

EXECUTIVE

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive of Bolsover District Council held in Chamber Suites 1 & 2, The Arc, High Street, Clowne on Monday 8 July 2013.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor A.F. Tomlinson – In the Chair

Councillors R. Bowler, D. Kelly, B.R. Murray-Carr, K. Reid and A.M. Syrett

Officers:-

W. Lumley (Chief Executive Officer), S. Tomlinson (Director of Neighbourhoods), K. Hopkinson (Director of Development), P. Hackett (Director of Health and Well-Being), G. Bagnall (Assistant Director - Corporate Resources), J. Fieldsend (Senior Principal Solicitor), M. Kane (Governance Manager), S. Chambers (Communications Manager), P. Campbell (Head of Housing) (For minute number 0165) and S. Coleman (Economic Development and Investment Manager) (For minute number 0164)

0157. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor E. Watts.

0158. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business to be considered at the meeting.

0159. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

0160. MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE HELD 10 JUNE 2013

Moved by Councillor D. Kelly and seconded by Councillor A. Syrett

RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting of the Executive held on 10 June 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

0161. RECOMMENDED ITEMS FROM OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES

There were no recommended items from other standing committees.

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0162. DECISIONS OF JOINT BOARD

Moved by Councillor D. Kelly and seconded by Councillor A. Syrett
RESOLVED that the Decision List from the meeting of the Joint Board held on 20 May 2013 be noted.

0163. THE FUTURE OF PLEASLEY VALE MILLS SCRUTINY REVIEW – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Executive considered a report which contained additional financial and policy information in respect of the scrutiny review on The Future of Pleasley Vale Mills Business Park. This information had been requested by Executive when it first considered the Scrutiny Review on 14 May 2013.

Alongside details of income generated by Pleasley Vale and information on how rents were determined the report also set out existing projects at the Business Park which would increase long term income to the Council. These included the refurbishment of void units in Mill Two, charging for access through the Mills, relocation of security and a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

Executive was advised that the Business Park was making a small profit on its lettings. However, capital costs such as the roof replacement at Mill Two, the window replacement programme and an oversupply of office space presented a risk to the long term sustainability of the site.

Funding obtained through the HLF would protect the current commercial use for the long-term by investing in large capital upgrades to reduce the capital burden on the Council, improve facilities to increase overall rental value, introduce new uses to the site, maintain the heritage features of the Mills, preserve its history and increase the investment value of the site.

Following consideration of the report, members asked questions and raised issues. The following points were noted:

- In response to a question about licences provided to companies to access the Vale, Executive was advised that a couple of firms had been provided with a licence to drive through the Business Park and this had been done with the purposes of generating income.
- Executive was advised that the security barrier would be moved and CCTV installed to enable some of the units to be more saleable which again would increase opportunities to generate further income to the Council.

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Moved by Councillor A. Syrett and seconded by Councillor K. Reid
RESOLVED that the report providing additional information on The Future of Pleasley Vale Mills Scrutiny Review be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To complete the Scrutiny Review previously considered by Executive on 14 May 2013.
(Director of Development)

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED: None.

0164. SHEFFIELD CITY REGION AND SOUTH YORKSHIRE FUNDING STREAMS INTER-AUTHORITY AGREEMENT

Executive considered a report setting out the Inter Authority Agreement put forward by Sheffield City Council – acting as the accountable body to Sheffield City Region (SCR) on the Growing Places Fund - as a means for all SCR authorities to share the financial risk of delivering external funding activity on behalf of the City Region.

This followed a decision by Executive in March 2013 to become a member of the SCR Authority and take an active role as a beneficiary of funding devolved by Government to the City Region.

The report set out the role of the accountable body and provided a number of scenarios under which potential risk could be mitigated together with a table setting out the per capita risk that the Council would incur.

The report also provided a means through which use of the Inter Authority Agreement might be broadened beyond the Growing Places Fund and JESSICA to encompass other growth funding available through Local Enterprise Partnerships.

In response to a question, members were advised that JESSICA was an acronym for European funding designated to urban centres.

