

EXECUTIVE

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne, on Monday 26th January 2026 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor Donna Hales in the Chair

Councillors:- Mary Dooley, Rob Hiney-Saunders, Clive Moesby, Tom Munro, John Ritchie, and Phil Smith

Officers: - Karen Hanson (Chief Executive), Jim Fieldsend (Monitoring Officer), Theresa Fletcher (Section 151 Officer), Steve Brunt (Strategic Director of Services), Sarah Kay (Interim Strategic Director Economic Growth), Deborah Whallett (Housing Services Manager), Pam Coogan (Housing Innovation and Rents Manager), Cheryl Staples (Programme & Projects Officer), (Natalie Etches (Head of Business Growth, Dragonfly Management (Bolsover) Ltd)), Sally Lovell (Business Estates Manager) and Alison Bluff (Senior Governance Officer).

EX180-25/26. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Jane Yates.

EX181-25/26. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business.

EX182-25/26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Agenda Item 8 - Medium Term Financial Plan 2025/26 - 2029/30 (this agenda)

The Monitoring Officer advised Members that they were required to declare at this meeting, and at the meeting of Council on 28th January 2026, of any council tax arrears they had that were two months or more in arrears, and also if they rented their homes from the Council. If any Member had council tax arrears of two months or more, they would not be able to vote on the above agenda item at this meeting or the meeting of Council; if a Member rented their home from the Council they would require a dispensation to be able to take part in the decision both at this meeting and at the Council meeting.

Councillor Dooley and Councillor Moesby both declared that they rented their homes from the Council.

EX183-25/26. MINUTES – 1st DECEMBER 2025

Moved by Councillor John Ritchie and seconded by Councillor Tom Munro
RESOLVED that the Minutes of an Executive meeting held on 1st December 2025 be approved as a correct record.

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EX184-25/26.

EXTRAORDINARY MINUTES – 17TH DECEMBER 2025

Moved by Councillor Clive Moesby and seconded by Councillor John Ritchie
RESOLVED that the Minutes of an Extraordinary Executive meeting held on 17th
December 2025 be approved as a correct record.

EX185-25/26.

RENT COLLECTION POLICY

Executive considered a detailed report presented by Councillor Phil Smith, Portfolio Holder for Housing, in relation to the Council's updated rent collection policy which was attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

The policy had been reviewed and updated to reflect a number of amendments and additions which were shown as tracked changes in the document. The policy explained the Council's approach to prevention and collection of rent arrears.

The Council would take a firm but fair approach in ensuring that tenants had available financial expertise to resolve any difficulties they had. The Council would not tolerate tenants who were unwilling to pay debt nor receive help, and legal action would be taken where necessary.

The policy clearly defined the Council's commitment to equality and proportionality within the rent management processes and in delivering the policy, would ensure that no individual was discriminated against on grounds of marital status, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, racial discrimination, personal attributes, including religious beliefs or political opinions. The policy also ensured compliance with the Pre Action Protocol for Possession Claims by Social Landlords.

Moved by Councillor Phil Smith and seconded by Councillor Tom Munro
RESOLVED that the updated Rent Collection Policy be approved and adopted.

REASON FOR DECISION:

It was considered good practice to have a policy which set the Council's approach to prevention and collection of rent; the updated policy reflected updated processes and aligned with current rent collection.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The Policy was considered necessary so that members of the public were aware of the Council's approach to prevention and collection of rent and debt.

EX186-25/26.

UPDATE IN RESPECT OF THE DRAGONFLY COUNCIL PLAN TARGETS AND KPIS FOR QUARTER 2 2025/26

Executive considered a detailed report which provided the updated Council Plan targets and performance KPIS for Economic Development and Dragonfly, covering the Quarter 2 period (1/10/25 – 31/12/25).

In response to a Member's query regarding the Roseland Crematorium, the Head of Business Growth, Dragonfly Management (Bolsover) Ltd), advised that the building was progressing well to completion and a handover date was being looked at for late February, early March. Some crematorium staff had been recruited, and further staff

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would be recruited soon. The Business Growth team were working hard to get the crematorium operationally set up and also working with Environmental Health on the permit. A site visit would be arranged for Members when the facility was completed.

Councillor Hales thanked the Head of Business Growth for the update and the Programme & Projects Officer, who was also looking at changing how performance indicators were reported and presented to Members in the future.

