

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Thursday 11th February 2021

PRESENT

COUNCILLOR:

Councillor Mohammed Khan CBE
Councillor Julie Gunn
Councillor Jim Smith
Councillor Mustafa Desai
Councillor Vicky McGurk
Councillor Phil Riley
Councillor Damian Talbot
Councillor Quesir Mahmood

PORTFOLIO:

Leader of the Council
Children, Young People and Education
Environmental Services
Adult Services and Prevention
Finance and Governance
Growth and Development
Public Health and Wellbeing
Digital and Customer Services

EXECUTIVE MEMBER

Councillor John Slater

NON PORTFOLIO

Leader of the Conservative Group

ALL IN ATTENDANCE:

Zara Hyatt
Muhammed Babu
Zainab Dassu

Youth MP
Deputy Youth MP
Deputy Youth MP

	Item	Action
1	<u>Welcome and Apologies</u> The Leader of the Council, Councillor Mohammed Khan, welcomed all to the meeting, particularly the new Deputy Youth MP, Zainab Dassu, and read out the statement explaining that this was a virtual meeting.	
2	<u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</u> The Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 th January 2021 were agreed as a correct record.	Agreed
3	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> There were no Declarations of Interest submitted.	
4	<u>Equality Implications</u> The Chair asked Members to confirm that they had considered and understood any Equality Impact Assessments associated with reports on the agenda ahead of making any decisions.	Confirmed
5	<u>Public Forum</u> No questions had been received from members of the public.	
6	<u>Questions by Non-Executive Members</u> In accordance with Part 4 of the Executive Board Procedure Rules	

	Item	Action						
	<p>for questions/statements by Non-Executive Members, the following questions/statements had been received, details of which are set out below:-</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name of Non-Executive Member asking the Question</th> <th>Subject Area</th> <th>Executive Member and Portfolio</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Councillor Derek Hardman</td> <td>Griffin Lodge</td> <td>Councillor Vicky McGurk</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Councillor McGurk provided a response to the question and supplementary question arising, advising of the current budget position relating to Griffin Lodge and gave details of the insurance settlement received following the fire in 2013.</p>	Name of Non-Executive Member asking the Question	Subject Area	Executive Member and Portfolio	Councillor Derek Hardman	Griffin Lodge	Councillor Vicky McGurk	
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Councillor Derek Hardman	Griffin Lodge	Councillor Vicky McGurk						
7	<p><u>Youth MPs Update</u></p> <p>The Youth MP and Deputy Youth MPs verbally reported on recent events and activities including :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The appointment of Zainab Dassu as Deputy Youth MP. • Ongoing discussions on the Mental Health of young people, which was one of the key campaign issues, both nationally and locally. • The work of the Lancashire Youth Commission and engagement with the Police and Crime Forum on issues affecting young people. • Attending National Young Inspectors meetings, and it was hoped that a local version could be introduced to empower young people to inspect the services they receive. • Meetings with the Healthy Living team on initiatives to encourage healthy eating amongst people struggling with food poverty. <p>Members of the Executive Board thanked the Youth MPs for their update and ongoing positive work to help young people, particularly in the current challenging circumstances.</p> <p><u>Executive Member Reports</u></p> <p><u>Leader's Update</u></p> <p>Councillor Mohammed Khan verbally reported on the current position relating to the Covid-19 pandemic and on a joint campaign with the Lancashire Telegraph to promote take up of vaccinations.</p> <p><u>Children, Young People & Education Update</u></p> <p>Councillor Julie Gunn verbally reported that the Lytham Road Adolescence Support Unit had retained its 'Good' rating following a recent Interim Ofsted Inspection.</p>	Noted						

	Item	Action
8.1	<p><u>Adoption Six Monthly Report 2020/21</u></p> <p>Members received a report which the Adoption Now, Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) had compiled, with additional local information included by the Blackburn with Darwen, Service Lead. The Report detailed a summary of the period April to September 2020 with analysis, data and patterns to support service development.</p> <p>RESOLVED - That the Executive Board notes the Adoption Six Monthly Report alongside Appendix 1.</p>	Noted
8.2	<p><u>Evidence Based Practice of Children’s Advice and Duty Service</u></p> <p>A report was submitted detailing the development, implementation and impact of BwD’s Children’s Advice and Duty Service (CADS) or “The Front Door” to Children’s Services.</p> <p>Professor Thorpe and his team were commissioned to undertake a piece of research regarding the functioning of Blackburn with Darwen’s Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub in 2019.</p> <p>Recommendations from the findings of this research informed the development of a new multi-agency approach and the development of CADS to determine whether children, young people and their families required a social work service.</p> <p>Appendix 1 detailed the background in more detail.</p> <p>RESOLVED - That the Executive Board:</p> <p>Notes the content of the report and endorses and recognises the impact of the implementation of CADS in BwD based on the 52 week evaluation of the model.</p>	Noted
8.3	<p><u>Corporate Revenue Monitoring Report – Quarter 3 2020/21</u></p> <p>The Executive Board received a report outlining the overall revenue financial position of the Council, highlighting any significant issues and explaining variations in the third quarter of the financial year.</p> <p>RESOLVED – The Executive Board is asked to approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the portfolio cash limit adjustments outlined in Appendix 1. • the Earmarked reserves position shown in Appendix 2 • the variations to revenue expenditure, as listed in Section 6, giving rise to a balance of £8.042 million in the unallocated General Fund revenue reserve. 	Approved

