

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT BOARD

28 September 2009

Present: Councillor May in the Chair

Councillors L Dirveiks, Freer, Gordon, Lewis, M Moss, Pickard, Sherratt and Smitten.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fox, Payne, Phillips, Y Stanley and Wykes.

Councillor Sweet was also in attendance and with the consent of the Chairman spoke on Minute No. 14 Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April 2009-June 2009 and Minute No. 15 Financial Assistance to Outside Organisations.

10 **Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interests**

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

11 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2009, copies having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

12 **Budgetary Control Report 2009/2010 Period Ended 31 August 2009**

The Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) reported on the expenditure and income from the period 1 April 2009 to 31 August 2009.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

13 **Leisure Facilities – Bank Holiday Closure**

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) sought the Board's approval for the Bank Holiday closure of the leisure facilities during 2010/11 and also informed Members of the impending extended closure of Atherstone Swimming Pool for essential repairs to the Glu Lam Beams.

Resolved:

- a That the schedule of leisure facility closures, as set out in paragraph 3.3 of the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development), be approved; and**

- b That the extended closure period at Atherstone Swimming Pool, consequent upon the previously reported need to effect essential repairs to the Glu Lam Beams, be noted.**

14 Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April 2009 – June 2009

The Board was informed of the actual performance and achievement against the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Community and Environment Board for the first quarter April 2009 to June 2009.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

15 Financial Assistance to Outside Organisations

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) informed the Board of the delay to reporting on progress by Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action – North Warwickshire (WCAVA – NW) and North Warwickshire Citizens Advice Bureau (NW CAB) and provided an update on the current position with regard to the countywide tender for “Voluntary and Third Sector Support Services”. Additionally, the Board was asked to note the support being provided to Warwickshire Rural Community Council and further consider the future working relationship with this organisation.

Resolved:

- a That the countywide proposal that the Volunteer and Third Sector Support Services in Warwickshire are to be jointly monitored through the “Grant Agreement for Third Sector Support Services and Volunteer Development Services in Warwickshire 2009-10” in line with the Third Sector Strategy timetable, and that a full six monthly update report on services in North Warwickshire be provided in October 2009, be noted;**
- b That following successful six monthly reviews of the CAB and WCAVA, the Assistant Director (Community and Development) in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board, be authorised to release half-yearly payments to these organisations in accordance with the approved Service Level Agreements;**
- c That the “Principles and Outcomes for Volunteering and Third Sector Support Services in Warwickshire (VATS Service)”, attached at Appendix B to the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development), and that this agreement will run for three years with effect from 1 April 2010, with the option to extend it for a further period, up to a maximum of three years both be noted;**

- d That in respect of recommendation (c) above, the Board agrees, in principle, to fund WCAVA for three years be subject to the revenue resources being available and that this issue be considered within the annual process of setting the Council's future revenue budgets;
- e That a review be undertaken of the services provided by WRCC and the funding provided through North Warwickshire Borough Council, with a view to identifying what should be the nature of any future relationship between these organisations; and
- f That an investigation of the current arrangements for supporting village shops in North Warwickshire be undertaken and options identified for future support programmes.

16 Leisure and Community Development Division – Action Plans

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) informed Members of the progress that had been made in respect of achieving the actions identified in the Leisure and Community Development Division's approved 2009/10 action plans (Partnership and Development, Landscape Management and Leisure Facilities sections).

Resolved:

That the progress made by the Partnership and Development, Landscape Management and Leisure Facilities sections of the Leisure and Community Development Division in achieving the outcomes identified in the corresponding service action plans, be noted.

17 Free Swimming Programme Updates

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) updated the Board on the initial impact of the Borough Council's involvement in the Government's two-year Free Swimming Programme, which commenced at Atherstone Swimming Pool on 1 April 2009.

Resolved:

- a **That the positive impact on participation levels further to the Borough Council's decision to engage in the Government's two-year Free Swimming Programme, be noted; and**
- b **That a letter be sent to the Department for Culture Media and Sport in support of the Government's Free Swimming Programme and that it be urged to continue to fund the Programme beyond the currently anticipated conclusion of the scheme in 2010/11.**

18 **LEADER Project Progress Report**

The Director of Community and Environment updated the Board on the progress of the LEADER Project.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

19 **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.

20 **Leisure Facility Opening Hours**

The Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development) detailed proposed changes to the hours of operation of a number of the Council's leisure facilities and outlined the consequent financial and human resource implications of any such changes.

Resolved:

- a That the changes to the opening hours at the Council's leisure facilities in Coleshill and Polesworth, as detailed in the report of the Assistant Director (Leisure and Community Development,) be agreed and implemented at the earliest available opportunity;**
- b That following consultation with the unions and staff directly affected by the changes identified in the report, the human resource implications thereof be reported to Resources Board; and**
- c That a decision relating to the proposed changes at Atherstone Leisure Complex be deferred and that an options appraisal report be brought back to the Board.**

M.MAY
Chairman