

## NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT BOARD

23 January 2012

Present: Councillor Phillips in the Chair

Councillors L Dirveiks, Ferro, Fox, Freer, Lewis, May, M Moss and Payne.

Councillors Fowler and Sweet were also in attendance. With the consent of the Chairman Councillor Fowler spoke on Minute No 32 (Future Indoor Leisure Provision in Coleshill).

#### 24 **Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interests**

Any personal interests arising from the membership of Warwickshire County Council of Councillors Fox and May and membership of the various Town/Parish Councils of Councillors Fox (Shustoke), Freer (Atherstone), Lewis, M Moss and Phillips (Kingsbury), were deemed to be declared at the meeting.

#### 25 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2011, copies having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 26 **Presentation by Richard Dobbs - Assistant Director (Streetscape)**

The Assistant Director (Streetscape) gave a presentation on the work of his Division.

#### 27 **Corporate Plan 2012-13**

The Board's approval was sought for the Corporate Plan Key Actions for which it was responsible and to agree the 2012-13 Service Plans for the Leisure and Community Development, Streetscape and Environmental Divisions.

#### **Recommendation to the Executive Board:**

- a That those Corporate Plan Key Actions as set out in Appendix A to the report of the Chief Executive for which the Community and Environment Board was responsible be agreed; and**

**Resolved:**

- b That the Service Plans as set out in Appendix B to the report of the Chief Executive be approved.**

**28 General Fund Fees and Charges 2012/2013**

The Board was asked to consider the fees and charges for 2011/12 and the proposed fees and charges for 2012/13.

**Resolved:**

**That the schedule of fees and charges for 2012/13, as set out in the report, be accepted.**

**29 General Fund Revenue Estimates 2012/13**

The Deputy Chief Executive presented the revised budget for 2011/12 and an estimate of expenditure for 2012/13, together with forward commitments for 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16.

**Resolved:**

- a That the revised budget for 2011/12 be accepted; and**

**Recommendation to Executive Board:**

- b That the Estimates of Expenditure for 2012/13, as submitted in the report of the Deputy Chief Executive, be included in the budget to be brought before the meeting of the Board on 6 February 2012.**

**30 Capital Programme 2012/13 to 2014/15**

The Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) detailed proposals for schemes to be included within the Council's capital programme over the next three years.

**Resolved:**

- a That the Board supports the scheme previously approved within the Council's three-year capital programme; and**
- b That the schemes which will not be included within the capital programme, be noted.**

## 31 Financial Assistance to Outside Organisations

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) detailed two requests for assistance through the provision of an annual grant; one from Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action (WCAVA) for funding towards the final year of its three-year countywide agreement and the other from North Warwickshire Citizens Advice Bureau (NW CAB). The Board was also asked to consider the means by which the Authority could support the undertaking of community-based activities in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

### **Resolved:**

- a That the progress made by WCAVA in its delivery of Volunteer and Third Sector Support Services (VATS Services) in Warwickshire, be noted and that funding for the final year of its three-year countywide contract, as identified in the main body of the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development), be approved;**
- b That the draft 2012 Service Level Agreement be approved for further negotiation with NW CAB and that the proposed financial award for 2012/13 be approved and administered as indicated in the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development), including the provision for the second instalment to be made subject to the prior agreement of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board; and**
- c That each Area Forum set aside a minimum of £1,000 from its 2012/13 allocation to support community groups that wish to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee; that Area Forums be granted discretion to allocate more than £1,000 for this purpose should they so wish and that any Diamond Jubilee grants be provided and administered as identified in the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development).**

## 32 Future Indoor Leisure Provision in Coleshill

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) updated the Board on the condition of Coleshill Leisure Centre, outlined progress in respect of the work being undertaken to protect the future of indoor leisure provision in the town and sought guidance on which, if any, options should be advanced through detailed external appraisal, discussion with potential partners and consultation with the local community.

**Resolved:**

- a That site options 2 and 3 and build options B and D, as set out in the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) to protect the future of indoor leisure provision in Coleshill, be progressed through detailed external appraisal, further discussion with potential partners and renewed consultation with the local community, and that a subsequent further report be presented to the Board; and**

**Recommendation to Executive Board:**

- b That in order to fund the external appraisal of the options selected for investigation to protect the future of indoor leisure provision in Coleshill, a supplementary estimate of £15,000 be included in the budget to be brought before the meeting of the Board on 6 February 2012.**

**33 Parks, Open Spaces and Horticultural Service and Grounds Maintenance Service Review**

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) updated the Board with regard to the annual benchmarking exercise for parks, open spaces and horticultural services and advised on progress of the Grounds Maintenance Service Review, with particular reference to the grass cutting service provided on behalf of both this Authority and Warwickshire County Council.

**Resolved:**

- a That the performance of the Parks, Open Spaces and Horticultural Service, be noted;**
- b That the actions taken in respect of the first phase of implementation of the new Grounds Maintenance Specification, be noted; and**
- c That the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) be authorised to enter into negotiations with Warwickshire County Council in respect of the grass cutting service currently provided to that authority and that the outcome of these negotiations be reported back to a future meeting of the Board.**

## 34 North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy Progress Report

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) informed the Board of progress in respect of delivery against the priorities set out in the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy and presented the supporting Action Plan for Year 5 of the Strategy for approval.

Proposals for partnership working in respect of Daw Mill Sports Ground in Hurley and Piccadilly Community Centre and Sports Field were presented for approval in principle.

Members were also informed of the opportunity to allocate Section 106 money to advance a number of projects that will contribute to delivery of priorities identified in the Green Space Strategy in the Birch Coppice area and approval was sought for a framework for delivery.

### **Resolved:**

- a That progress in respect of the implementation of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy Action Plan, be noted;**
- b That in principle the proposed work with local sports clubs to advance improvements to the Daw Mill Sports Ground and to determine a preferred option for long term tenure of the site by one of the clubs for future consideration by the Board, be approved;**
- c That in principle the proposed work with Piccadilly Community Association to advance improvements to the Community Centre and Sports Field and to determine a preferred option for future tenure and management of the site for future consideration of the Board, be approved;**
- d That the framework for the proposed use of Section 106 money to advance projects that deliver priorities set out in the Green Space Strategy within the Birch Coppice area, be approved; and**
- e That the proposed use of money held in the Grounds Maintenance and Green Space Strategy reserve to fund the production of management plans for Kitwood Avenue and Long Street Recreation Grounds, Dordon, be approved.**

35 **Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April – September 2011**

Members were informed of the progress with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Board for April to September 2011.

**Resolved:**

**That the report be noted.**

H Phillips  
Chairman