



EXECUTIVE

5.30 p.m. – 6.25 p.m.

10 March 2010

Present: Councillors Morphew (Chair), Morrey (Vice-Chair), Arthur, Blakeway, Bremner, Brociek-Coulton (from item 6), Sands and Waters

Also present: Councillors Lubbock and Stephenson

1. MINUTES

RESOLVED to agree the accuracy of the minutes of the Executive meeting held on 24 February 2010.

2. HOUSING PEER REVIEW

The Chair advised members that following the visit from the Housing Peer Review team the Council had received very positive comments.

Councillor Arthur, Executive Member for Housing and Adult Services, said the Peer Review team was impressed with the commitment of officers to deliver improved services and they were leading by good example.

3. REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Head of Planning and Regeneration presented the report. Members were advised that the review was required every two years to set out a new approach. Final changes had been made and had been discussed at the Local Development Framework Working Party.

RESOLVED to approve –

- (1) the final Statement of Community Involvement for adoption;
- (2) that the Director of Regeneration and Development be delegated authority in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Sustainable City Development, to agree minor changes to Statement of Community Involvement.

4. NORTHERN CITY CENTRE AREA ACTION PLAN

The Head of Planning and Regeneration presented the report. He advised members that this had been a major priority for some years, following a public examination and the inspectors report there were no further substantive changes to the action plan.

RESOLVED to –

- (1) recommend that Council resolves to adopt the Northern City Centre Area Action Plan;
- (2) note the delivery arrangements for the Northern City Centre Area Action Plan.

5. PLANNING SERVICE STANDARDS

The Head of Planning and Regeneration presented the report. Members were advised it was proposed that the service standards would be implemented and monitored from 1 May 2010 and not 1 April 2010 as stated.

In reply to a question from Councillor Morrey, Executive Members for Sustainable City Development on behalf of the Executive Member for Residents and Customer Care, the Head of Planning and Regeneration said that priorities would be looked at to deal with service complaints by giving a full response within 10 working days.

Councillor Lubbock welcomed the service standards and considered that this would help the planning process.

RESOLVED to –

- (1) agree the service standards for the Planning Service (as set out in Appendix 1 of the report), be publish on the website and made available to planning customers;
- (2) approve the proposals for pre-application advice and charging (as set out in Appendix 2 of the report);
- (3) agree that the Director of Regeneration and Development be delegated authority in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Sustainable City Development, to agree minor changes to service standards and pre-application charging.

6. UNITARY STATUS FOR NORWICH – PROPOSED MEMBERSHIP OF IMPLEMENTATION EXECUTIVE

The Director of Transformation presented the report and advised members in order to manage the transition to a unitary council there were a number of practical arrangements to be made and a need to be ready as soon as possible once the orders were in place. Norfolk County Council had suggested they would be prepared to nominate to their places on the Implementation Executive as soon as the orders were laid.

The Head of Legal, Regulatory and Democratic Services said until the orders were laid in parliament the Council had no powers to make recommendations.

The Chair said the Implementation Executive would have to achieve a large amount of business and discussion in the 12 month period and the agenda would need to be organised very soon, with meetings starting in April.

RESOLVED to –

- (1) note that the draft “Norwich and Norfolk (Structural Changes) Order 2010” sets out proposals for an Implementation Executive of 18 elected members, comprising 12 City Councillors and 6 City Councillors representing the city area;
- (2) agree that the 12 City Council seats on the Implementation Executive should be made up from:
6 Labour city councillors
4 Green city councillors
1 Liberal Democrat city councillor
1 Conservative city councillor
- (3) recommend that this be adopted by full Council, and that nominations to these roles be made;
- (3) note that additional allowances would be payable for these roles, and that this would need to be considered by an independent panel, which would make recommendations to the Implementation Executive.

7. GRANT TO THE VOLUNTARY AND NOT FOR PROFIT SECTORS

(Councillor Bremner declared a personal interest in this item, as a member of the Norfolk and Norwich Racial Equality Committee and left the room for this item.)

