

Executive Committee

7th October 2009

Notice of Decisions

Present:

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

Officers:

J Bough, M Bough, J Braithwaite, S Hanley, R Kindon, S Mullins, G Revans, A Rutt and P Wilkins

Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

141. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors B Clayton and Gandy.

142. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Anderson declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 11 (Minutes / Referrals - Urgent Recommendation from the Grants Panel) as detailed separately at Minute 151 below.

143. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair advised that the following items of business, scheduled on the Forward Plan to be dealt with at this meeting, had been rescheduled to a later meeting:

- Energy Strategy
- Easemore Road Community House – Options Appraisal

The Chair also advised that he had accepted the following matters as Urgent Business:

- Item 5 - Overview and Scrutiny Committee referral in respect of the Joint Municipal Waste Strategy;
- Item 11 - Minutes / Referrals – Urgent Recommendation from the Grants Panel in respect of the grant application from the Caribbean Roots Connection; and

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Chair

Item 15 - REDI Centre – Leasing Options

(Not meeting the publication deadline)

144. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 12th and 26th August 2009 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

145. JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE STRATEGY

RECOMMENDED that:

- 1) the Council endorses the reviewed Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and agrees the adoption of the revised Strategy for Herefordshire and Worcestershire, subject to full consideration of the business case for the collection of garden waste;**
- 2) the Council requests that the County Council provides Worcestershire District Councils with suitable financial support to better enable the authorities to work jointly toward the goals set in the JMWMS. The Head of Environment be delegated responsibility to undertake such negotiations in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Local Environment and Health;**
- 3) the Council requests that Worcestershire County Council work with the District Councils to identify any efficiency savings on waste collection and disposal that arise from the revised JMWMS that can be shared amongst the Partners;**
- 4) the Council thank the drafting team of Richard Woodward (Worcestershire County Council), Kenton Vigus (Herefordshire Council) and Sue Horrobin (Redditch Borough Council) for their work producing this document and Bobbie Ashby (Redditch Borough Council) for her graphic design work on both the questionnaire and the final Headline Strategy document.**

146. DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT AND THE LIFETIME GRANT

RESOLVED that

- 1) the contents of the report relating to budget spend for the Disabled Facilities Grant and Lifetime Grant for 2009/10 be noted; and**

RECOMMENDED that

- 2) a re-allocation of funding in the sum of £50,000 from the existing Lifetime Grant capital funding for 2009/10, to the Disabled Facilities Grant funding be approved.**

(Officers undertook to provide a written response to Members in respect of the use, if any, that the Council made of second hand equipment, particularly stairlifts.)

The Chair proposed that the investigation of possible actions to reduce the Priority waiting list be referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.)

147. PLANNING APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS - NATIONAL CHANGES

RESOLVED that

the response at Appendix 2 to Communities and Local Government regarding the consultation document 'Streamlining information requirements for planning applications' be endorsed and submitted.

148. PUBLICATION OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS - CONSULTATION

RESOLVED that

the response at Appendix 2 to Communities and Local Government regarding the consultation document 'Publicity for Planning Applications' be endorsed and submitted.

(Officers were asked to consider a slight expansion of the circulation of notifications of planning applications should these new measures come into effect.)

149. INCREASED PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS

RESOLVED that

the response at Appendix 2 to Communities and Local Government regarding the consultation document 'Improving Permitted Development' be endorsed and submitted.

150. IRRECOVERABLE DEBTS

RESOLVED that

the debts totalling £47,922.19 as detailed in the Schedule attached to the report be written off as irrecoverable.

(It was noted that the Portfolio Holder had requested a briefing for Members on the processes involved in the recovery and write off of debts relating to the Council's property.)

(During the consideration of this item, Members discussed matters that necessitated the disclosure of exempt information. It was therefore agreed to move to exclude the press and public prior to any debate on the grounds that information would be revealed concerning the personal details of individuals.

There is nothing exempt, however, in this record of the proceedings.)

151. MINUTES / REFERRALS - URGENT RECOMMENDATION FROM THE GRANTS PANEL

(During the consideration of this item, Members discussed matters that necessitated the disclosure of exempt information. It was therefore agreed to move to exclude the press and public prior to any debate on the grounds that information would be revealed in respect of the financial or business affairs of other organisations, including the authority holding that information.)

(Prior to consideration of this item, and in accordance with the requirements of Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2000, Councillor Anderson declared a personal and prejudicial interests in view of his involvement in a local voluntary sector organisation, and withdrew from the meeting.)

152. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

(It was noted that there was to be a meeting of the Planning Advisory panel on Tuesday, 20th October 2009, to which all Members would be invited, at which an update on the Regional Spatial Strategy would be provided.)

153. ACTION MONITORING

Members noted the Action Monitoring Sheet.

154. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED that

under S.100 I of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following matters on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the said Act, as amended.

Irrecoverable Debts (as detailed at Minute 150 above);

Minutes / Referrals – Urgent Recommendation from the Grants Panel (as detailed at Minute 151 above);

REDI Centre – Leasing Proposals (as detailed at Minute 155 below);

155. REDI CENTRE - LEASING OPTIONS

(Officers undertook to provide Councillor Hartnett with an estimate of the capital value of the property following the meeting.)

(During the consideration of this item, Members discussed matters that necessitated the disclosure of exempt information. It was therefore agreed to move to exclude the press and public prior to any debate on the grounds that information would be revealed which could reveal provisional terms of land disposal subject to negotiation which may affect the Council's bargaining position with prospective tenants.)

Executive

Committee

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The Meeting commenced at 7.05 pm
and closed at 9.10 pm