

EXECUTIVE

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, Sherwood Lodge, Bolsover, on Monday, 30th November 2009 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor E. Watts – Chair

Councillors J.E. Bennett (left during Minute No 508), K. Bowman, A. J. Hodkin, D. Kelly, D. McGregor, B.R. Murray-Carr, A. Syrett and A.F. Tomlinson.

Officers:-

S. Tomlinson (Director of Neighbourhoods), S.E.A. Sternberg (Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer), J. Brooks (Director of Resources), P. Campbell (Head of Housing), D. Hill (Head of Finance and Revenues)(from Minute No 506)), B. Truswell (Head of Shared Procurement)(from Minute No 506)) and A. Bluff (Democratic Services Officer).

494. APOLOGIES

W. Lumley (Chief Executive Officer).

495. URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

496. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest made.

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497. CHANGE TO ORDER OF BUSINESS

To alleviate waiting time for Councillor Wallis, the Chair consented to a change in order of business on the agenda. Item 6; recommended item from Scrutiny Committee; Fees and Charges Budget Review and item 9; recommended item from Scrutiny Committee; Joint Scrutiny Spotlight Review of Shared Procurement would be heard after item 4.

498. MINUTES – 2ND NOVEMBER 2009

Moved by Councillor D. Kelly, seconded by Councillor E. Watts
RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting of the Executive held on 2nd November 2009 be approved as a true record.

499. RECOMMENDED ITEM FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 13TH OCTOBER 2009 – MINUTE NO 392; FEES AND CHARGES BUDGET REVIEW.

Policy and Performance Management Group 2 had carried out a review of the Authority's fees and charges. The report had been presented to Scrutiny Committee on the 13th October 2009.

Councillor Wallis, Chair of PPMG2, presented the detailed report. She advised the meeting that significant issues had arisen out of the review and these were flagged up in the report.

Members asked questions.

Councillor Watts suggested that the findings and recommendations of PPMG 2's review of the Authority's fees and charges be taken forward and considered as part of the budget review process.

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor A.M. Syrett
RESOLVED that the findings and recommendations of PPMG 2's review of the Authority's fees and charges be taken forward and considered as part of the budget review process.

(Cabinet / Director of Resources)

Reason for decision: To ensure that any potential savings or income from PPMG2's review of fees and charges can be captured as part of the budget process.

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500. RECOMMENDED ITEM FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 10TH NOVEMBER 2009 – MINUTE NO 476; JOINT SCRUTINY SPOTLIGHT REVIEW OF SHARED PROCUREMENT.

Councillor Wallis presented the report, which gave details of a joint scrutiny spotlight review of shared procurement carried out with Chesterfield Borough Council and North East Derbyshire District Council. The report had been presented to Scrutiny Committee on the 10th November 2009.

Councillor Wallis advised the meeting that many positive issues had arisen out of the review and it had been considered by the Group that the Shared Procurement Unit was cost effective and a good use of resources to the three authorities.

Members asked questions and discussion took place.

Councillor Watts suggested that the findings and recommendations of the joint scrutiny spotlight review of Shared Procurement be taken forward and considered as part of the budget review process.

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

RESOLVED that the findings and recommendations of the joint scrutiny spotlight review of Shared Procurement be taken forward and considered as part of the budget review process.

(Cabinet / Director of Resources)

501. RECOMMENDED ITEM FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 13TH OCTOBER 2009 – MINUTE NO 390; REVIEW OF EXPENDITURE WITHIN PPMG1'S REMIT.

Policy and Performance Management Group 1 had carried out a review of the expenditure budgets for ICT, Democratic Services, Legal Services and Finance. The report had been presented to Scrutiny Committee on the 13th October 2009.

Councillor Gilmour, Chair of PPMG1, presented the detailed report.

The aim of the review was to identify possible savings within the remit of PPMG1. The review covered the expenditure budgets of ICT, Democratic Services, Legal and Finance.

Members asked questions and discussion took place.

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Councillor Watts suggested that the findings of PPMG1's review and recommendations be taken forward and considered as part of the budget review process.

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor A.F. Tomlinson
RESOLVED that the findings of PPMG1's review and recommendations of expenditure budgets be taken forward and considered as part of the budget review process.

(Cabinet / Director of Resources)

Reason for decision: To ensure that any potential savings or income from PPMG1's review of expenditure budgets can be captured as part of the budget process.

502. RECOMMENDED ITEM FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 13TH OCTOBER 2009 – MINUTE NO 392; CAPITAL BUDGET REVIEW.

The report gave details of a review undertaken by Policy and Performance Management Group 3 to identify savings in the Capital Budget. The report had been presented to Scrutiny Committee on the 13th October 2009.

Councillor Bowler presented the report on behalf of Councillor Ward, Chair of PPMG 3.

Members asked questions.

