Decisions effective from the 13th October 2021 unless they are called in or recommended to the Cabinet/Council for approval

Trading and Enterprise Board

Minutes of a Meeting of the Trading and Enterprise Board held in Committee Room No.2, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, on the **28**th **September 2021.**

Present:

Cllr. Bell (Chairman)

Cllrs. Buchanan, Forest, Shorter.

In accordance with Procedure Rule 1.2 (c) Councillors Buchanan and Forest attended as Substitute Members for Councillors Pickering and Feacey respectively.

Apologies:

Cllrs. Feacey, Pickering, Ovenden (Observer)

Also Present:

Deputy Chief Executive, Commercial Development Manager (A Better Choice for Property Ltd), Member Services Manager.

113 Minutes

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Board held on the 27th May 2021 be approved and confirmed as a correct record.

114 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:

That pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items, as it is likely in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure of exempt information hereinafter specified by reference to Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act, where in the circumstances the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

115 A Better Choice for Property Limited – Property Management Recruitment

The Deputy Chief Executive introduced the report which proposed the recruitment of a Property Manager to help manage the Property Company's growing private market residential property portfolio. The proposal had the 'in principle' support of the Company Board and the Deputy Chief Executive advised that it was a legal requirement for the Company to get approval from the Council to appoint staff.

Recommended:

That the proposal to appoint a Property Manager be endorsed.

116 A Better Choice for Property Limited – Portfolio Update

The report provided a portfolio update from the Company on its activities, income, void levels and arrears as they continued to emerge from the pandemic.

The Commercial Development Manager answered specific questions on the current performance of the Company in terms of its current rental portfolio and the development side of the Company.

In response to a question the Commercial Development Manager advised that he would bring an update report to the November meeting of this Board (or earlier if necessary) on the Home Plus site development.

Resolved:

That the report be received and noted.

Queries concerning these minutes? Please contact Member Services Telephone: (01233) 330349 E-mail membersservices@ashford.gov.uk Agendas, Reports and Minutes are available on: www.ashford.moderngov.co.uk