The Head of Communications and Cultural Services introduced the report and together with the Chief Executive answered specific questions relating to the amount of funding granted to the Norfolk and Norwich Festival. The Chief Executive said culture was very important to the City it was good for the economy, a means of engaging young people and a way of lifting aspirations. The Head of Communications and Cultural Services said that officers were working with the Central Norwich Residents Forum by looking at ways of unlocking funding and were also working with Gurdwara Shri Guru Ramdas Prakash to establish their requirements.

RESOLVED to award grants for the financial year 2010/2011 totalling £272,122:-

- (1) £10,000 to Age Concern and that Age Concern moves to a three year funding agreement;
- (2) £8,240 to BTCV and that BTCV moves to a three year funding agreement;
- (3) to defer the award to the Central Norwich Residents Forum;
- (4) to defer the award to Gurdwara Shri Guru Ramdas Prakash;

- (5) £56,872 to Norwich CAB and that Norwich CAB moves to a three year funding agreement;
- (6) £9,696 to the Norwich Fringe Project and that the Norwich Fringe Project moves to a one year funding agreement;
- (7) £12,977 to the Norwich Puppet Theatre and that the Norwich Puppet Theatre moves to a three year funding agreement;
- (8) £142,500 to the Norfolk and Norwich Festival and that the Norfolk and Norwich Festival moves to a three year funding agreement;
- (9) £10,579 to the Norfolk and Norwich Racial Equality Committee and that the Norfolk and Norwich Racial Equality Committee moves to a three year funding agreement;
- (10) £1,500 to the Norfolk Wildlife Trust and that the Norfolk Wildlife Trust moves to a three year funding agreement;
- (11) £5,000 to The Garage and that the Garage moves to a three year funding agreement;
- (12) £14,758 to The Norfolk and Norwich Heritage Trust and that the Norfolk and Norwich Heritage Trust moves to a one year funding agreement.

8. MOTIONS TO COUNCIL

The Head of Legal, Regulatory and Democratic Services presented the report.

Councillor Arthur pointed out that Councillor Lubbock's points on the representation on the Housing Improvement and Corporate Improvement and Efficiency Board had been made to the Peer Review.

In reply to Councillor Lubbock's comments on working parties the Chair said there were times when discussions between members and officers were needed without the public being present.

RESOLVED to note the current position on issues raised in motions passed by Council.

9. SCHEME OF DELEGATIONS

The Head of Legal, Regulatory and Democratic Services presented the report and informed members that Constitution Working Party had approved this and Portfolio Holders responsibilities remained the same.

RESOLVED to:-

- (1) approve the Scheme of Delegation to Officers (Appendix 8 of the Council's Constitution) as amended by the transferral of the following

functions from the Director of Corporate Resources to the Director of Regeneration and Development with effect from 1 April 2010:

- All the functions of the Council under any and all licensing, registration, and regulatory legislation.
 - All environmental protection (including food safety), emergency planning, disaster recovery, business continuity and health and safety functions.
- (2) recommend that Council approves and adopts the revised Scheme of Delegations to Officers at its meeting on 30 March 2010; and ask the Head of Legal, Regulatory and Democratic Services to amend the Constitution accordingly.

10. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of items 11 and 12 below on the grounds contained in the relevant paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

***11. DISPOSAL OF LAND AND ASSETS ADJACENT HALL ROAD, NORWICH (PARAGRAPH 1)**

The Property Services Manager presented the report.

The Executive Member for Corporate Resources and Governance welcomed the report and thanked the Property Services Manager for his perseverance and work to achieve this conclusion.

RESOLVED to endorse the recommendation to sell the land and assets as set out in the paragraph 3 of the report.

***12. FUTURE DELIVERY OF NON-HOUSING ASSET MANAGEMENT SERVICE (PARAGRAPH 3)**

RESOLVED to note this item was deferred to the next meeting of the Executive to be held on 24 March 2010.

CHAIR