

## **EXECUTIVE**

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 1000 hours.

### **PRESENT:-**

Members:-

Councillor A.M. Syrett in the Chair

Councillors M.J. Dooley, S.W. Fritchley, H.J. Gilmour, D. McGregor, B.R. Murray-Carr, M.J. Ritchie and B. Watson.

Also present

Councillors R. Bowler and J. Smith for Minute Nos 0666 to 0670 only.

Officers:-

D. Swaine (Chief Executive Officer), K. Hanson (Strategic Director – Place), L. Hickin (Strategic Director – People), D. Clarke (Head of Finance and Resources and S151 Officer), S. Sternberg (Head of Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer), K. Apps (Acting Head of Economic Development), S. Brunt (Head of Street Scene), G. Galloway (Head of Property and Commercial Services), P. Brown (Chief Executive's and Partnership Manager), L. Khella (Partnership Consultant Programme Manager) and D. Cairns (Senior Governance Officer - NEDDC).

### **0666. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **0667. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

There were no urgent items of business.

### **0668. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor M.J. Ritchie declared a significant other interest arising from his membership of the Dragonfly Ltd Board, in Agenda Item 11A – Land/Property Sale – Mill Lane Depot, Bolsover. Councillor M.J. Ritchie stated his intention to remain in the meeting to present the report and answer questions however he did not enter into the debate and left the room prior to the vote being taken.

Councillor M.J. Dooley declared a significant other interest arising from her appointment to Bolsover Countryside Partnership, in Agenda Item 7D – Bolsover Countryside Partnership. Councillor M.J. Dooley stated her intention to remain in the meeting to present the report and answer questions however she did not enter into the debate and left the room prior to the vote being taken.

## EXECUTIVE

Councillor B.R. Murray-Carr declared a non-significant other interest in Agenda Item 7D – Bolsover Countryside Partnership as he also attends the meetings of the Partnership. Councillor B.R. Murray-Carr remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and vote on this item.

### **0669. MINUTES – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

Moved by Councillor S.W. Fritchley and seconded by Councillor D. McGregor  
**RESOLVED** that the minutes of a meeting of the Executive held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019 be approved as a true and correct record.

### **0670. ITEMS RECOMMENDED BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEES REVIEW OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE BY CUSTOMER SERVICE AND TRANSFORMATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Councillor R. Bowler, Chair of the Customer Service and Transformation Scrutiny Committee, presented the report of the Scrutiny Committee on the Review of Standards Committee completed during 2018/19.

During the 2017/18 municipal year, the Standards Committee responded to the national consultation by the Committee on Standards in Public Life on their 'Review of Local Government Ethical Standards'. As a result of their own review, the Standards Committee felt it was pertinent to also have an external opinion on how they operated and requested that scrutiny complete a review.

A range of concerns were raised by Standards Committee and these were considered as part of the scoping process. The review was completed outside of the usual meeting programme via a small Working Group, with regular reports back to Committee.

The key issues arising from the review were:

- The introduction of a more formalised approach to training, particularly at Parish level;
- Consideration of Article 9 of the Constitution and the Committee Terms of Reference (Part 3.6) as part of the annual review process; and
- Improved public information, both web-based and hard-copy, to ensure the role of Standards Committee is clear.

The Scrutiny Review put forward seven recommendations which were intended to assist the Council in improving existing approaches to Member training and engagement on Standards.

The report outlined the recommendations and the responses received by officers, which included some amendments. The Scrutiny Committee supported the amendments and therefore presented the following recommendations to Executive for consideration:

- 1.1 That training in relation to Code of Conduct and DPIs is programme as part of the District Member Induction Programme, with a refresher course two years later, to accommodate any changes in legislation/Council membership.

