

EXECUTIVE

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne on Monday, 6 September 2021 at 10:00 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor Steve Fritchley in the Chair

Councillors Duncan McGregor (Vice-Chair), Mary Dooley, David Downes, Clive Moesby, Sandra Peake and Deborah Watson.

Officers:- Karen Hanson (Executive Director of Resources), Grant Galloway (Executive Director of Strategy and Development), Theresa Fletcher (Assistant Director, Treasurer & Section 151 Officer), Sarah Sternberg (Assistant Director, Solicitor to the Council & Monitoring Officer), Chris Fridlington (Assistant Director of Development and Planning), Pam Brown (Assistant Director of Leader's Executive), Natalie Etches (Business Growth Manager) and Amy Bryan (Senior Governance Officer) .

EX24-21/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Liz Smyth.

EX25-21/22 URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There was no urgent business to be considered at the meeting.

EX26-21/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or other interests, not already on their register of interests, in any item on the agenda and withdraw from the meeting at the appropriate time.

Councillors David Downes, Steve Fritchley and Sandra Peake all declared a significant other interest in Item 10 – Crematorium: Feasibility Report and Design Proposals, as Members of Shirebrook Town Council. All three Councillors left the room for the consideration of the item and did not participate in the discussion or vote.

EX27-21/22 MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Steve Fritchley
RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting of Executive held on 19 July 2021 be approved as a true and correct record.

EXECUTIVE

NON KEY DECISIONS

EX28-21/22 BUDGET MONITORING - QUARTER 1 APRIL TO JUNE 2021

Executive considered the report of the Portfolio Holder – Finance which provided an update on the financial position of the Council following the 2021/22 first quarter's budget monitoring exercise for the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), Capital Programme and Treasury Management activity.

General Fund

The original budget for 2021/22 showed a funding deficit of £0.291m. The current budget showed this had reduced to £0.180m deficit after the Council tax increase and other small movements were included.

A breakdown of the quarter 1 monitoring position by Directorate was included in the report. The overall position of the General Fund at the end of quarter 1 showed that there was a favourable variance of £0.124m. This was mainly due to receiving income in advance of spend for the year. The budget pressures that continued to be caused by the pandemic such as leisure income, would in part be covered by government funding. Although the budget for planning income had been reduced in the MTFP in light of the pandemic the Council had actually received £0.035m, more than a quarter of the anticipated budget by the end of quarter 1.

Housing Revenue Account

The quarter 1 income figures showed an adverse variance of £0.535m. Expenditure showed an overall favourable variance of £0.358m. Overall, the only significant issue at the end of the first quarter was the reduction in income caused by voids being at a level higher than budgeted for.

Executive discussed the issue of voids and the Executive Director of Strategy and Development reported that officers were currently working on the process regarding voids.

Capital Programme

In headline terms, the Capital Programme profiled budget for quarter 1 was £6.617m and the actual spend and known commitments totalled £3.938m, which was £2.679m behind the planned spend position.

There were no significant financial issues to report regarding capital expenditure, however it was noted that the delivery of the approved capital programme was behind the profiled position as at quarter 1.

Treasury Management

The treasury management activity undertaken in the first quarter of 2021/22 was in line with the plans agreed as part of the Treasury Management Strategy. The income received from investments was higher than budgeted, however, interest rates being received on investments was generally lower than estimated. A full assessment of investments and cash balances would be carried out during the next quarter in

EXECUTIVE

preparation of revised budgets.

Moved by Councillor Clive Moesby and seconded by Councillor Duncan McGregor
RESOLVED that –

- 1) the monitoring position of the General Fund at the end of the first quarter as detailed in Appendix 1 (a net favourable variance of £0.124m against the profiled budget) and the key issues highlighted with the report, be noted.
- 2) the position on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), the Capital Programme and Treasury Management at the end of the first quarter (as detailed in Appendices 3, 4 and 5), be noted.

(Assistant Director of Finance and Resources – Chief Financial Officer)

REASON FOR DECISION:

The report summarised the financial position of the Council following the first quarter's budget monitoring exercise for the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account, Capital Programme and Treasury Management activity.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The budget monitoring report for 2021/22 was primarily a factual report which detailed progress against previously approved budgets. Accordingly, there were no alternative options to consider.

EX29-21/22 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Clive Moesby
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 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].

PART 2 - EXEMPT ITEMS

KEY DECISIONS

EX30-21/22 LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE – THE ARC

Executive considered a report of the Portfolio Holder – Growth/Economic Development which provided an update on negotiations with Derbyshire County Council for a lease of office accommodation on the second floor at The Arc. It was proposed to enter into a new lease agreement, details of which were set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Steve Fritchley and seconded by Councillor Duncan McGregor
RESOLVED that –

- 1) The lease terms outlined in the report, which had been agreed with Derbyshire County

EXECUTIVE

Council in respect of occupying the top floor at The Arc, be noted.

