

CITY EXECUTIVE BOARD

Wednesday 13 January 2010

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: The Chair (Councillor Bob Price), The Vice-Chair (Councillor Ed Turner), Councillors Colin Cook, Joe McManners, John Tanner, Bob Timbs and Oscar Van Nooijen.

123. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Antonia Bance.

124. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Tanner declared a personal interest in agenda item 10 (Cardinal House and Lambourn Road – Tender Approval) as a Board Member for A2 Dominion.

125. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

126. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Scrutiny Committee reports submitted to the meeting.

127. ELDERLY SERVICES TENDERING EXERCISES

The Head of Community Housing and Community Development submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) informing the Board of the process being undertaken with respect to submitting the City Council's bid in relation to the tendering exercise.

Resolved:-

- (1) To authorise the Chief Executive to write to the Chief Executive of Oxfordshire County Council raising the Council's concerns about both the proposed reduction in service levels for City residents and the material deficiencies that had occurred in the tender process; such letter to include, if the Chief Executive deemed it appropriate, a request that the County Council cancel the current tender process;

- (2) To endorse the bids, and to delegate to the Executive Director, City Regeneration the power to enter into relevant contracts should those bids be successful; and
- (3) Otherwise to note the report.

128. NEW BUILD COMPETITION POOL

The Head of City Leisure submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) seeking the Board's approval of the initial business case for the pool as well as additional funding to spend on the design and feasibility work process.

Councillor Young addressed the Board voicing concerns from residents on the proposed closure of the Temple Cowley Pool facility.

Resolved:-

- (1) To approve the final feasibility and design fees expenditure and note that this would be funding by a virement from another capital scheme in 2009/10 and form part of the Council's Capital Budget in 2010/11;
- (2) To approve the outline business case and that further development of the business case and financial appraisal in line with different design options for the new competition pool be undertaken;
- (3) That delegated authority be given to the Executive Director, City Services to appoint the Design Team and Project Manager for the new competition pool; and
- (4) To approve the start of the associated consultation processes.

129. PROPOSED EXPENDITURE OF FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO THE COUNCIL UNDER PLANNING AGREEMENTS

The Head of City Development submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) seeking the Board's endorsement for Council to allocate developer funded schemes into the Capital Programme.

Resolved to RECOMMEND Council to agree to the inclusion of new developer funded schemes to be added to the Capital Programme and additional contributions to developer funded schemes already in the Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

130. EXTERNAL PAINTING AND ASSOCIATED REPAIRS – TENDER APPROVAL

The Head of Oxford City Homes submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) seeking approval to accept a tender for external painting and associated repairs for the Council's housing stock.

Resolved that the lowest tender for external painting and associated repairs in the total sum of £576,464.50 submitted by Jones and Reeves be accepted.

131. COUNCIL TAX BASE 2010/11

The Heads of Finance submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) seeking the Board's endorsement of the proposed Council Tax Base for 2010/11.

Resolved to RECOMMEND Council that: -

- (1) The 2010/11 Council Tax Base for the City Council's area as a whole be set at 46,680 (calculation shown in Appendix 1 to the report);
- (2) The projected level of collection be set at 98%; and
- (3) The following tax bases for each of the parishes, and for the Unparished area (calculations shown in Appendix 2 to the report) be set at:

Unparished Area of the City 38,253
Littlemore Parish 1,917
Old Marston Parish 1,298
Risinghurst and Sandhills Parish 1,526
Blackbird Leys Parish 3,686

City Council Total 46,680

132. CARDINAL HOUSE AND LAMBOURN ROAD REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT UPDATE AND TENDER APPROVALS

The Head of Oxford City Homes and The Head of Corporate Assets submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) updating the Board on progress to date, seeking agreement from the Board to recommend Council to vary the Council's budget and seeking approval to accept tenders for construction work.