## EXECUTIVE

- 1.2 That training in relation to Code of Conduct and DPs is programme on a minimum annual basis to Parish Council Liaison, to accommodate in-year changes to legislation/Council membership.
- 1.3 That the website is reviewed to ensure information in relation to the Standards Committee is both more accessible and user-friendly, including:
  - Publication of the Standards Annual Report as a document in its own right (rather than embedded in Committee papers);
  - A review of Customer Information Booklet 8, with improved publicity of its availability given that it is not a hard-copy publication.(This recommendation had a revised target date of October 2019)
- 1.4 That Standards Committee considers the analysis of our current membership and benchmark data, as part of any review of Article 9 of the Constitution.
- 1.5 That the appointment of the Co-opted Independent Chair is maintained, as a demonstration of our commitment to the Seven Principles of Public Life.
- 1.6 That the information gathered as part of the review benchmark exercise is taken in to consideration when reviewing the Committee Terms of Reference, within Part 3.6 of the Constitution.
- 1.7 That the Standards Committee produces an Induction Pack for all new Councillors to be utilised by the Monitoring Officer/Parish Clerk when working with newly appointed District and Parish Councillors.  
(This recommendation had a revised target date of September 2019)

Executive welcomed the report and the constructive recommendations and thanked Scrutiny for their work undertaken during the review.

Moved by Councillor M.J. Dooley and seconded by Councillor B.R. Murray-Carr

**RESOLVED** that:

- (1) Executive approve the recommendations of the review outlined in section 2 of the report as amended above.
- (2) the recommendations be monitored by the Customer Service and Transformation Scrutiny Committee over the next 12 months.

### **REASON FOR DECISION:**

To further improve the advice and training given to Councillors at the District and Parish level in relation to compliance with accepted standards.

### **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:**

There were no alternative options considered and rejected by Executive.

(Scrutiny and Elections Officer)

## EXECUTIVE

### 0671. POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK ITEMS

The Medium Term Financial Plan was considered later in the agenda.

### NON KEY DECISIONS

### 0672. CARBON REDUCTION PLAN 2019 - 2030

The Strategic Director - People presented the report which sought approval for a proposed Carbon Reduction Plan 2019 – 2030, which formed part of the Transformation Programme for 2018.

The proposed Carbon Reduction Plan set out eight thematic areas by which the Council aimed to reduce its carbon emissions over the next decade:

- Theme 1 – Sustainable Buildings and Workplaces
- Theme 2 – Renewable Energy
- Theme 3 – Low Carbon Fleet
- Theme 4 – Transport
- Theme 5 – Planning
- Theme 6 – Community and Collaboration
- Theme 7 – Biodiversity
- Theme 8 – Procurement

The delivery and impact of the plan would be monitored by the Transformation Governance Group and reported to Customer Service and Transformation Scrutiny Committee, Executive and Council. To support this work, it was proposed that a Carbon Reduction Sub-Group be established, which would comprise the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources & Sustainable Energy, the Lead Officer – Strategic Director – People and the Finance Lead – Head of Finance and Resources. The Sub-Group was to be chaired by the Portfolio Holder. It was recommended that this be specified as the relevant Portfolio Holder with responsibility for sustainable energy, which would take account of any changes in Executive Portfolios over the term of the plan.

Members commented that there were likely to be many challenges in meeting the targets and some works, such as the replacement of refuse vehicles with electric vehicles, were currently cost-prohibitive. It was important, however, to monitor developments and plan for the future in order to deliver the reduction in emissions and carbon footprint.

The Chief Executive Officer thanked the Strategic Director - People and other officers involved for producing the plan, which pulled together a number of existing initiatives.

Moved by Councillor B. Watson and seconded by Councillor A.M. Syrett

**RESOLVED** - that Executive approve and adopt the proposed Carbon Reduction Plan 2019 – 2030 and requests that the Joint Strategic Director – People:

- (i) establishes a Carbon Reduction Sub Group in line with the proposals set out in the report, as amended to reflect that the Chair will be the relevant Portfolio Holder; and

## EXECUTIVE

(ii) provides a presentation to the next Council meeting outlining details of the plan endorsed by Executive.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** It was recognised that the Council was well placed to influence change in the district as community leaders, raising awareness about the potential to reduce emissions and by working collaboratively with others to reduce emissions.

**OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:** The option to do nothing was rejected as the Council prioritised carbon reduction within its operation.

(Strategic Director - People)

### 0673. COMMERCIAL PROPERTY INVESTMENT STRATEGY

The Strategic Director – Place presented the report which sought approval for a draft Commercial Property Investment Strategy.

Executive had considered reports at previous meetings in November and December 2018 with details of the financial pressures facing the Council and measures that were being taken to maximise income, reduce costs and redesign services in line with the Transformation Programme, and also information on the Council's existing non-housing property stock.

