

## NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

14 February 2022

Present: Councillor D Wright in the Chair

Councillors Bell, Dirveiks, Gosling, Hayfield, D Humphreys, Jenns, Morson, H Phillips, Reilly, Simpson and Symonds.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chambers (Substitute Councillor H Phillips) and Deakin (Substitute Councillor Dirveiks).

Councillor D Clews was also in attendance.

#### 43 **Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest**

None were declared at the meeting.

#### 44 **Minutes of the Executive Board held on 22 November 2021**

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 22 November 2021, copies having been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 45 **Key Corporate Issues**

The Chief Executive drew Members' attention to the key corporate issues facing the Council in the mid-term and sought to assist them in addressing those issues during the proposed light touch review of the current Corporate Plan.

##### **Resolved:**

- a **That the issues raised in the report of the Chief Executive be noted;**
- b **That the latest performance report be noted; and**
- c **That the Member Performance Working Group considers any necessary changes to the Corporate Plan for the 2022/23 financial year and the Chief Executive be given delegated powers to implement those changes.**

46 **The Capital Strategy**

The Corporate Director – Resources gave an update on the Capital Strategy approved by the Council in February 2021.

**Recommended:**

**That the Capital Strategy, attached at Appendix A to the report of the Corporate Director – Resources, be approved**

47 **The Proposed 3 Year Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2024/25**

Management Team put forward proposals for the 3 Year Capital Programme and outlined the availability of capital resources and the options to meet any shortfalls.

**Recommended:**

- a **That the Revised Capital Programme for 2021/22, as set out in Appendix A to the report of Management Team, be adopted;**
- b **That the 3 Year Capital Programme for the period 2022/23 to 2024/25, as set out in Appendix B to the report of Management Team be adopted; and**
- c **That the prudential indicators, as set out in Section 9 of the report of Management Team, be approved.**

*(To consider the Minority Report request in relation to this item, subject to the required number of signatures being received in accordance with Standing Orders).*

48 **General Fund Revenue Estimates 2022/23**

The Corporate Director - Resources reported on the revised budget for 2021/22 and an estimate of expenditure for 2022/23, together with forward commitments for 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26.

**Recommended:**

- a **That the revised budget for 2021/22 be accepted; and**
- b **That the Estimates of Expenditure for 2022/23, as submitted in the report of the Corporate Director – Resources, be included in the overall budget considered in a later agenda item.**

*(To consider the Minority Report request in relation to this item, subject to the required number of signatures being received in accordance with Standing Orders).*

49 **General Fund Revenue Estimates 2022/23 and Setting the Council Tax 2022/23**

The Corporate Director – Resources set out the proposed General Fund Revenue Estimate for 2022/23 and the options available when setting the 2022/23 Council Tax for the Borough in the context of the Authority's Finance Settlement, and the effect on General Fund balances

**Recommended:**

- a **That the savings of £525,520, as detailed in Appendix H to the report of the Corporate Director – Resources, be approved;**
- b **That the revised estimate for the year 2021/22 and the revenue estimates for 2022/23 be approved;**
- c **That the Council Tax base for 2022/23, as set out in Appendix G to the report of the Corporate Director – Resources, be noted;**
- d **That a Council Tax increase of £5 for 2022/23 be approved;**
- e **That the Corporate Director – Resources, in consultation with the Chairman of Executive Board and Leader of the Opposition, be given delegated powers with regard to a Discretionary Policy for the Energy Price Council Tax Rebate highlighted in paragraph 7.7 of her report;**
- f **That the use of the Business Rate Reserve to fund capital expenditure on the MRF scheme be approved;**
- g **That the comments of the Corporate Director – Resources on the minimum acceptable level of general reserves be noted;**
- h **That the workforce estimates for the year 2022/23 as set out in Appendix L of the report of the Corporate Director – Resources, be approved; and**
- i **That the Council Tax resolution be prepared for consideration by the Council, using the recommendations agreed by this Board.**

50 **Planning Service Staffing Resource**

The Head of Development Control sought financial provision for a new Planning Enforcement Investigation Officer to be added to the permanent staffing structure.

**Resolved:**

**That resources be allocated to fund the creation of the post of Planning Enforcement Investigation Officer within the Planning Enforcement Team, anticipated to be at Scale 7 (subject to job evaluation).**

51 **Safeguarding Policy**

The Director of Leisure and Community Development asked the Board to consider a revised draft of the Borough Council's Safeguarding Policy and Procedure.

**Resolved:**

**That, subject to clarification of the liabilities associated with the use of Borough Council facilities by external organisations, the Safeguarding Policy and Procedure (April 2022 to March 2025), attached at Appendix A to the report of the Director of Leisure and Community Development, be adopted and implemented with immediate effect.**

52 **West Midlands Combined Authority No Homeless Veterans Campaign**

The Director of Housing provided the Board with information about the West Midlands Combined Authority's No Homeless Veterans Campaign and recommended that North Warwickshire Borough Council signed up as a participant.

**Resolved:**

**That the Director of Housing, as the Lead Champion, be given the authority to sign-up North Warwickshire Borough Council for the 'No Homeless Veterans Campaign'.**

53 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

**Resolved:**

**That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press 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 by Schedule 12A to the Act.**

54 **Confidential Extract of the Minutes of the of Executive Board held on 22 November 2021**

The confidential extract of the minutes of the Executive Board held on 22 November 2021, copies having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

David Wright  
CHAIRMAN