

Executive Committee

20 May 2009

Notice of Decisions

Present:

Councillor Carole Gandy (Chair), Councillor Michael Braley (Vice-Chair) and Councillors P Anderson, J Brunner, B Clayton, W Hartnett, N Hicks, C MacMillan and M Shurmer

Also Present

Councillors A Clayton and J Field

Officers:

C Flanagan, E Hopkins, R Kindon, T Kristunas, G Revans, J Staniland, E Storer, A Teepe, J Walker and D Wright

Committee Services Officer:

D Sunman

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence from members of the Executive Committee.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Smith as it had been his intention to be present for Item 10, Housing Mutual Exchange Task and Finish Group – Recommendations.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Hartnett declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in Item 8, Easemore Road – Sale of Land and Consortium Update, as a member of a Registered Social Landlord (Redditch Co-op Homes).

3. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader advised that she had accepted the following matter as Urgent Business:

Item 11 – Referral from the Member Development Steering Group.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meetings held on 1 April and 22 April 2009 be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chair.

5. ANNUAL CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

RESOLVED that

the work on Health and Safety be noted and the Health and Safety work programme outlined for the following year be endorsed and supported.

6. HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION AND AFFORDABLE WARMTH

RESOLVED that

- 1) applications be invited from house owners in the Borough aged 60 or over, living in a Council Tax band A to D property and not in full time employment or in receipt of benefits, to have loft and / or cavity wall insulation installed in their homes;**
- 2) applications be invited from accredited private landlords in the Borough, owning tenanted properties in a Council Tax band A to D, to have loft and / or cavity wall insulation installed free of charge; and**
- 3) applications be invited from the owners of pre-1919 houses in the Town Centre area to apply for lifetime loans, to enable their homes to be adequately insulated and heated, on a non-means tested basis covering 50% of the cost of the work.**

7. PAOLOZZI MURAL TRUST

RECOMMENDED that

- 1) authority be delegated to the Legal Services Manager to take all necessary steps required by law to register the Trust as a charity with the Charity Commission;**

- 2) the Trust be registered as a charity with the name “Redditch Paolozzi Mural Trust;
- 3) the Leader of the Council and the Council’s Chief Finance Officer be appointed by the Council to perform the Council’s Trustee role for the Trust; and
- 4) the Trustees report any recommended spend to Executive Committee before distribution of funds.

8. EASEMORE ROAD - SALE OF LAND AND CONSORTIUM UPDATE

RESOLVED that

the Council lead the consortium and progress a sale of the combined site, for open market or affordable housing on the best terms possible, in agreement with the other members of the consortium.

(Prior to consideration of this item, and in accordance with the requirements of Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2000, Councillor Hartnett declared a personal, but not prejudicial interest in view of him being a Member of Registered Social Landlord (Redditch Coop Homes).

9. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 8 April 2009 be received and noted.

(There were no matters for the Executive Committee’s decision.)

10. HOUSING MUTUAL EXCHANGE TASK AND FINISH GROUP - RECOMMENDATIONS

RESOLVED that

subject to suitable rewording by Officers the following details be incorporated into the Council’s Housing Mutual Exchange Policy and Procedure:

“The Repair and Maintenance Officers should be employed to make the initial checks on each property to establish that no unauthorised alterations have been made to the properties and whether any rechargeable works need to be undertaken.

Any defects should be photographed and the details placed on file together with written reports concerning both properties.

Electrical tests for both properties should be arranged by Repairs and Maintenance.

The Tenancy Officer who is responsible for the mutual exchange together with the tenants involved should be advised in writing of any works required to be undertaken by them or the Council.

Normal Housing Mutual Exchange and Home Swap procedures should commence after the actions listed above have been completed satisfactorily. (i.e. the Tenancy Officer responsible for the exchange should visit both properties with both tenants).”

11. MINUTES / REFERRALS - MEMBER DEVELOPMENT STEERING GROUP 6 MAY 2009

RESOLVED that

- 1) in the light of recent Council budget decisions, the Member Support budget be divided to now provide £300 for each Member’s individual support needs and £200 x 29 = £5,800 to be held centrally for Member Development purposes;**
- 2) individual Members’ existing commitments above £300 (and up to £500) be honoured at the present time;**
- 3) the budgetary situation be reviewed at half year;**
- 4) no new IT equipment be provided to Members until the question of funding is settled; and**
- 5) consideration be given to the baseline provision of equipment to Members, and how this might be established, with a view to its implementation in May**

2010, subject to the Council's approval of the necessary bids.

(This report had been accepted as a matter of Urgent Business - not having met the publication deadline - and was considered at the meeting as such, with the approval of the Chair, in accordance with the Council's constitutional rules and powers vested in the Chair by virtue of Section 100 (B) (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972 to agree matters of urgency being discussed by reason of special circumstances.

In this case the special circumstances were that the information, which was not available at the time of the agenda going to print, was required to be considered at the present meeting to provide clarification of an earlier Council decision and allow officers to allocate money from these budgets.)

12. REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL ESTABLISHMENT

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

(Officers to provide information on employment of Agency staff to Councillor Hartnett)

13. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

14. ACTION MONITORING

Members noted the Action Monitoring report.

15. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES / REFERRALS (IF ANY)

No Confidential Minutes or Referrals were discussed.