

**A MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD
WAS HELD ON 15 MARCH 2017**

Subject to Approval

The Mayor (Councillor Mrs Hook) (ex-officio), Councillors Hook (P), Ms Ballard (P), Bateman (P), Beavis (P), Ms Diffey (P), Edgar (P), Farr (P), Mrs Forder, Mrs Furlong (P), Mrs Huggins (P), Miss Kelly (P), Philpott (P), Mrs Prickett (P), Raffaelli (P), Mrs Wright .

It was reported that in accordance with Standing Order 2.3.6 Councillors Hook and Mrs Cully had been nominated to replace Councillor Mrs Forder and Mrs Wright respectively for this meeting.

46. APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend were received from the Mayor, Councillor Mrs Forder and Councillor Mrs Wright.

47. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

48. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD HELD ON 23 NOVEMBER 2016

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Economic Development Board meeting held on 23 November 2016 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

49. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

50. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

PART II

51. PROVISION OF ENERGY SERVICES

Consideration was given to the report of the Housing Services Manager updating the Board on the provision of energy services for Gosport Borough Council.

The Board was advised that since the publication of the report a date in April had been agreed for the installation of the solar panels on the roof space of the Town Hall and sheltered scheme accommodation. The Board were also advised that there will be promotion via Coastline and At Your Service to promote the GBC energy switching website.

Members advised that residents welcomed the scheme and welcomed the opportunity to

save money.

The details of the installation were provided to Members, and they were advised that the panels would be owned by Portsmouth City Council but that Gosport Borough Council would save money as they would be able to purchase the energy at a reduced rate.

Members also welcomed the reduction in communal energy cost for tenants of properties with panels.

The Board was advised that commission received by Gosport Borough Council would be paid by the energy suppliers and that this would not be at a cost to residents. The Board were advised that energy saving advice was provided by an external provider and that service level agreements would be in place to ensure that support was provided to residents that needed it.

Members welcomed that the changes had been implemented in the short time since the agreement for the provision of services by the Portsmouth City Council's energy services team had been agreed. It was recognised that savings were being made and that residents were benefiting from the scheme which was particularly helpful for the most vulnerable residents.

Members were advised that the promotion of the energy switch scheme to their ward residents would be welcome.

Members acknowledged that utilising the expertise of officers at Portsmouth City Council had allowed for savings in the Borough and that as a result residents would benefit and save money.

RESOLVED: That the report of the Housing Services Manager be noted and the board would receive a update in six months.

52. ACQUISITION OF LAND AT CARLESS CLOSE

Consideration was given to a report of the Housing Services Manager seeking Board approval for acquisition of an area of open space from Places for People Homes Limited (as shown hatched red on plan at Appendix A of the report)

Members were advised that the exercise of processing land acquisitions was nearly complete.

RESOLVED: That the acquisition of an area of open space from Places for People Homes Limited, (as shown hatched red on plan at Appendix A of the report of the Housing Services Manager) under a dedication agreement be approved.

53. LEASE OF LAND AND BUILDING AT LEE RECREATION GROUND TO THE 1ST LEE ON THE SOLENT SCOUT GROUP

Consideration was given to a report seeking Board approval for the leasehold disposal of land and buildings at Lee Recreation Ground to the Trustees of the 1st Lee-on-the-Solent Scout Group. Members welcomed the proposal as the toilets had been empty for some

time.

The Board was advised that the wording of paragraph 2.4 of the report of the Housing Services Manager needed to be amended for clarity, and that it should read that;

The Council does not intend to be prescriptive in regard to the use of the building, whether it be used as a store or demolished and the extra space used for off-road parking.

The Board was advised that the building had been offered to Lee Horticultural Society but that it had not accepted the offer.

RESOLVED: That the proposed new lease of land and buildings at Lee Recreation Ground to the 'Scout Group' be approved and that the Housing Services Manager be authorised to finalise terms for the lease of land and buildings at Lee Recreation Ground and the Head of Legal Services be authorised to enter into such documentation as is necessary to effect the decision.

The meeting concluded at 6.16pm

CHAIRMAN