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	<u>Corporate Capital Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2020/21</u>	
8.4	<p>Members received a report on the overall financial position of the Council in respect of the capital programme as at 31st December 2020, highlighting key issues and explaining variations.</p> <p>RESOLVED -</p> <p>The Executive Board is asked to approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to approve the revised capital programme as per Appendix 1, • to approve the variations to the programme shown in Appendix 2. 	Approved
	<u>Creation of a Joint Venture Company and Subsequent Acquisition of former Thwaites Brewery Site Joint Venture Report</u>	
9.1	<p>A report was submitted, advising that the former Thwaites Brewery site in Blackburn Town Centre was a key strategic redevelopment opportunity of a brownfield site. Thwaites vacated the site in 2018 when the business relocated to new purpose-built premises for their brewery, offices and stables. Demolition of the brewery buildings subsequently commenced and site clearance was completed in 2020.</p> <p>The report recommends involvement by the Council as a minority shareholder in a new Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) along with Maple Grove Developments Ltd (Maple Grove) as majority shareholder who had now secured exclusivity of the site from the vendors.</p> <p>The site was ideally located and had the potential to have a significant impact on boosting the vitality and vibrancy of Blackburn Town Centre, providing opportunities for a range of redevelopment options including land for new businesses, leisure or housing, and inward investment for the Borough.</p> <p>The minority shareholding by the Council would help to ensure the site was master planned and delivered in a way which maximised positive outcomes for the local area, and also allowed a holistic strategy to be developed, including the adjacent Council-owned former Blackburn Markets site and other Council assets in the area.</p> <p>RESOLVED – That the Executive Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Notes the Former Thwaites Brewery site represents a key strategic redevelopment site; ii. Approves the Council to join the Special Purpose Vehicle 	Noted Approved

	Item	Action
	<p>(SPV) as a minority 49% shareholder for the purposes of acquiring the site, preparing the site for development and disposing of land parcels to 3rd parties for development;</p> <p>iii. Approves the acquisition of Properties 2 and 3 shown on Plan A by the Council from the SPV;</p> <p>iv. Delegates authority to the Growth Programme Director in consultation with the Executive Member for Growth and Development to commission works such as refurbishment, repair, alteration or demolition works necessary to make Property 3 safe and bring it back into use;</p> <p>v. Approves the terms of the Put Option and Options to Purchase;</p> <p>vi. Notes the potential for the development to include a mix of commercial, leisure and residential end uses;</p> <p>vii. Approves a capital allocation to commit to the SPV which will be in accordance with Council's accounting framework;</p> <p>viii. Delegates authority to the Growth Programme Director in consultation with the Strategic Director of Place and Executive Member for Growth & Development to agree final terms for the Shareholders Agreement and legal, financial and ongoing management arrangements of the SPV;</p> <p>ix. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive to appoint and remove Council Directors to the SPV; and</p> <p>x. Notes that any further acquisitions outside of the Put Option or disposals outside of the Options to Purchase will be subject to Council approval via the usual appropriate mechanisms.</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p>
11.1	<p>AT THIS STAGE OF THE PROCEEDINGS THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING.</p> <p><u>Creation of a Joint Venture Company and Subsequent Acquisition of former Thwaites Brewery Site Joint Venture Report</u></p> <p>Further to the report submitted at Agenda Item 9.1, an additional report was submitted, containing commercially sensitive information.</p> <p>RESOLVED- That the Executive Board:</p> <p>i. Notes the Former Thwaites Brewery site represents a key</p>	Noted

	Item	Action
	<p>strategic redevelopment site;</p> <p>ii. Approves the Council to join the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) as a minority 49% shareholder for the purposes of acquiring the site, preparing the site for development and disposing of land parcels to 3rd parties for development;</p> <p>iii. Approves the acquisition of Properties 2 and 3 shown on Plan A by the Council from the SPV;</p> <p>iv. Delegates authority to the Growth Programme Director in consultation with the Executive Member for Growth and Development to commission works such as refurbishment, repair, alteration or demolition works necessary to make Property 3 safe and bring it back into use;</p> <p>v. Approves the terms of the Put Option and Options to Purchase;</p> <p>vi. Notes the potential for the development to include a mix of commercial, leisure and residential end uses;</p> <p>vii. Approves a capital allocation to commit to the SPV which will be in accordance with Council's accounting framework;</p> <p>viii. Delegates authority to the Growth Programme Director in consultation with the Strategic Director of Place and Executive Member for Growth & Development to agree final terms for the Shareholders Agreement and legal, financial and ongoing management arrangements of the SPV;</p> <p>ix. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive to appoint and remove Council Directors to the SPV; and</p> <p>x. Notes that any further acquisitions outside of the Put Option or disposals outside of the Options to Purchase will be subject to Council approval via the usual appropriate mechanisms.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Signed at a meeting of the Board on 11th March 2021</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(being the ensuing meeting on the Board)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair of the meeting at which the Minutes were confirmed</p>	<p></p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p>