

**A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY BOARD
WAS HELD ON 10 FEBRUARY 2015 AT 5PM**

The Mayor (Councillor Gill) (ex-officio), Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board (Councillor Hook)(P), Bateman (P), Mrs Batty (P), Burgess (P), Mrs Cully (P), Dickson (P), Edgar (P), Foster-Reed (P), Gill (P), Hazel (P), Mrs Hook (P), Hylands (P), Mrs Morgan, Murphy

It was reported that in accordance with Standing Order 2.3.6, Councillors Hook, and Beavis had been nominated to replace Councillors Mrs Morgan and Murphy for this meeting.

25. APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were received from Councillors Mrs Morgan and Murphy.

26. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY BOARD HELD ON 15 SEPTEMBER 2014

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Board held on 15 September 2014, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Councillor Mrs Batty declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of item 6 of the agenda.

28. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

29. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

PART I

30. BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE AND COUNCIL DWELLING RENTS 2015/16

Councillor Mrs Batty declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in this item remained in the meeting room and took part in the discussion and voting thereon.

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Treasurer and the Housing Services Manager which considered the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan including the revised 2014/2015 budget and the 2015/2016 budget including recommendations on rent levels for next year.

Members were advised that there were no further updates to the report.

The Chairman advised Members of the Board that the rental policy used the CPI

formula instead of RPI as its inflation measure from 2015/16.

A Member highlighted that an error had been made at paragraph 2.3, page 2 of the report in relation to the Business Plan Borrowing and should read £62.467 million.

It was further noted by a Member that in Appendix B of the report, the Net Operating Expenditure revised for 2014/15 should read -411.

In answer to a Member's question the Board were advised that the monitoring of works to void properties continued to be in place, and that spot checks were periodically carried out.

In relation to a Member's question regarding response to repairs and the planned maintenance programme to housing stock, the Board were advised that stock condition surveys have been carried out and this data had been used to develop a planned programme for upgrades to heating systems.

It was suggested and agreed that a list be circulated to Member's of the Board detailing analysis of residents that had requested to downsize their property.

RESOLVED: That the Community Board recommend to Council that:

- a) The revised HRA Business Plan (Appendix A) and associated 2014/15 Revised Budget and 2015/16 Budget (Appendix B) is agreed.
- b) In line with national guidelines the average weekly Council Dwelling rent increases on average by £1.75 per week.
- c) The increase in rent for older style garages is increased in line with dwelling rents, as agreed in the Garage Renewal strategy.
- d) That formula rent be charged for properties which are relet following a void period (see paragraph 5.5).

31. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

The meeting concluded at: 5.12pm

CHAIRMAN