

HOUSING COMMITTEE

21 FEBRUARY 2017

7.00 pm – 8.55 pm
Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Stroud

3

Minutes

Membership

Councillor Mattie Ross **	P	Councillor Norman Kay	A
Councillor Chas Townley *	P	Councillor Phil McAsey	A
Councillor Catherine Braun	P	Councillor Jenny Miles	P
Councillor Miranda Clifton	P	Councillor Elizabeth Peters	P
Councillor Colin Fryer	P	Councillor Tom Skinner	P
Councillor Julie Job	P	Councillor Debbie Young	P

** = Chair * = Vice Chair
P = Present A = Absent

Tenant Representatives

Ian Allan	P	Sadie Tazewell	P
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Other Councillors in Attendance

Councillors Steve Lydon and George Butcher

Officers in Attendance

Strategic Head (Tenant and Corporate Services) Policy Implementation Manager
Head of Housing Management Democratic Services Officer
Health & Wellbeing Development Coordinator

Councillor Mattie Ross welcomed Sadie Tazewell to her first meeting of Housing Committee as the new Tenant Representative and confirmed that both representatives would be able to participate on all items being discussed.

HC.052

APOLOGIES

Apologies of absence were received from Councillors Norman Kay and Phil McAsey.

HC.053

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

HC.054

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were none.

HC.055 **MINUTES – 24 JANUARY 2017**

RESOLVED **That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2017 are confirmed and signed as a correct record.**

HC.056 **WORK PROGRAMME**

The work programme was discussed and the following items were highlighted:

- Update on Community Housing Fund – 28 March 2017
- Information Sheet - Update on small sites, garages and disposals.
- Work programme for new Civic Year 2017/18.

RESOLVED **To update the Work Programme, accordingly.**

HC.057 **PERFORMANCE MONITORING**

An update was received from Councillors Debbie Young and Catherine Braun. Councillor Young explained that the report had a new format. The targets on the report related to the HRA delivery plan.

HC.058 **THE COMBINED TENANCY AND ESTATE MANAGEMENT POLICY**

The Head of Housing Management explained that this document set out expectations for both the Council and tenants.

Members commented that this was a short, useful document which was a good point of reference for tenants.

RESOLVED **1. Adopt the revised Tenancy and Estate Policy with any amendments determined by the committee, added.**
2. The committee gives delegated authority to the Head of Housing Management to make minor amendments, as necessary, and identified by the committee to the report, and to circulate the final document to committee members.

HC.059 **AFFORDABLE HOUSING THRESHOLD FOR SMALL SITES AND RURAL DESIGNATION FOR RIGHT TO BUY**

The Policy Implementation Manager outlined the above report explaining that this is Planning Policy and Housing law which will have an effect on right to buy (RTB) sales in designated rural areas.

Members asked questions which related to S106 contributions, second homes and imposing restrictive covenants on land not under the RTB scheme.

A motion was proposed and seconded by Councillors Chas Fellows and Catherine Braun to amend point 2 of the resolution. Following discussion this was withdrawn and a new motion adding a new point 3 to the resolution was proposed by Councillor Catherine Braun and seconded by Councillor Julie Job. When being put to the vote it was unanimously carried.

- RESOLVED**
- 1. Apply to DCLG for rural designation under Section 157 of the Housing Act for qualifying rural parishes.**
 - 2. Following designation, implement s.157 restriction on Right to Buy sales and in the relevant parishes.**
 - 3. Consideration could also be given to imposing the restrictive covenant on voluntary disposals pursuant to section 32 of Housing Act 1985.**

Agenda Item 10 was taken at this point in the meeting

HC.060 **UPDATE ON THE HOUSING WHITE PAPER**

A verbal update was provided by the Policy Implementation Manager with a summary of issues given to Members. Guidance is still awaited from the Government.

RESOLVED **To note the update.**

HC.061 **OLDER PEOPLE’S HEALTH AND HOUSING PLAN**

The Health & Wellbeing Development Coordinator presented the above report explaining the work which is currently being carried out in the District and acknowledging the concern for an ageing population. Work is taking place with communities in relation to becoming a dementia friendly District and to help people over 50 have an active life.

RESOLVED **To adopt the Older People’s Health and Housing Plan**

HC.062 **UPDATE ON TENANT CONSULTATION MECHANISM**

A verbal update was provided by the Head of Housing Management. An information sheet was given out to Members and this would be published on the Council’s website. He explained how the Council was beginning to change the way it consults with its tenants.

RESOLVED **The update was noted.**

HC.063 **MEMBERS’ QUESTIONS**

A question and supplementary question was asked by Councillor George Butcher and answered by Councillor Mattie Ross. To view the questions and answers please view at [Agenda Item 12](#) and the [webcast](#) of the meeting, on the Council’s website.

The meeting closed 8.55 pm.

Chair