Moved by Councillor K. Reid and seconded by Councillor B. Murray-Carr
RESOLVED that the Executive agree to the Leader of the Council signing the Inter-Authority Agreement (IAA) put forward by Sheffield City Council (acting as accountable body to Sheffield City Region (SCR) on the Growing Places Fund), as a means for all SCR Local Authorities to share the financial risk of delivering external funding activity on behalf of the City Region.

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REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Council to share the financial risk delivering external funding activity on behalf of the City Region. (Economic Development and Investment Manager)

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED: None.

0165. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Executive considered a report which set out proposed capital spend on housing related works for 2013/14.

Executive was advised that the investment proposed for the year was modest with many schemes continuing on from work started in previous years. However, some projects were focussed on areas of work that had been previously requested by customers and members but not prioritised before the completion of Decent Homes and the continued investment in new build schemes.

Particular schemes warranting attention related to doors, new builds and District Heating Systems and Group Safety Dwelling Works. An additional £1 million had been put aside for new builds giving a proposed capital budget of £1.452 million for the year. External wall insulation was being undertaken by an at-cost contractor at no further cost to the Council.

Moved by Councillor K. Reid and seconded by Councillor D. Kelly
RESOLVED that the following capital spend for housing in 2013/14 be agreed:

Proposed Budget for 2013/14		
CODE	Element	Proposed Budget
C093	Un Allocated	-
C094	Group Dwelling Safety Work	150,000
C097	Repair Inspector Salary	38,000
C098	External Wall Insulation (EWI)	-
C099	Windows	5,000
C100	Electrical Upgrade 10Year Programme	210,000
C107	Cavity Wall & Loft Insulation	10,000
C113	Doors	500,000
C114	Heating Upgrades	35,000
C115	Environmental Works	50,000
C117	DHS Contracts	100,000
C118	Kitchen Structural Alterations	250,000
C177	Mobile Working	50,000
C182	HRA New Build	1,452,000

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C183	Fees and Charges	200,000
C208	HRA New Build Disturb Paymentts Lang Junction	5,000
New	Match Funding Sprinkler Systems	20,000
New	Soffit and Facia Replacement	75,000
	Sub Total	3,150,000
	Unallocated from 2012/13	383,551
	Budget Allocation for 2013/14	3,316,220
	Funding from Effective energy	66,357
	Funding from Effective energy	80,294
	DFRS Sprinkler Funding	20,000
	Total Available	3,866,423
	Not Committed	716,423

REASON FOR DECISION:

To enable members to agree housing's capital programme work for the current year.
(Head of Housing)

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

None.

0166. ARREARS – IRRECOVERABLE ITEMS OVER £1,000

Executive considered a report which requested the write-off of a number of items totalling £7,654.79 resulting from bankruptcy or liquidation or where the debtors were no longer traceable. Details of individual cases were set out in a schedule to the report.

Executive was advised that where debtors left the properties without forwarding addresses extensive efforts were made to trace them. In addition to departmental checks, statutory undertakers and other agencies were contacted, and enquiries were made of neighbours and family or employers where known.

Where it was known that a person had moved to another area contact was made with the relevant local authority to alert them and request reciprocal information.

Moved by Councillor R. Bowler and seconded by Councillor K. Reid

RESOLVED that the irrecoverable items, as set out in the report, including costs amounting to some £7,654.79, be approved 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)

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED: None.

0167. THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Moved by Councillor D. Tomlinson and seconded by Councillor D. Kelly
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 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and it is not in the public interest for that to be revealed.

0168. ARREARS – IRRECOVERABLE ITEMS OVER £1,000

Executive considered a report which requested the write-off of a number of items totalling £7,274.67 resulting from cases where debtors had ceased to trade or it had become uneconomic to collect. Details of the individual cases were set out in a schedule to the report.

Moved by Councillor R. Bowler and seconded by Councillor D. Kelly
RESOLVED that the irrecoverable items, as set out in the report, including costs amounting to some £7,274.67, be approved 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)

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED: None.

The meeting concluded at 1020