The Commercial Property Investment Strategy had been developed based on expanding the Council's existing non-housing portfolio in order to create and enhance revenue streams to offset the forecast budget deficits for forthcoming years. The approach also supported the economic development and regeneration of the area.

The Strategy set out the principles that commercial investment should follow and the criteria that should be followed in assessing potential investments.

It was proposed that a Property Investment Panel be established to consider property investment opportunities and where appropriate, make acquisition recommendations to Executive. The Panel was to consist of the Cabinet, relevant Directors and Heads of Service and other specialists and external advisers as required. Investment decisions were to be made in accordance with the Council's existing decision making processes, threshold levels and Scheme of Delegation contained within the Council's Constitution. All proposals would be required to include a robust and evidenced business case in order for the financial viability to be assessed.

Members discussed the proposed strategy and criteria set out for assessing proposals, and agreed its adoption.

Moved by Councillor A.M. Syrett and seconded by Councillor S.W. Fritchley

**RESOLVED** – that Executive approve the draft Commercial Property Investment Strategy.

## EXECUTIVE

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To take a strategic approach to managing future property investment opportunities, based on the Council's existing budget pressures and the performance of the non-housing property assets.

**OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:** The options not to develop a Commercial Property Investment Strategy and not consider other high level investment opportunities were rejected as these options would have restricted the Council's ability to generate additional income and deliver key corporate priorities.

(Strategic Director – Place)

### 0674. BOLSOVER BUSINESS GROWTH FUND

The Chief Executives and Partnership Manager presented the report which updated Executive on the current position with the Bolsover Business Growth Fund Scheme and recommended an extension to the scheme for a further two years.

The report provided details of the scheme, which provided grants of between £1000 and £10,000 and up to 90% of total project costs. 24 businesses had been supported by grants, with targets to create 36 additional jobs. To date, 25 new jobs had been created.

Executive were informed that there continued to be a need and demand for the grant funding as a number of enquiries had been received since the current scheme had been closed to new applications. Given the success of the scheme, it was therefore recommended that it be extended for a further two years.

Some refinement of the eligibility criteria was considered to be beneficial and it was proposed that a further report be submitted to Executive with details of the proposed criteria, costs, forecast outcomes and timescales.

Members queried the success rates of applications to the scheme and were informed that 24 applications had been approved and 8 had been refused.

It was also commented that the scheme was value for money and also delivering additional benefits to the Council and the district, through businesses bringing vacant premises back into use and increases in business rates income.

Moved by Councillor M.J. Dooley and seconded by Councillor D. McGregor

**RESOLVED** - that Executive:

- (1) note the progress made with the Bolsover Business Growth Fund to date.
- (2) agree to a further Bolsover Business Growth Fund programme in principle and request a further report detailing the proposed criteria, cost, forecast outcomes and timescales to ensure continuity from the existing scheme.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To respond to the continued need and demand for grant funding amongst SMEs within the district.

**OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:** The option to do nothing was rejected due to the impact of no longer being able to offer financial support for businesses with growth

## EXECUTIVE

potential. The option to only signpost local business to other funding was also rejected as the most closely aligned alternative funding stream was also closed for new applicants and offered lower rates of funding contributions.

(Chief Executives and Partnership Manager)

### 0675. BOLSOVER COUNTRYSIDE PARTNERSHIP

The Chief Executives and Partnership Manager presented the report which provided an update on the work of the Bolsover Countryside Partnership and sought approval for an increase in the Council's contribution to the Partnership.

The report provided a summary of the Partnership's work programme achievements and the funding it had helped to secure. Notable achievements had included:

- Visit. Sleep. Cycle. Repeat
- Archaeological Way
- Limestone Journeys Landscape Partnership
- Other projects such as a Countryside Health and Wellbeing Feasibility Study and supporting the development of a new cycling and walking officer post.

An assessment of the social return on investment as a result of the work of the Partnership's projects was outlined in the report.

Executive were informed that funding for the partnership had been reduced as a result of the reduction in the Public Health locality budget. In order to continue, it was recommended that the Council increase its contribution from £13,000 to £20,000 per annum, on the basis that the remainder of the funding be secured for other sources.

Members queried how the funding of the Partnership related to the development of an internal Tourism Officer post within the Council and were advised that working strategically and co-operatively with the Partnership would be incorporated into the development of the new role. It was noted that the Partnership also focused on environmental benefits and bringing open and green spaces into use to benefit the health and well-being of the community, as well as tourism.

