

EXECUTIVE

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, Sherwood Lodge, Bolsover, on Monday, 16th March 2009 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor E. Watts – Chair

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

Officers:-

W. Lumley (Chief Executive Officer), J. Brooks (Director of Resources), S. Tomlinson (Director of Strategy), S.E.A. Sternberg (Solicitor to the Council), J. Sherwood (Environmental Health Residential Manager), A. Lowery (Street Services Manager), G. Galloway (Buildings and Contracts Manager), B. Truswell (Head of Procurement) and A. Bluff (Democratic Services Officer).

Also in attendance at the meeting was Mr T. Witts, Executive Director, Groundwork Creswell and Mr A. Diggles (Operations and Development Manager), Groundwork Creswell.

794. APOLOGY

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor A.J. Hodkin.

795. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

The Chair advised the meeting of an urgent item of business to consider being, 'Meden Valley Making Places', this would be discussed after agenda item 4; 'Minutes of a Meeting held on 16th February 2009. He further advised the meeting that due to the absence of the Head of Housing, agenda item 5; 'Rent Arrears – verbal update', would be deferred until the next meeting.

796. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The following declaration of interest was made.

Minute No.	Councillor	Level of Interest
799	Councillor A.F. Tomlinson	Personal
800	Councillor A.F. Tomlinson	Personal

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797. MINUTES – 16TH FEBRUARY 2009

Moved by Councillor B.R. Murray-Carr, seconded by Councillor D. McGregor
RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting held on 16th February 2009 be agreed as a true record.

798. RENT ARREARS – VERBAL UPDATE

Due to the absence of the Head of Housing, this item was deferred until the next meeting.

(Head of Democratic Services)

799. GROUNDWORK CRESWELL, ASHFIELD AND MANSFIELD CORE FUNDING, REPORT ON ACTIVITIES DURING 2008/09 AND PRESENTATION BY T. WITTS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GROUNDWORK CRESWELL

The Head of Regeneration's report stated that targets set for the previous two years had been met by Groundwork. Core funding of £18,000 had been allocated to them as part of the 2008/09 budget and the report sought Executive's permission to release this money subject to a satisfactory report.

Groundwork are a key partner on the Local Enterprise Growth Initiative and directly employ several staff. They also play a significant role in developing funding bids in partnership with the Council and others across the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP).

Trevor Witts, Executive Director and Alan Diggles, Operations and Development Manager, gave a joint presentation to the meeting on Groundwork's achievements for the previous two years and proposed activity for 2009/10. Headings were; Review of the 2007/09 Programmes, LAA National Indicators, Projected Programmes for 2009/10 and Service Level Agreement. A copy of Groundwork Creswell's brochure was also circulated to Members.

Members asked questions and discussion took place.

Moved by Councillor K. Bowman, seconded by Councillor J.E. Bennett
RESOLVED that 1) the report and presentation be received,

2) payment for 2008/09 totalling £18,000 be released to Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield and Mansfield.

(Head of Regeneration)

Reason for decision: To release the payment to Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield & Mansfield.

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800. URGENT ITEM – MEDEN VALLEY MAKING PLACES

The Environmental Health Residential Manager presented the report to seek Members approval for the Chief Executive Officer of the Council to sign a second Deed of Variation which allowed the Meden Valley Making Places Ltd to operate outside the Meden Valley area;

The Chief Executive Officer of Meden Valley Making Places Ltd had been developing the business outside the Meden Valley geographical area and this now needed to be formalised, requiring the approval of the founder Members of the Company.

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor J.E. Bennett

RESOLVED that the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to approve the Deed of Variation in relation to Meden Valley Making Places Ltd.

(Environmental Health Residential Manager / Chief Executive Officer)

Reason for decision: To continue working with one of the Council's most important strategic partners.

801. PATCH MANAGEMENT POLICIES – TREE MANAGEMENT POLICY

The Street Services Manager presented the draft Tree Management Policy. The policy would help the Council be more proactive in its management of trees within the district and planned maintenance should represent better value for money than 'out of hours' responses. The policy would also be used to encourage others, responsible for trees, to take a positive approach to the management of trees in their care

The draft policy had been approved by Patch Management Group on 5th November 2008 and had previously been submitted to the Equalities Services Development Group (ESDG), Senior Management Team (SMT), Policy and Performance Management Group 2 (PPMG2) and Scrutiny Committee. Scrutiny Committee had recommended that the policy be implemented.

The Street Services Manager advised the meeting that an amendment to paragraph 4.2.5 of the policy under the heading 'Removal of Trees', would be made to include the wording, "not removing trees or disturbing trees when nesting birds are present". Members welcomed the report and asked questions.

Moved by Councillor D. Kelly, seconded by Councillor B.R. Murray-Carr.

RESOLVED that subject to the inclusion of the wording, "not removing trees or disturbing trees when nesting birds are present", to paragraph 4.2.5 of the policy under, 'Removal of Trees', the draft Tree Management Policy be approved.

