request that the Chairman of the Community and Environment Board responds to the following questions:

- Have the facilities at Elite Sports Centre been improved?
- Has the provision of services been maintained by the new management?
- Has the community supported the Sports Centre since its transfer to Elite Sports development?
- Has the membership of the Sports Centre been maintained?
- Is Elite Sports Development maintaining communication with the community on their needs?
- Would it be possible to arrange for relevant officers to visit Elite Sports Centre to establish whether there are any lessons to be learned in the provision in our leisure facilities in order to further improve the health and wellbeing of our residents?"

The response from Councillor Bell, was:

- The facilities at Elite Sports Centre have been improved subsequent to its transfer to Elite Sports Development. Through the injection of approximately £60,000 of capital funding, the Centre now benefits from new gym and functional training zone equipment. The Centre has been decorated, new flooring has been laid and the changing rooms and toilets have also been improved.

I understand that Elite Sports Development is also intending to improve the Multi-use Games Area and perhaps even introduce swimming to its programme during the school summer holidays. This enhancement would cost in the region of £30,000, half of which would be invested by Elite Sports Development and the other half through external match funding.

- The services at Elite Sports Centre have not merely been maintained by the new management, they have been expanded. The number of exercise classes has been enhanced and the number of bookable party options increased. A full programme of activities is being provided during the current half-term holiday and the number of gymnastics and trampoline classes are being returned to the levels previously enjoyed by customers, including a Saturday Gymnastics Club. The hours of opening at the Centre have also been increased.
- I am given to understand that the local community has been using the Sports Centre in increasing numbers further to its transfer to Elite Sports Development. The new management has reported to Officers that attendances have been very positive and, judging by social media postings, the response to the new activity programmes has been very enthusiastic.

- Councillors will be aware that membership numbers at Arley Sports Centre declined in the period immediately before its transfer to Elite Sports Development. Whilst I do not have access to precise information, Elite Sports Development has confirmed that membership numbers have been very positive since the New Year. At around 85 members, the numbers are in line with its business plan projections. There is also the option for customers to access the Centre for a day for £4.
- Elite Sports Development has maintained a very positive level of communication within the community, both immediately prior, and subsequent, to the transfer of the Sports Centre. The new management is very active on social media and is constantly seeking community views on the activity programme and how it can be improved. It has also attended a number of meetings within the community to talk about its services and how they can be enhanced. I am given to understand that there will also be an article about the Centre in the next edition of Arley News. The business partners attended the last meeting of Arley Parish Council, where they gave a progress report and sought views on possible additional programme activities. As a direct result of a request for more sessions for older people, Elite Sports Development is now offering Pilates classes.
- Our Officers have developed a positive relationship with Elite Sports Development. Meetings have already been held with regard to its future plans for the Centre, but also in respect of being mutually supportive, for example in avoiding activity programme clashes and in respect of involvement in future gymnastics competitions and so on. Both parties are benefitting from each others' experience and Officers will continue to seek to learn lessons from Elite Sports Development and other providers in order to improve services for the local community. This process will include visiting Elite Sports Centre.

Councillor Bell also added that Elite had secured funding from Sports England to run additional classes at Arley Sports Centre.

39 Minutes of Boards/Committees

- a) **Planning and Development Board** – 10 December 2018, 14 January 2019 and 4 February 2019

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

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meetings of the Planning and Development Board held on 10 December 2018, 14 January 2019 and 4 February 2019, together with the recommendations contained therein, be approved and adopted, subject to Minute No 66b (Page No 115) of the minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2019 being amended to read:-

b That in respect of Application No 2019/0005 (Land at Fivefield Road and Tamworth Road, Coventry) Coventry City Council be advised of the comments set out in the report of the Head of Development Control, and that a meeting is requested with Coventry City Council and the developer;

b) Community and Environment Board – 21 January 2019

It was proposed by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Hayfield and

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community and Environment Board held on 21 January 2019, together with the recommendations contained therein, be approved and adopted.

c) Resources Board – 28 January 2019

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

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of Resources Board held on 28 January 2019, together with the recommendations contained therein be approved and adopted.

i) Minutes No 45 – Information and Communications Technology Strategy 2019-2023

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

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

d) Licensing Committee – 5 February 2019

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

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of Licensing Committee held on 5 February 2019, together with the recommendation contained therein, be approved and adopted

d) Executive Board – 11 February 2019

In moving the minutes of the meeting Councillor Humphreys, seconded by Councillor D Wright, gave notice of his alteration of the motion comprising Minute No 58 – Corporate Plan 2019-20, Minute No 60 – The Proposed 3 Year Capital Programme 2018/19 - 2021/22 and Minute No 62 - General Fund Revenue Estimates 2019/20 and Setting the Council Tax 2019/20.