*Councillor M.J. Dooley left the room prior to the vote taking place.*

Moved by Councillor A.M. Syrett and seconded by Councillor D. McGregor.

**RESOLVED** - that Executive:

- (1) note the content of the report and the outcomes of the Bolsover Countryside Partnership in recent years.
- (2) agree to increase the contribution made by the Council from £13,500 per annum to £20,000 per annum, funded from the Transformation Reserve and subject to funding being secured for the remainder of the post.

## EXECUTIVE

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To note the record of the Bolsover Countryside Partnership in delivering significant environmental projects and securing external funding, and to continue to support the project.

**OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:** The option to do nothing was rejected as if alternative funding was not secured, the potential of securing the significant benefits for the district would be lost. The option for the project to seek alternative funding was also rejected as it was preferred that the post be jointly maintained by Bolsover District Council and Derbyshire County Council.

(Chief Executives and Partnership Manager)

*Councillor M.J. Dooley returned to the room for the remainder of the meeting.*

### **0676. FUTURE HIGH STREETS FUND**

The Acting Head of Economic Growth presented the report which informed Members of a recent call for bids to the Future High Streets Fund and to recommend the submission of a bid for Bolsover Town Centre to the Expression of Interest stage.

The fund aimed to support local authorities by co-funding transformative and structural changes to overcome challenges affecting town centres and declining high streets. Details of the fund and the bidding process were provided in the report.

The four towns within the district were considered in order to put forward a proposal supported by the strongest evidence base, considering the Regeneration Framework, other funding and developments impacting the different towns.

Bolsover Town Centre was proposed due to the high street being considered dysfunctional and disconnected from Bolsover Castle. The Sherwood Lodge food store needed to be linked to the high street if benefits of the development were to be maximised. The Bolsover North and East housing developments also had potential to increase visits to the high street.

Members were advised that the Regeneration Framework provided the Council with a good methodology and strong evidence to support the bid, however the bidding process was likely to be highly competitive. If unsuccessful with this bid, the Council may submit bids for other towns and proposals in the future.

Moved by Councillor S.W. Fritchley and seconded by Councillor D. McGregor.

**RESOLVED** - that Executive approve the preparation and submission of a Phase 1 Expression of Interest bid for Bolsover Town Centre for the Government's Future High Streets Fund.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To maximise the Council's opportunity for securing an invitation to proceed to a full application stage of the Future High Streets Fund, based on the findings of the Regeneration Framework and regard to existing funding in place and other future development opportunities.

## EXECUTIVE

**OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:** The option not to submit a bid was rejected as this would have forgone the ability to access the potential funding. The other town centres within the district were considered however Bolsover was selected as the highest priority.

(Acting Head of Economic Growth)

### **0677. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN**

The Head of Finance and Resources and Section 151 Officer presented the report which sought approval of the proposed budget for 2019/20 for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme as part of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan covering the years 2019/20 to 2022/23 and to provide elected Members with an overview of the Council's financial position in order to inform the decision making process.

The Medium Term Financial Plan covered three areas:-

- General Fund;
- Housing Revenue Account (HRA);
- Capital Programme.

Executive's recommendations were to be reported to Council at its meeting on 20 February 2019 in order to secure agreement for the Council's budget in respect of the 2019/20 financial year.

The Council's Section 151 Officer was satisfied that the methodology adopted to calculate the estimates was robust and provided Members with reliable information on which to base their decisions. Likewise the Section 151 Officer was satisfied that the proposed level of reserves was adequate to cover the issues and potential risks which the Council may face.

#### General Fund

The Council's budget for 2018/19 showed a surplus of £1.027m. Executive considered the Revised Budget in December 2018 and no changes were made to the budget position since that time. The final in-year surplus was dependent on the actual financial performance in line with the revised budget. It was agreed that any surplus generated in the financial year be transferred to the Transformation Reserve to be available for financing future transformation plans and service developments.

The proposed budget for 2019/20 showed a shortfall of £0.083m.

The report set out details of the anticipated level of Government funding and other areas of income, as well as details of the expenditure changes forecast over the Medium Term Financial Plan period. An increase in Council Tax of 2.99% was proposed.