Moved by Councillor Donna Hales and seconded by Councillor Phil Smith

RESOLVED that quarterly outturns against the Council Plan 2024-2028 targets be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION:

This was an information report to keep Members informed of progress against the Council Plan targets noting achievements and any areas of concern. Following the previous request of Members at the Executive on 1st December 2025, updated reports in respect of Dragonfly had been provided in respect of Q2.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Not applicable to this report, as information provision (i.e., an overview of performance against agreed targets) only.

The Programme & Projects Officer left the meeting.

EX187-25/26.

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2025/26 - 2029/30

Executive considered a detailed report and a slide presentation by the Section 151 Officer, which provided information regarding the current budget for 2025/26 and the proposed budget for 2026/27, for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme as part of the Council's Medium-Term Financial Plan, covering the years 2025/26 to 2029/30, prior to the report being presented to Council.

Further to Executive considering the report and appendices, the recommendations agreed by Members would be referred to Council on 28th January 2026 for consideration and approval.

As Members were aware, a number of Council services had been provided by Dragonfly Management (Bolsover) Ltd, for the last three years, and that Project Eiffel Tower had been established to manage the transition of Dragonfly staff and services back to the Council by 31st March 2026. The figures within the report for the years 2026/27 – 2029/30 had been produced as though this was successfully achieved from 1st April 2026. For the purposes of the report, the figures had been provided under the existing reporting structure. Once the new structure was implemented, the figures for all of the Council's services would be shown under the new structure.

Moved by Councillor Clive Moesby and seconded by Councillor John Ritchie

RESOLVED that all recommendations below be referred to the meeting of Council on 28th January 2026;

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X1 That in the view of the Section 151 Officer, that the estimates included in the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2025/26 to 2029/30 are robust and that the level of financial reserves whilst at minimum levels are adequate, be accepted.

X2 That officers report back to Executive and to the Finance and Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis regarding the overall position in respect of the Council's budgets.

GENERAL FUND

X3 A Council Tax increase of £6.25 is levied in respect of a notional Band D property (2.99%).

X4 The Medium-Term Financial Plan in respect of the General Fund as set out in Appendix 1 of this report be approved as the Revised Budget 2025/26, as the Original Budget in respect of 2026/27, and the financial projection in respect of 2027/28 to 2029/30.

X5 That any further under spend in respect of 2025/26 is transferred to the Council's General Fund Reserves.

X6 On the basis that income from Planning Fees may exceed £0.500m in 2025/26, the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Leader be granted delegated powers to authorise such additional resources as are necessary to effectively manage the resultant increase in workload.

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

X7 That Council increases its rent levels by 4.8% to apply from 1st April 2026.

X8 That the increase in respect of other charges as outlined in Appendix 4, Table 1 be implemented with effect from 1st April 2026.

X9 The Medium-Term Financial Plan in respect of the Housing Revenue Account as set out in Appendix 3 and 4 of this report be approved as the Revised Budget in respect of 2025/26, as the Original Budget in respect of 2026/27, and the financial projection in respect of 2027/28 to 2029/30.

X10 That under spends in respect of 2025/26 to 2029/30 are transferred to the HRA Development Reserve.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME

X11 That the Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 5 be approved as the Revised Budget in respect of 2025/26, and as the Approved Programme for 2026/27 to 2029/30.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The report presented a budget for approval by Council. It sought to ensure approval to budgets in respect of the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account, and the Capital Programme.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Alternative options were considered throughout the report.

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The Housing Services Manager and the Housing Innovation and Rents Manager left the meeting.

EX188-25/26. THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Moved by Councillor Donna Hales and seconded by Councillor John Ritchie
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.

EX189-25/26. COMPENSATION CLAIMS FOR TENANTS IN MILL 1 AT PLEASLEY VALE BUSINESS PARK EXEMPT PARAGRAPH 3

Executive considered a detailed report, which sought Members approval to pay compensation claims received from tenants at Pleasley Vale Business Park who had suffered losses as a result of the temporary closure of Mill 1 between 13th and 17th October 2025.

RESOLVED that 1) the compensation payments as outlined in the report be approved, subject to the conditions outlined in the recommendation,

2) in the event of any changes to the figures, a further report be presented to Executive for approval before any payments were made.

REASON FOR DECISION:

As outlined in the report.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

As outlined in the report.

The meeting concluded at 1050 hours.