

## NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES BOARD

2 April 2012

Present: Councillor Moore in the Chair

Councillors Davis, L Dirveiks, N Dirveiks, Forwood, Johnston, Smith, Watkins and Winter.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Morson (Councillor L Dirveiks as substitute).

Councillors Freer, Humphreys and Pickard were also in attendance.

#### 85 **Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interests**

Any personal interests arising from the membership of various Parish Councils of Councillors Davis (Atherstone), Moore (Baddesley) and Winter (Dordon) were deemed to be declared at the meeting.

#### 86 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 30 January 2012, copies having previously been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 87 **The Council House and Old Bank House – Revised Fire Evacuation Procedures**

The Assistant Director (Streetscape) reported that Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Services had changed their policy on attending calls from automatic fire alarms which required amendments to be made to the Fire Evacuation procedure for both the Council House and Old Bank House.

#### **Resolved:**

**That the Revised Fire Evacuation Procedures for The Council House and Old Bank House be approved.**

**88 Depot Relocation – Lower House Farm**

The Assistant Director (Streetscape) updated Members on the results of Warwickshire County Council's tendering process in relation to Lower House Farm and recommended that Members confirmed their agreement to the relocation of the Council's refuse collection and garden waste collection services to the new facility once it was complete next year.

**Resolved:**

**That the Council's refuse collection and garden waste collection services be relocated to Lower House Farm once all necessary construction works have been completed.**

**89 Charges for Use of Sheltered Scheme Communal Rooms**

The Assistant Director (Housing) asked the Board to reconsider its decision to increase the charges for the use of the Council's sheltered scheme communal rooms.

**Resolved:**

**That the charges for the use of the sheltered scheme communal rooms are not increased in 2012/2013.**

**90 Internal Audit – Plan of Work for 2012-13**

The Deputy Chief Executive explained the basis upon which the Audit Plan for 2012-13 had been developed, using a variety of sources of information to ensure that all appropriate aspect of service activity had been embraced as part of the approved three year review programme.

**Resolved:**

**That the Audit Plan for 2012-13 be approved.**

**91 Information and Communications Technology Strategy 2012-2015**

The Assistant Director (Corporate Services) presented the Draft Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Strategy for 2012-2015 to Members for their consideration and comment.

**Resolved:**

**That the Draft information and Communications Technology (ICT) Strategy for 2012-2015 be agreed and referred to the Executive Board and Scrutiny Board for adoption.**

92 **Right to Buy Regulations**

The Assistant Director (Housing) provided Members with information about changes to the Right to Buy scheme being introduced by the Government.

**Resolved:**

- a **That the new arrangements for the Right to Buy introduced by the Government be noted; and**
- b **That the Council agrees to seek to sign up to an agreement to use up to 30% of the Right to Buy receipts for replacement homes.**

93 **Internal Audit – Performance for Third Quarter 2011-12**

The Deputy Chief Executive detailed the progress made in respect of the Council's Internal Audit function against the agreed plan of work for the year.

**Resolved:**

**That the progress made in respect of the Council's Internal Audit function against the agreed plan of work for 2011-12 be noted.**

94 **Financial Inclusion Activity Update**

The Assistant Chief Executive (Community Services) provided Members with an update of the Financial Inclusion activity undertaken by the Council and its partners in the last twelve to twenty four months.

**Resolved:**

- a **That the report be noted;**

**Recommendation to Council:**

- b **That a representative be nominated by each Political Group to attend the Financial Inclusion Forum.**

95 **Minutes of the Housing Sub-Committee held on 13 March 2012**

The minutes of the Housing Sub-Committee held on 13 March 2012 were received and noted.

96 **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.**

97 **Requests to Purchase Land**

The Assistant Director (Housing) informed the Board about two requests to purchase land and proposed a different process for deciding about certain requests to purchase the Council's land in the future.

**Recommended:**

- a That the land be declared surplus to requirements;**
- b That any capital receipts received by the Council in connection with the sales of land be used for affordable housing;**
- c That the request to purchase the piece of land in Fillongley, as shown in Appendix A to the report of the Assistant Director (Housing), at the value proposed by the Council's Valuer be agreed; and**
- d That the request to purchase the piece of land in Polesworth as shown in Appendix B to the report of the Assistant Director (Housing), at the value proposed by the Council's Valuer be agreed.**

98 **Update on Industrial Units Scrutiny Project**

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council asked the Board to consider the findings of the Sub-Group established by the Scrutiny Board to look into the Council's Industrial Units and to identify any further action to be taken.

**Resolved:**

**That the report be noted.**

99 **The Arcade**

The Assistant Director (Streetscape) summarised the various issues which related to the condition and long-term future of the Arcade, Atherstone and asked Members to decide on which option they wished to pursue.

**Resolved:**

- a That the Arcade, Atherstone be disposed of;**
- b That the refurbishment work allocated under the capital programme is not undertaken;**
- c That informal discussions be held with Atherstone Town Council and other interested community groups regarding potential interest in the Arcade, Atherstone; and**
- d That a further report be brought back to the Board outlining the outcome of any discussions and a preferred option.**

J Moore  
Chairman