## EXECUTIVE

### Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

Setting the budget for the HRA involved the setting of rent levels in line with the Government's regulations which required a reduction in rent levels by 1% per annum for four years commencing from April 2016. The level of income generated from dwelling rents for 2019/20 was therefore set on this basis. This was to be the last year that this would apply. In future years it was assumed that rent policy would revert to increases in line with Consumer Price Index Housing plus 1% and this had been assumed in the forecasts.

When the revised HRA budget was considered in November 2018 a surplus of £0.002m was estimated. The proposed budget for 2019/20 showed a balanced budget with a surplus of £0.023m which would be transferred to the Development Reserve.

The report set out details of the assumptions on which the budget was based and details of the proposed charges in relation to non-dwelling rents.

### Capital Programme

Details of the proposed Capital Programmes in respect of the General Fund and the HRA over the period of the Medium Term Financial Plan were set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor B Watson and seconded by Councillor A.M. Syrett.

**RESOLVED** – That the following recommendations be referred to Council:

- (1) That in the view of the Chief Financial Officer, that the estimates included in the Medium Term Financial Plan 2019/20 to 2022/23 are robust and that the level of financial reserves whilst at minimum levels are adequate, be accepted.
- (2) That officers report back to Executive and to the Budget Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis regarding the overall position in respect of the Council's budgets. These reports to include updates on achieving the savings and efficiencies necessary to secure a balanced budget for 2020/21 and future years.

### **GENERAL FUND**

- (3) A Council Tax increase of £5.12 per annum is levied in respect of a notional Band D property (2.99%).
- (4) The Medium Term Financial Plan in respect of the General Fund as set out in **Appendix 1** to the report be approved as the Current Budget 2018/19, as the Original Budget in respect of 2019/20, and the financial projection in respect of 2020/21 to 2022/23.
- (5) That any under spend in respect of 2018/19 is transferred to the Transformation Reserve.
- (6) On the basis that income from Planning Fees may exceed £0.500m in 2019/20, the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader be granted delegated powers to

## EXECUTIVE

authorise such additional resources as are necessary to effectively manage the resultant increase in workload.

### HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

- (7) That Council sets its rent levels in line with Government regulations, reducing rent levels by 1% to apply from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019.
- (8) That the increases in respect of other charges as outlined in **Table 1 of Appendix 3** to the report be implemented with effect from 1 April 2019.
- (9) The Medium Term Financial Plan in respect of the Housing Revenue Account as set out in **Appendix 3** to the report be approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2018/19, as the Original Budget in respect of 2019/20, and the financial projection in respect of 2020/21 to 2022/23.

### CAPITAL PROGRAMME

- (10) That the Capital Programme as set out in **Appendix 4** to the report be approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2018/19, and as the Approved Programme for 2019/20 to 2022/23.
- (11) That the Head of Property and Estates be granted delegated powers in consultation with the Portfolio Member and the Asset Management group to approve the utilisation of the £260,000 of AMP Refurbishment Work allocation, with such approvals to be reported back to Executive through the Quarterly Budget Monitoring Report.

**REASON FOR DECISION** – To make recommendations on setting the budget in respect of the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme to meet the Council's legal obligation to agree a balanced budget.

**OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED & REJECTED** - Alternative options were considered throughout the process of the preparation of the budget and were outlined in the report.

(Head of Finance and Resources and Section 151 Officer)

### 0678. TRANSFORMATION GOVERNANCE GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

*Although categorised as a key decision on the agenda the decisions under this item were non-key.*

The Strategic Director – People presented the report which submitted recommendations made by the Transformation Governance Group. The recommendations related to two projects; investment in a Combined Heat and Power unit at The Arc and investment in software (WebReg) to allow limited access to the Electoral Register software for customer services.

## EXECUTIVE

### Combined Heat and Power

It was proposed that a Combined Heat and Power unit be installed at The Arc which would reduce energy costs and carbon usage. The purchase of the unit would require a capital investment however the reduction in costs was estimated to give a payback period of around 1.5 years. It was recommended that Executive agree to comment a competitive tender process for the supply and installation of the unit.

Executive discussed how the unit would work alongside the existing traditional heating system.

### WebReg - Electoral Register Software

The proposal was for the introduction of WebReg software which was an add on to the Electoral Register Software – Express, which would enable customer services to have limited access to the system and be able to answer customer questions at the first point of contact rather than passing them back to the Elections Team. The cost of the software was £2000 and there was an licence fee of £2000 per annum.