(Street Services Manager / Head of Democratic Services)

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Reason for decision: In order to approve the Tree Management Policy.

802. CLIMATE CHANGE – INVEST TO SAVE IMPROVEMENTS AT SHERWOOD LODGE

The Director of Strategy presented a detailed report to seek Members approval for the installation of photovoltaic energy cells on certain elevations of the roof to Sherwood Lodge. These areas were marked on the plan attached to the report.

The Council's Corporate Plan included a target to reduce the Council's carbon emissions to 80% of the 2006/7 levels by March 2011. The level of contribution from this scheme would equate to 268 tonnes of carbon dioxide saved over the 25 year life of the equipment.

The total cost of installation of the proposed system was £78,075. The Low Carbon Buildings Programme would contribute 50% towards the cost of installing these improvements, which would require the Council to contribute £39,037.50 however; there was no current budgetary provision for the works outlined. The Director of Strategy explained how this could be funded from savings made from the Asset Management Plan which was currently being reviewed to avoid any potential unnecessary expenditure. A more detailed report would be brought to a future meeting regarding the proposed revision of the Asset Management Plan.

Members raised concerns about the review of the Asset Management Plan.

After lengthy discussion, Members requested that they receive annual reports regarding projected savings and actual savings made from the installation and this be added as a further recommendation to the report.

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

RESOLVED that 1) the proposed installation of a photovoltaic energy system be installed at Sherwood Lodge as outlined in the report,

2) Members receive annual reports regarding projected savings and actual savings made from the installation.

(Director of Strategy/Head of Democratic Services)

Reason for decision: To assist the Council in meeting its carbon reduction target and to generate ongoing savings.

800. CONTINUED - URGENT ITEM – MEDEN VALLEY MAKING PLACES

It became apparent that not all Members had a printed copy of the Meden Valley Making Places report when previously discussed at minute number 800 and

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Members sought further clarification from the Environmental Health Residential Manager on certain points.

Although the decision had previously been taken, Members reaffirmed their previous decision.

Moved by Councillor D. McGregor, seconded by Councillor B.R. Murray-Carr
RESOLVED that 1) the decision previously taken at Minute Number 800 be reaffirmed,

2) the Chief Executive Officer, in conjunction with the Leader, Deputy Leader and Solicitor to the Council, be authorised to approve any changes to the Memorandum and Articles of Association and any related documents of the Company in the future provided that there are no significant implications for the Authority.

(Environmental Health Residential Manager/Chief Executive Officer)

803. ICT BUDGET BIDS

The Director of Resources presented the report in respect of bids for ICT expenditure.

The ICT Strategy Group had considered and recommended the bids as outlined in the report for approval by Executive.

Members asked questions and lengthy discussion took place.

Moved by Councillor D. McGregor, seconded by Councillor E. Watts
RESOLVED that the ICT capital bids detailed in the report be approved and financed from the ICT and Office Equipment Reserve.

(Director of Resources)

Reason for decision: In order to allocate funds from the ICT reserve.

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

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor D. McGregor
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 they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the stated Paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and it is not in the public interest for that to be revealed.

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805. EXTENSION TO THE ESTABLISHED PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH BAGGALEY AND JENKINS LTD TO DELIVER THE KITCHEN REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME TO COUNCIL HOUSING STOCK EXEMPT – PARAGRAPH 3

The Buildings and Contracts Manager presented the report to seek Members approval to extend the contract awarded to Baggaley and Jenkins Ltd, to deliver the kitchen replacement element of the Decent Homes Standard, which the Authority has to meet by December 2010. If Members agreed to extend the contract, their approval would also be necessary to suspend Contract Standing Order 4.8.1 (1).

On 5th April 2006, Council approved a three year partnership agreement, with Baggaley and Jenkins Ltd of Mansfield, with an option to extend for a further two years, or up to the OJEU threshold, whichever is reached first.

Current figures for the 2008/2009 contract have been analysed for target contract costs against actual costs and customer satisfaction results. The Tenant Satisfaction level achieved at the time of writing for 2008/09 is 95% against a target of 85%. If approved, the contract would continue to be supervised by Consultancy Services staff and contract performance would be monitored via contract Key Performance Indicators.

Members asked questions and lengthy discussion took place.

Moved by Councillor A.F. Tomlinson, seconded by Councillor D. McGregor
RESOLVED that 1) the report be received,

2) Contract Standing Order 4.8.1(1) be suspended to allow the current contract to be extended by two years or up to the OJEU threshold, whichever is reached first.

(Buildings and Contracts Manager)

Reason for decision: In order to maintain timely progress on the decent homes programme.

806. TENDER UPDATES EXEMPT – PARAGRAPH 3

The Head of Shared Procurement gave a verbal update to the meeting regarding progress on the tender for consultancy services for the Shirebrook Sustainable Development Masterplan.

Moved by Councillor E.Watts, seconded by Councillor D. McGregor
RESOLVED that the verbal report be noted.

The meeting concluded at 1210 hours.