Cllr Farrell gave notice of his alteration of the motion comprising Minute No 62 - General Fund Revenue Estimates 2019/20 and Setting the Council Tax 2019/20.

i) Minutes No 57 – Parental Leave for Councillors

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

“That the Task and Finish Group comprise Councillors Chambers, Farrell, D Humphreys, Symonds and D Wright.”

ii) Minute No 58 – Corporate Plan 2019-20

Cllr Simpson, seconded by Cllr Sweet detailed proposed amendments to Priority 3 and Priority 6 of the Corporate Plan 2019-20.

ii) Minute No 60 – The Proposed 3 Year Capital Programme 2019/20 – 2021/22

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

“That an additional recommendation d) is included as follows:-

d) That £175,000 be added to the 2019/20 capital programme, as set out in the table below:

Fund	Growth	2019/20 £000
HRA	To enable some infrastructure improvements within housing estates	75,000
General Fund	To provide a Community Fund, from which local organisations can obtain funding for local projects	100,000
	TOTAL	175,000

That recommendation b) and c) are replaced by the following:

- b) That the 3 year Capital Programme for the period 2019/20 to 2021/22 set out in Appendix B, as amended by recommendation d, be adopted; and
- c) That the prudential indicators set out in Section 9 of the report, as amended by recommendation d, be approved;

recommendation a remains as set out”

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

iii) Minute No 62 – General Fund Revenue Estimates 2019/20 and Setting the Council Tax 2019/20

It was proposed by Councillor Farrell and seconded by Councillor Chambers

“That recommendation a is replaced by the following:

- a(i) That the savings of £338,000 in Appendix I are amended by £589,000, set out below:

Additional Savings	2019/20 £
Senior Management Restructure – part year (redundancy costs to be met from earmarked reserves)	187,000
Remove the revenue contribution to capital expenditure	119,000
Creation of a cooperative Leisure Trust for all sports centres (part year effect)	90,000
Creation of a cooperative trust to deliver back of house services	100,000
Reduce the provision for training	26,000
Reduce the contribution to the Building Maintenance Fund	10,000
Reduce the Civic Hospitality budget	9,000
Remove Corporate subscription to Outside Bodies	5,500
Remove professional fees from Green Space budgets	27,500
Reduce automatic increments for employees	15,000
TOTAL	589,000

That an additional recommendation a(ii) is included as follows:

a(ii) That growth of £867,000, as set out in the table below be included in the 2019/20 budget (ongoing unless indicated):

Growth	2019/20 £
To pay for the street lights to be switched back on across North Warwickshire	71,000
To provide a fly tipping hit squad and new anti-social behaviour wardens	70,000
To enable a passport to leisure to be available for swimming, for over 60's and under 18's	24,000
To fund free breakfasts for all primary school children	70,000
To provide a discretionary fund able to support the service costs for 400 Borough Care customers	73,000
To provide funding for Community Policing in North Warwickshire (Capped sum of £2 million over the strategy)	559,000
TOTAL	867,000

That recommendation b and d are replaced by the following:

- b That the revised revenue estimate for 2018/19 and the revenue estimate for 2019/20, as amended by the additional savings and growth, be approved;
- d That the preferred Council Tax option for 2019/20 be a 0% increase on Band D;

recommendations c, e and f remain as set out.”

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

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

“That an additional recommendation a(i) is included as set out below:

a(i) That one-off growth of £225,000 be added to the 2019/20 budget, as set out below:

Growth	2019/20 £000
To provide a Community Fund, from which local organisations can obtain funding for local projects	200,000
To provide support for heritage activities	25,000
TOTAL	225,000

That recommendation b and d are replaced by the following:

- b That the revised revenue estimate for 2018/19 and the revenue estimate for 2019/20, as amended by the additional growth, be approved;**
- d That the preferred Council Tax option for 2019/20 be a 0% increase on Band D.**

recommendations c, e and f remain as set out.”

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

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 Morson, seconded by Councillor Sweet 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