- 2) The terms and conditions which had been negotiated on the basis of a market rent with Derbyshire County Council for a new lease term commencing 1 September 2021, be agreed.

(Assistant Director of Development and Planning)

REASON FOR DECISION:

The report set out the reasons for negotiating a new lease agreement with Derbyshire County Council. The new lease agreement secured income for the next ten years and ensured both parties had sufficient accommodation to meet their service needs.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Alternative options for accommodation were set out in the report and the reason these were not taken forward.

[Paragraph 3]

EX31-21/22 RENEWAL OF LEASE AT PLEASLEY VALE BUSINESS PARK - 2WL LIMITED

Executive considered a report of the Portfolio Holder – Growth/Economic Development which provided an update on a request to negotiate a new lease agreement for multiple units in Mills One and Two at Pleasley Vale Business Park. The report set out details of the proposed terms of a new lease agreement.

Moved by Councillor Steve Fritchley and seconded by Councillor Duncan McGregor
RESOLVED that –

- 1) the basis of lease terms proposed by Bolsover District Council as Landlord for agreement with 2WL Limited, be noted.
- 2) delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director of Strategy and Development to agree terms with 2WL Limited, building on the basis for the terms as set out in paragraphs 2.3 and 2.4 of the report.
- 3) delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director of Strategy and Development to agree a surrender of the existing lease and enter into a new lease agreement with 2WL Limited, subject to meeting (2) above.

(Assistant Director of Development and Planning)

REASON FOR DECISION:

The Council's priority, as set out in the Growth Strategy, was to work with partners to support enterprise, innovation, jobs and skills. Securing this ten-year tenancy at Pleasley Vale Business Park allowed the tenant to make investment in the premises to support its continued operation across the site.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

EXECUTIVE

An alternative option was to allow the current lease to run its course and continue through to expiry in 2026. The report set out what this option had been rejected.

[Paragraph 3]

EX32-21/22 RENEWAL OF LEASE AT PLEASLEY VALE BUSINESS PARK - SYLVAN ENTERPRISES OF SHERWOOD FOREST LIMITED

Executive considered a report of the Portfolio Holder – Growth/Economic Development which provided an update on a request to negotiate a new lease agreement for Unit AG, Mill One at Pleasley Vale Business Park. The report set out details of the proposed terms of a new lease agreement.

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Clive Moesby
RESOLVED that –

- 1) the basis of lease terms proposed by Bolsover District Council as Landlord for agreement with Sylvan Enterprises of Sherwood Forest Limited, be noted.
- 2) delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director of Strategy and Development to agree terms with Sylvan Enterprises of Sherwood Forest Limited, building on the basis for the terms as set out paragraphs 2.3 and 2.4 of the report.
- 3) delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director of Strategy and Development to agree a surrender of the existing lease and enter into a new lease agreement with Sylvan Enterprises of Sherwood Forest Limited, subject to meeting (2) above.

(Assistant Director of Development and Planning)

REASON FOR DECISION:

The Council's priority, as set out in the Growth Strategy, was to work with partners to support enterprise, innovation, jobs and skills. Securing this ten-year tenancy at Pleasley Vale Business Park allowed the tenant to make investment in the business needed to support it entering new markets, job creation and retention, as well as innovation in production methods.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

An alternative option was to allow the current lease to run its course and continue through to expiry in 2025. The report set out what this option had been rejected.

[Paragraph 3]

Councillors David Downes, Steve Fritchley and Sandra Peake left the meeting at this point.

Councillor Duncan McGregor took the Chair

EXECUTIVE

EX33-21/22 CREMATORIUM - FEASIBILITY REPORT AND DESIGN PROPOSALS

Executive considered a report of the Portfolio Holder – Growth/Economic Development which provided the outcome of initial feasibility works and outline business case that had been undertaken on a potential development of a crematorium in Shirebrook.

The Business Growth Manager gave a presentation to the meeting on the initial design proposals for the scheme.

Executive were supportive of the proposal for a crematorium but agreed that further consideration of some of the design proposals would be required.

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Clive Moesby
RESOLVED that –

- 1) the scheme proposals, as set out in the presentation, for development of a crematorium on the identified site in Shirebrook, be endorsed.
- 2) the establishment of a new company for delivering this scheme with Shirebrook Town Council, with an equity share arrangements for revenue, be supported.
- 3) the investment in the development of a crematorium at Shirebrook, as identified in the report, be subject to a future report to Council.

(Executive Director of Strategy and Development)

REASON FOR DECISION:

The scheme would provide a local cremation service for residents of the District as well as a revenue income for the Council. Further work was required to produce detailed design, undertake surveys and investigative works on the proposed site, and to produce a detailed cost plan for the scheme.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

An alternative location was identified elsewhere in the District as an option based on the desktop exercise of drive time analysis but there was no land available that could accommodate such a scheme. The Council could do nothing but there was a good case for this scheme to go ahead.

[Paragraph 3]

The meeting concluded at 11:26 hours.