Resolved:-

- (1) To authorise the Council's entry into the standard Grant Agreement with the Homes and Communities Agency that would allow the Council to receive the allocated National Affordable Housing Programme Grant

(NAHPG) required to deliver schemes for Cardinal House and Lambourn Road;

- (2) To note that the purchase of 6 Lambourn Road (undertaken under officer delegation) was due to take place on the basis indicated in the report in order to achieve vacant possession of the Lambourn Road site;
- (3) To endorse the enhanced project management arrangements that had been put in place to support delivery of the projects;
- (4) To agree to exercise its right (as set out in section 20.1 of the Constitution) to waive the contract rules for the reasons set out in the report in regard to the procurement of the architectural design work and the subsequent site design services for both the Cardinal House and Lambourn Road projects;
- (5) To authorise the acceptance of the tender for the construction work at Lambourn Road submitted by Lovell Partnerships;
- (6) To authorise the acceptance of the tender for the construction work at Cardinal House submitted by Leadbitter and Co;
- (7) To approve early work on the construction contract ahead of Full Council approval at a maximum risk to the Council of £95,000.00 per project;
- (8) To authorise the Executive Director City Regeneration, after consultation with the Board Member for Oxford City Homes, to agree any amendments to the contractual or operational arrangements proposed or already in place in regard to the two building projects as may be required to best meet the Council's objectives; and
- (9) To RECOMMEND to Council that the Council's approved capital programme budget be amended to include the full scheme total of £12.2m.

133. NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The Head of Law and Governance submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) seeking Councillor nominations to outside bodies.

Resolved:-

- (1) To appoint Councillor Altaf-Khan to the Oxford and District Sports and Recreation for the Disabled for the remainder of the 2009/10 Council Year; and
- (2) To appoint Councillor Bob Price as Trustee to the City of Oxford Charity until the end of December 2012.

134. OXFORDSHIRE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2010-2013

The Head of Policy Culture and Communications submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) seeking endorsement of Children and Young People's Plan. The Partnerships Manager, on behalf of the Portfolio Holder, gave a brief overview of progress since the Plan was last considered by the Board.

Resolved:-

- (1) To approve the final draft of the Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Plan 2010-13;
- (2) That the Chief Executive, in liaison with the Portfolio Holder for Social Inclusion and Young People, be given delegated authority to agree any final revisions when the Plan is considered by the Children's Trust on January 16th 2010;
- (3) To note that the City Council believed there had to be considerable targeting in the Delivery Plan on children in the greatest need wherever they live and in particular in the areas of greatest deprivation;
- (4) To request that the Central Area Delivery Plan in brought back for consideration at a future meeting of the Board; and
- (5) To authorise the Chief Executive to write to the Chair of the Children's Trust expressing concern that the City was under represented on the Oxfordshire Children's Trust Board and the Central Area Children's Trust Board

135. WRITE OFF REPORT OF UNCOLLECTABLE RENT

The Head of Oxford City Homes submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) seeking the Board's approval to write off debts in excess of £5,000 for non-business debts.

Resolved to approve the writing off of the amounts shown in the report.

136. FUTURE ITEMS

Nothing was raised under this item.

137. MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 02 December and 15 December 2009 be approved as a correct record.

The Leader took the opportunity to thank Council staff involved in keep the city moving during the recent snow. He also expressed his thanks to the local media who assisted in the passing on of information.

138. MATTERS EXEMPT FROM PUBLICATION

Resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the items in the exempt from publication part of the agenda in accordance with the provisions in Paragraph 21 (1)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2000 on the grounds that their presence could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in specific paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

Summary of business transacted by the Board following the passing of the resolution contained in minute 138

The Head of Oxford City Homes and The Head of Corporate Assets submitted two exempt from publication appendices (previously circulated, now appended) relating to the report referred to in minute 126.

The Board agreed the exempt from publication minutes from the meeting held on 02 December 2009.

(This item disclosed information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)).

The meeting started at 5.00 pm and finished at 6.20 pm.