It was proposed that both proposals be funded from the Transformation Reserve.

Executive were also informed that the Transformation Governance Group had also discussed a change to how the Council considered VAT Sporting Exemption following professional advice and that this was likely to have a positive contribution to the Go Active! Business plan targets.

Moved by Councillor M.J. Dooley and seconded by Councillor B. Watson.

**RESOLVED** - that Executive agree:

- (1) to commence the tender process for a Combined Heat and Power unit at The Arc. Following the robust tender process, a further report be submitted to Executive summarising the outcome of the tender exercise, including update projections, payback period and budget implications.
- (2) to invest £2000 from the Transformation Reserve to purchase the WebReg software and to build an additional £2000 into the departmental revenue budget to pay for the annual licence.

### **REASONS FOR DECISIONS:**

(1) to support the project to reduce energy costs and carbon usage.

(2) to provide a better service to the customer and increase capacity/improve efficiency within the elections team.

**OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:** The options to do nothing were rejected as this would not have brought about the improvements and efficiencies forecast by the projects.

(Strategic Director – People)

## EXECUTIVE

### 0679. THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Moved by Councillor D. McGregor and seconded by Councillor A.M. Syrett.

**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 Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and it is not in the public interest for that to be revealed. [The category of exempt information is stated after each Minute].

### PRIVATE SESSION - NON KEY DECISION

### 0680. RESTRUCTURE OF THE CONTENTIOUS LEGAL TEAM EXEMPT PARAGRAPHS 1, 2 AND 3

The Head of Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer presented the report which recommended the establishment of a permanent position within the Contentious Legal Team, which would require a revenue budget increase of £31,439.

Executive was advised that this recommendation also implemented the recommendation of the Healthy, Safe, Clean and Green Communities Scrutiny Committee Review of Enforcement, which was approved by Executive. The recommendation included ensuring sufficient legal staffing resource was in place to deliver required enforcement activity.

Moved by Councillor D. McGregor and seconded by Councillor H.J. Gilmour.

**RESOLVED** that, having considered the financial implications of the proposed change to the structure presented, Executive:

- (1) support the change to the establishment and request that the Joint Chief Executive Officer establish the new permanent position of 0.6 FTE on the establishment;
- (2) agree an increase to the staffing budget of £31,439 to accommodate the changes to the establishment from 2020/21; and
- (3) agree to fund the permanent position for the year 2019/20 from the shortfall in hours of the LEGT031 post and the Legal Reserve.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To provide resilience and cover to the team, and to support the team in carrying out more prosecutions with less reliance on external legal services.

**OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:** The option not to make the post permanent was rejected due to the significant increase in the workload of the Contentious Legal Team.

(Head of Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer)

## EXECUTIVE

### PRIVATE SESSION - KEY DECISION

#### 0681. LAND/PROPERTY SALE – MILL LANE DEPOT, BOLSOVER EXEMPT – PARAGRAPH 3

The Strategic Director – Place presented the report which sought approval for the sale of the former depot site on Mill Lane, Bolsover to Dragonfly Development Ltd.

Details of the offer received from Dragonfly Development Ltd and the independently verified valuation of the site were set out in the report.

Executive were advised of the current condition of the site that was due to become vacant later in 2019, and the estimated costs of the demolition and remediation works required, and the terms of the contract should the costs vary from the estimates.

*Councillor M.J. Ritchie left the room prior to the vote taking place.*

Moved by Councillor S.W. Fritchley and seconded by Councillor D. McGregor  
**RESOLVED** that Executive:

- (1) approve the sale of the former Council depot site on Oxcroft Lane, Bolsover to Dragonfly Development Ltd on the terms and conditions outlined in the report; and
- (2) grant delegated authority to the Joint Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with the Leader, to negotiate land value in the event that the s.106 cap is exceeded and demolition costs are below £500k.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To reduce the risk of anti-social behaviour arising from the site becoming vacant and falling into disrepair, and supporting the project to deliver new housing on the site.

**OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:** The option to retain the site was rejected as the site was likely to become a liability when vacant. The option to seek to dispose of the site on the open market was also rejected due to the difficulties arising from the demolition and ground contamination issues.

(Strategic Director - Place)

The meeting concluded at 1125 hours.