Further to discussion taking place, it was agreed that recommendation 2; 'that PPMG 3 be presented with complete pre-budget funding figures before they are submitted to Council so that they can be scrutinised with a view to finding savings in the next budget period', be removed as the pre budget figures were presented to Scrutiny Committee as part to the budget process.

Councillor Watts suggested that the findings and recommendations of PPMG 3's review, (with the exception of recommendation 2 as above), be taken forward and considered as part of the budget review process.

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor A.F. Tomlinson
RESOLVED that the findings and recommendations of PPMG 3's review, (with the exception of recommendation 2 as above), be taken forward and considered as part of the budget review process.

(Cabinet / Director of Resources)

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503. RECOMMENDED ITEM FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 10TH NOVEMBER 2009 – MINUTE NO 478; PROGRESS ON REVIEWS – HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT.

The report gave details of the review undertaken by Policy and Performance Management Group 4 on the Housing Revenue Account. The report had been presented to Scrutiny Committee on the 10th November 2009.

Councillor Dooley, Chair of PPMG 4, presented the report.

PPMG 4 had reviewed the current Service Plan for Housing and had identified a range of questions, for example, performance on repairs and maintenance, the eviction process and anti-social behaviour. The Head of Housing, Head of Community and Street Services and the Customer Contact Manager had been interviewed by PPMG 4 Members to answer the questions raised by the Group, along with Councillor Bowman, Portfolio Holder for Housing Management, and Councillor Murray-Carr, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety.

Members asked questions.

Councillor Watts suggested that the findings and recommendations of PPMG 4's review be taken forward and considered as part of the budget review process.

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor D. Kelly
RESOLVED that the findings and recommendations of PPMG 4's review be taken forward and considered as part of the budget review process.

(Cabinet / Director of Resources)

504. WORKING NEIGHBOURHOODS FUND MONITORING REPORT QUARTER 2.

The Director of Resources presented the report on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer. This was the second quarterly monitoring report of the Working Neighbourhoods Fund and covered the period July to September 2009.

Members asked questions.

Moved by Councillor A.F. Tomlinson, seconded by Councillor E. Watts
RESOLVED that the report be received.

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505. RENEWAL OF INSURANCE POLICIES.

The Director of Resources presented the report.

The report gave details of the outcome of the recent insurance renewal process carried out under powers delegated to the Director of Resources. The delegation had been given in order to obtain the most economically advantageous outcome without the restrictions imposed by meeting deadlines.

Members asked questions and discussion took place.

Moved by Councillor A. Hodkin, seconded by Councillor E. Watts
RESOLVED that the actions of the Director of Resources under delegated powers be endorsed.

Reason for decision: **The Council has assessed value for money, quality and service issues, together with the preferred risk transfer method and selected the option financially beneficial to the Council.**

The Head of Shared Procurement and the Head of Finance and Revenues entered the meeting at this point.

506. BUDGET REPORTS - 2009/10 REVISED AND PROVISIONAL 2010/11 ONWARDS.

The Director of Resources presented the report which gave details of the assumptions that would be made for the budget for 2010/2011 onwards.

The impact of the economic downturn had led to an increase in demand for some Council services and a significant reduction in demand for others.

Council Tax increases would be a matter for Council to determine and the report presented a table which illustrated the impact of different increases assuming there was no increase in the tax base.

The refinement of the budget to the Council's level of available resources and to its priorities would be on an ongoing basis in consultation with Cabinet and updates to the Policy and Performance Management Groups leading to future reports to Executive and then to Council.

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Members asked questions and lengthy discussion took place.

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

RESOLVED that 1) the assumptions detailed in the report be noted,

2) indicative levels of Council Tax are noted and inform future decisions for Council Tax setting.

(Director of Resources)

Reason for decision: The Council's budget needs to reflect local decision making.

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

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

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.

508. MOBILE WORKING EXEMPT PARAGRAPH 3

The Head of Shared Procurement presented the report which gave an update to Members on the outcome of the tender evaluation for the Mobile Working project.

The report also included the evaluation matrix used to objectively evaluate the tender submissions.

Councillor Bennett left the meeting at this point.

Members asked questions and lengthy discussion took place.

Further to discussion, Members suggested that recommendation 2 be amended to read; 'delegated power is given to the Solicitor to the Council, *in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder*, to agree the terms of the contract plus any ancillary agreements with 1st Touch and to sign the contract plus ancillary agreements'.

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RESOLVED that 1) in accordance with the Evaluation Report, 1st Touch are appointed the preferred bidder and negotiations commence with them to draw up an appropriate contract,

2) delegated power is given to the Solicitor to the Council, in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder, to agree the terms of the contract plus any ancillary agreements with 1st Touch and to sign the contract plus ancillary agreements.

(Head of Shared Procurement / Solicitor to the Council)

Reason for decision: To ensure the Contractor appointed is the one that best meets the evaluation criteria.

The meeting concluded at 1205 hours.