

**WIGAN AND LEIGH HOUSING COMPANY LIMITED**

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**AT WALH HQ, WIGAN**

**TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2006**

**Present:**

**Members:**

Geoff Roberts (Chair), Sue Loudon, Pat Cummins, Mick Baines, Fiona Whistlecroft, Fred Walker, Marjorie Marsden, Jean Garlick, Chris Ready and Dorothy Abbott (part).

**In Attendance:**

Ashley Crumbley (Chief Executive), Phil Brown (Company Secretary) and Edward Flanagan (Board Services and Finance Officer).

Members agreed that Geoff Roberts should Chair the meeting. The Chair requested that all those in attendance introduce themselves.

**884. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

All Board Members were present.

**885. MINUTES:**

The minutes of the Board meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2006 were accepted as a true and accurate record with no matters arising.

**886. URGENT BUSINESS:**

No urgent business was presented to the Board.

**887. AGENDA ORDER:**

Members agreed not to alter the order of the agenda.

**888. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC:**

Members agreed to exclude the press and public from the items referred to in minutes 890 to 891 as they contained commercially sensitive information.

During the discussion of the following item, Dorothy Abbott joined the meeting.

## **ITEMS FOR DECISION:**

### **Open Items**

#### **889. PROCESS FOR THE ELECTION OF A CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR:**

The Chief Executive presented a report (circulated) proposing a procedure for the election of a Chair and Vice Chair of the Board as agreed by the Board Member Appointment Panel.

After a discussion, the Board agreed that the term of office should end at the meeting following the next AGM.

Board Members pointed out that as Council nominees are only being selected at the end of January, having elections for Chair at the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> January would in effect exclude all the Council nominees from standing. Members decided not to postpone the election by one month as there was uncertainty as to how long the Council nomination process would take and it was noted that the term from January to the next AGM was a short term of office anyway.

**Votes For:** 10

**Against:** 0

**Abstentions:** 0

It was **AGREED** To adopt the role description and personal specification and a ballot based election process for the post of Chair and Vice Chair with a period of office until the meeting after the next AGM.

The Company Secretary distributed to all Board Members an invitation to stand for Chair and/or Vice Chair of the Wigan and Leigh Housing Board.

### **Press and Public Excluded Items**

#### **890. AUDITED ACCOUNTS 2005/06:**

The Chief Executive presented a report (circulated) to review the 2005/2006 audited financial accounts. Members were advised that the delay in the production of the accounts was due to the need to agree how to treat pension fund deficits in the accounts under a new accounting rule called FRS17. Members were also advised that the Company had been liable to pay corporation tax and of the need to be more tax efficient in the future.

The Chief Executive informed the Board of the appointment of Ken Lee to the post of Finance Manager.

Board Members stated that it is reasonable to expect the accounts within 6 months of year end and asked that the Auditors are made aware of this.

**Votes For:** 10

**Against:** 0

**Abstentions:** 0

It was **AGREED** To approve the 2005/06 audited financial accounts.

Fred Walker declared an interest in the following item.

**891. CONTINUATION OF LEASE OF CT3:**

The Chief Executive presented a report (circulated) proposing an extension to the lease of CT3 for a further period of two years.

**Votes For:** 9

**Against:** 0

**Abstentions:** 1

It was **AGREED** The Board authorises the Chief Executive to enter Wigan and Leigh Housing in to a new contract for the lease of CT3 for a period of up to two years.

**892. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** 6.00pm on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2007 at WALH HQ, Unity House, Westwood Park Drive, Wigan.

**CHAIR**