

A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY BOARD

WAS HELD ON 30 JANUARY 2012

The Mayor (Councillor Carter C R) (ex-officio), Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board (Councillor Hook) (ex-officio) (P), Councillors Mrs Bailey, Burgess (P), C K Carter (P), Mrs Cully (P), Edgar (P), Mrs Forder, Henshaw (P), Hylands, Mrs Hook (P), Jessop (P), Kimber (P) and Murphy (P).

It was reported that, in accordance with Standing Orders, Councillor Foster-Reed had been nominated to replace Councillor Hylands for this meeting.

35. APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were received on behalf of Councillors Hylands, Mrs Bailey and Mrs Forder.

36. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY BOARD HELD ON 28 NOVEMBER 2011

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Board held on 28 November 2011 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

38. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

39. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

PART I

40. COUNCIL DWELLING RENTS 2012/13

Consideration was given to a joint report of the Financial Services Manager and Housing Services Manager which informed the Board of the revised 2011/12 budget, the 2012/13 budget for the Housing Revenue Account and made recommendations for rent levels for 2012/13.

A Councillor enquired what the take up of old garages was. The Head of Operational Services informed the Board that residents had increasingly opted for older garages as these were cheaper than garages built after April 2010, however the general trend over the last year was for residents to relinquish garages, perhaps as a reflection of the economic climate. The Head of Operational Services confirmed that the exact figures of uptakes for old and new garages would be sent to the Councillor.

| RECOMMENDED: That the following be recommended for approval by Council, to be

effective from 2nd April 2012:

- a) that in line with national guidelines the average weekly Council Dwelling rents increase on average by £5.23 per week;
- b) garage rents for those built prior to April 2010 increase by £0.66 per week; and
- c) there be no increases in rent for garages built since April 2010 under the Garage Strategy.

PART II

41. HRA BUSINESS PLAN 2012 - 2042

Consideration was given to a report of the Housing Services Manager which sought to inform the Board of the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2012 – 2042.

An additional appendix was circulated at the meeting and is attached to these minutes as appendix 1.

A Councillor raised their concern that there was only one day in which Local Authorities could contact the Public Works Loan Board in order to borrow the £57.3m required under self financing. Officers confirmed that the reduced interest rates were only available for one day, 26th March 2012; however they advised the Board that they did not foresee any difficulties in contacting the Public Works Loan Board as it could be done via telephone or online.

The Housing Services Manager advised the Board that borrowing £57.3m required under self financing was the most suitable option for Gosport, especially as the Public Works Loan Board offered very competitive rates for that one day. It would enable the long term management and investment in the Gosport housing stock.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the contents of the Manager's report be noted; and
- b) the direction of travel including the financial model as outlined in the Business Plan (Appendix A) be approved.

42. BOARD BUDGET 2012/13

Consideration was given to a report of the Financial Services Manager which sought to inform the Board of the revised 2011/12 and estimated 2012/13 budgets, including the capital programme.

RESOLVED: That the report be recommended to the Policy and Organisation Board that approval had been given to:

- the revenue budget (revised 2011/12 and estimate 2012/13); and
- the capital programme 2011/12 to 2016/17.

43. ANY OTHER ITEMS

There was no other business.

The meeting ended at 6.17 pm.

CHAIRMAN