

EXECUTIVE

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, Sherwood Lodge, Bolsover, on Monday, 4th August 2008 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor E. Watts – Chair

Councillors J.E. Bennett, A.J. Hodkin, D. Kelly, D. McGregor, B.R. Murray-Carr and A.F. Tomlinson

Officers:-

W. Lumley (Chief Executive Officer), S. Sternberg (Solicitor to the Council), J. Brooks (Director of Resources), P. Campbell (Head of Housing), D. Eccles (Head of Regeneration/Building Control), K. Drury (Customer Service and Access Officer), B. Truswell (Head of Shared Procurement) and A. Bluff (Democratic Services Officer).

243. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors K. Bowman and A. Syrett.

244. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

245. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Member	Minute No.	Level of Interest
Councillor T. Bennett	252	2

246. MINUTES – 14TH JULY 2008

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, Seconded by Councillor A.F. Tomlinson

RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting of the Executive held on 14th July 2008 be approved as a true and correct record.

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247. COMPLIMENTS, COMMENTS, COMPLAINTS AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS

The Customer Service and Access Officer presented the report in respect of the number of compliments, comments, complaints and Freedom of Information requests for the period 1st April 2008 to 30th June 2008.

A new methodology for measuring customer satisfaction with complaints handling had been brought in for 2008/09 and this would be reported upon at the half yearly report.

Lengthy discussion took place regarding issues around the Ombudsman's comments regarding the Council's policy with regard to customers paying for a replacement wheelie bin if theirs was stolen.

Discussion also took place regarding issues around litter and dog bins in the District and welfare adaptations.

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor J.E. Bennett
RESOLVED that the report be received.

Reason for decision: To keep Members informed of volumes and trends regarding compliments, comments, complaints and Freedom of Information requests.

248. ANNUAL LETTER FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN (LGO)

The Customer Service and Access Officer presented the report in respect of the Local Government Ombudsman's Annual Letter 2007/2008.

The Annual Letter provided a summary of complaints received by the LGO for Bolsover District Council over the previous financial year. A covering letter and statistical breakdown from the LGO of the complaints received were also appended to the report.

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor J.E. Bennett
RESOLVED that the report and the LGO's Annual Letter be received.

Reason for decision: To keep Members informed of Ombudsman complaints and the view of the Ombudsman as to the District's complaints handling.

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249. RENT ARREARS – VERBAL UPDATE

The Head of Housing circulated information to the meeting on area based targets in respect of housing rent arrears.

Members asked questions and discussion took place regarding court action with regard to serious cases of rent arrears. The Head of Housing reported that the Authority had recently taken action through the court against tenants with the greatest debt. The court had granted either possession orders or evictions on a number of these cases.

Moved by Councillor B. R. Murray-Carr, seconded by Councillor D. Kelly
RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Reason for decision: To keep Members updated on the present position of housing rent arrears.

250. THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Moved by Councillor A. F. Tomlinson seconded by Councillor E. Watts
RESOLVED that under Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the stated Paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and is not in the public interest for the to be revealed.

251. VALE HOUSE, PLEASLEY VALE BUSINESS PARK EXEMPT - PARAGRAPH 3

The Head of Regeneration presented the report.

Following consultation with Savills, the Council's consultants, it had been recommended that the most appropriate method of sale for Vale House be by auction with a reserve price of £100,000. It was also proposed that conditions be included in the contract of sale including a buy back clause and restrictions on the future use of the property.

Moved by Councillor A. F. Tomlinson, seconded by Councillor B.R. Murray-Carr
RESOLVED that 1) the reserve price for the property be agreed,

2) delegated powers be granted to the Head of Regeneration to exchange contracts to sell Vale House at any price that meets or exceeds the reserve,

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3) appropriate conditions be applied to ensure renovation takes place within a reasonable timescale (such conditions to be attached in consultation with the Solicitor to the Council and the Conservation Officer).

Reason for decision: To dispose of an unused property.

(Head of Regeneration)

Councillor Bennett declared a level 2 interest in the following item and left the meeting.

252. PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF BOLSOVER BATHS EXEMPT – PARAGRAPH 3

The Solicitor to the Council presented the report which sought Members' decision on the use of the proceeds from the sale of Bolsover Baths. The options available were detailed in the report.

Members asked questions.

After lengthy discussion it was proposed that a decision be deferred until a meeting with CISWO could be arranged to discuss the future use of the money. A report on the outcome of the meeting with CISWO would be brought to the next available meeting of the Executive.

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor A. J. Hodkin

RESOLVED that 1) a decision be deferred until a meeting with CISWO could be arranged to discuss the future use of the money and the issues raised by Members particularly relating to the use of the money within Bolsover's area,

2) a report on the outcome of the meeting with CISWO be brought to the next available meeting of the Executive.

Reason for decision: To ensure that the beneficiaries of the charity obtain the benefit of the charitable endowment.

Councillor Bennett returned to the meeting at this point.

253. TENDER OPENING – TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF ASBESTOS REMOVAL SERVICES EXEMPT – PARAGRAPH 3

Four tenders for the above contract had been received before the deadline.

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor A. F. Tomlinson

RESOLVED that 1) the Executive witness the opening of the tenders,

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2) the tenders be passed to the Evaluation Team for final evaluation,

3) a report for Members' information providing details of the tenders and evaluation process be submitted.

Reason for decision: In order to secure the tender which gives the best value for money.

(Head of Shared Procurement / Head of Democratic Services)

254. TENDER OPENING – TENDER FOR THE PROVISION OF SECURITY SERVICES AT PLEASLEY VALE MILLS EXEMPT – PARAGRAPH 3

Three tenders for the above contract had been received before the deadline.

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor A. F. Tomlinson

RESOLVED that 1) the Executive witness the opening of the tenders,

2) the tenders be passed to the Evaluation Team for final evaluation,

3) a report for Members' information providing details of the tenders and evaluation process be submitted.

Reason for decision: In order to secure the tender which gives the best value for money.

(Head of Shared Procurement / Head of Democratic Services)

Members noted that information from the outcome of the tender evaluation meetings was presented via the weekly reports system. After discussion it was agreed that the result from the evaluation meetings be reported to the next available meeting of the Executive.

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor D. McGregor.

RESOLVED that the result from the tender evaluation meetings be reported to the next available meeting of the Executive.

(Head of Shared Procurement / Head of Democratic Services)

The meeting concluded at 1125 hours