

EXECUTIVE

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive of Bolsover District Council held in Committee Room One, Sherwood Lodge, Bolsover, on Monday 24th September 2012 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor E. Watts - Chair

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

Officers:-

W. Lumley (Chief Executive Officer), B. Mason (Director of Corporate Resources), S. Tomlinson (Director of Neighbourhoods), S.E.A. Sternberg (Solicitor to the Council), B. Truswell (Head of Shared Procurement) and R. Leadbeater (Democratic Services Officer).

423. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

424. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

The Chairman had consented to the report 'Tender Evaluation Outcome – Replacement Boiler, Alder House, Shirebrook', being considered as an urgent item of business. The decision could not reasonably be delayed due to a health and safety risk to residents. The agreement of the three Scrutiny Chairs had been obtained that the item was urgent and should be considered in the exempt part of the meeting.

425. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

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426. MINUTES – 28TH AUGUST 2012

Moved by Councillor D. McGregor, seconded by Councillor B.R. Murray-Carr
RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting of the Executive held on 28th August 2012 be approved as a true record.

427. RECORD OF DECISION NOTICES FROM THE JOINT BOARD MEETING HELD ON 10TH SEPTEMBER 2012

Moved by Councillor K. Bowman, seconded by Councillor D. McGregor
RESOLVED that the Decision Notices from the meeting of the Joint Board held on 10th September 2012 be noted.

Questions were raised with regard to the budget position of BCN Consultancy (Building Control). The Portfolio Holder for Regeneration advised that activity had decreased due lack of new construction in the area as an effect of the current economic climate. However steps had been taken by BCN to reduce the budget deficit including a move to cheaper premises and a reduction in staff working time. The Chair added that BCN staff should be commended for their efforts in addressing their financial situation.

428. IRRECOVERABLE ARREARS OVER £1,000

The Director of Corporate Resources presented the report to seek Members' approval to write off irrecoverable debts.

The schedule of debtors was included in the report for Members' consideration.

Members were advised that the irrecoverable debts continued at an established level of the past 2 to 3 years.

Questions were raised with regard to recovery procedures and vetting of potential tenants' financial history, to which the Director of Corporate Resources responded. Specific queries were raised by Members with regard to persons detailed on the schedule, which the Director of Corporate Resources agreed to respond to once further enquiries had been made.

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor D. Kelly
RESOLVED that approval be given to write off the irrecoverable items including costs, amounting to £49,713.22, with the proviso that should any of the debts become collectable the amounts be re-debited.

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REASON FOR DECISION: In order that outstanding debts can be written off.

(Director of Corporate Resources)

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

Moved by Councillor D. McGregor, 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 item 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 it is not in the public interest for that to be revealed.

430. IRRECOVERABLE ARREARS OVER £1,000 EXEMPT – PARAGRAPH 3

The Director of Corporate Resources presented the report to seek Members' approval to write off irrecoverable arrears.

The schedule of outstanding debts was detailed in the report for Members' consideration. These were in respect of businesses that had ceased to trade and deceased persons whose estates held no assets.

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

RESOLVED that approval be given to write off the irrecoverable items including costs, amounting to £9,428.38 with the proviso that should any of the debts become collectable the amounts be re-debited.

REASON FOR DECISION: In order that outstanding debts can be written off.

(Director of Corporate Resources)

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431. TENDER EVALUATION OUTCOME – REPLACEMENT BOILER, ALDER HOUSE, SHIREBROOK EXEMPT – PARAGRAPH 3

The Head of Shared Procurement presented the report to advise Members of a tender evaluation exercise for a replacement boiler at Alder House, Shirebrook which had recently been condemned. The tender had requested costs for replacing a like for like gas boiler and also for a bio mass boiler which was expected to provide a more economical long term solution.

Of the six companies invited to tender only one tender was received by the deadline. Following evaluation, this submission was considered not fit for purpose. The Head of Shared Procurement advised that due to time restrictions a further tender exercise for a replacement gas boiler would be undertaken as soon as possible.

Moved by Councillor K. Bowman, seconded by Councillor D. McGregor
RESOLVED that (1) the tender process be terminated and no bids accepted;

(2) the Council returns to market for a gas only replacement solution to be installed before the winter weather. This would be run as a Request for Quotation rather than a formal tender.

(3) the Council continues to engage with bio mass boiler suppliers with a view to asking them to quote for future boiler replacements in other sheltered housing complexes.

REASON FOR DECISION: **To secure best value for the Council.**

(Head of Shared Procurement)

The meeting concluded at 1028 hours.