

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 11TH DECEMBER, 2013

PRESENT: Councillor K Wakefield in the Chair

Councillors D Blackburn, M Dobson (as substitute for J Blake), S Golton, P Gruen, J Hardy (as substitute for G Harper), G Latty, A Lowe, E Nash, J Procter, M Rafique and S Varley

Apologies Councillors J Blake and G Harper

20 Appeals against refusal of inspection of documents

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

21 Exempt Information - possible exclusion of the press and public

There were no resolutions to exclude the public.

22 Late items

There were no late items submitted to the agenda for consideration.

23 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests

No declarations were made.

24 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Blake and G Harper. Councillor J Hardy was in attendance as substitute for Councillor G Harper. Councillor M Dobson was in attendance as substitute for J Blake.

25 Minutes - 28th October 2013

RESOLVED – The minutes of the meeting held on 28th October 2013 were approved as a correct record.

26 Establishing a Housing Advisory Board

The Director of Environment and Housing submitted a report asking the Committee to consider and make recommendations to full Council about the appointment of a Housing Advisory Board.

Councillor P Gruen, the Executive Member for Environment and Housing informed the Committee that the Shadow Housing Advisory Board had now met three times and was going well.

Members asked questions about the appointment of independent members to the Board and how they would be selected. The Committee were informed that the recruitment process is underway, 10 applications had been received of which 5 had been shortlisted for interview following advertisements in the 'Inside Housing' publication.

Members also discussed the selection of tenants to sit on the Housing Advisory Board and the places they would be selected from.

RESOLVED – The Committee resolved to recommend the following to full Council:

- (a) That a Housing Advisory Board be appointed to discharge the functions as set out in the terms of reference attached at appendix 1 of the submitted report;
- (b) That six Elected Members be appointed to the Housing Advisory Board;
- (c) That the following be appointed as voting members of the Housing Advisory Board, for the terms of office set out in paragraph 3 of the submitted report:
 - Three tenants/leaseholders;
 - Three people who are independent of the Council.
- (d) That the Housing Advisory Board may select up to three non-voting co-optees, with some specialist skill or knowledge which would be of assistance to the Housing Advisory Board, to be appointed for a term of office which relates to a particular issue; and
- (e) That the quorum for the Board be 4, including two Councillors and 1 tenant/leaseholder voting co-opted member.