

Cabinet Member – City Development
Council

14th October 2010
19th October 2010

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cllr Linda Bigham

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of City Services and Development

Ward(s) affected:

Henley

Title:

Moat House Community Trust – Appointment of Directors

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

This report seeks the agreement of the Cabinet Member to the appointment of two non executive directors from the City Council to the Board of Moat House Community Trust

Recommendations:

Cabinet Member is recommended to:

1. Agree that the City Council will take up two places on the Board of Moat House Community Trust, one place being a Henley Ward Councillor, the other being a Senior Council Officer.

Council is recommended to:

1. Agree to the Trust Board's request that Councillor Kevin Maton is nominated for one place, and Carl Pearson, Assistant Director for Economy and Community is nominated for the other place.

List of Appendices included:

Other useful background papers:

Moat House Trust Progress Report – Report to NDC Partnership Board 1st September 2010.

Has it or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it, or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

Yes

Report title:

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 The ten year New Deal for Communities (NDC) Programme will come to an end in March 2011. Under the terms of the programme the City Council has agreed with Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) a succession strategy for the NDC area. A key commitment made in the succession strategy was to support the establishment of Moat House Community Trust as a means to continue community involvement in the provision of services to the NDC area.
- 1.2 Currently the City Council is represented on the NDC Board. The Council's representatives on the NDC Board are Cllr Lynette Kelly and Cllr Kevin Maton. This representation was agreed at Council on 20th May 2010. The NDC Board will continue until the March of 2011 when the NDC Board will end. Moat House Community Trust is being established as a company and its resident led Board has invited nominations for Director's who represent a range of skills and experience.
- 1.3 Moat House Trust is established as a charity with a wholly owned trading subsidiary Moat House Enterprises Ltd. Currently there are three trading business units:
 - Moat House Works – a grounds and building maintenance business.
 - Purple Patch Communications – a marketing and communications business offering design and print, website design and construction, copy-writing and publications planning.
 - Moat House Café – the catering café concession within the Leisure and Neighbourhood Centre has recently been taken on by the Trust in a joint venture with Coventry Sports Trust.
- 1.4 Moat House Community Trust will be endowed with assets acquired through the NDC to manage on behalf of the community. These include:
 - The Old Health Centre (previously the NDC offices). This is leased to Whitefriars for a 5 year period.
 - The Old Presbytery and the St Patrick's Community Centre land.
 - Moat House Business Centre – will open early in 2011 and offer serviced office, workshop and warehouse premises.
- 1.5 Together these trading activities provide an income stream to secure the viability of the Trust and provide a sound base to build up this social enterprise for the future.
- 1.6 The Trust has also secured resources to appoint a community development worker who will take forward the 'One Voice' Community Forum and the work on securing and managing Neighbourhood Agreements with public agencies operating in the NDC area.

2 Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1 The Trust is established on the basis that it can have up to 15 directors, at least 50% must be residents of the area, the remainder, appointed by the Board will be representations of selected stakeholder agencies / organisations.

The Trust have asked the Council to make two nominations:

- Councillor Kevin Maton, who is a local Ward Councillor, and who also has a professional background in social enterprise development, skills which will be important to the development of the Trust.
- Carl Pearson, Assistant Director, Economy and Community, who has been a Council advisor to the NDC Board for the last eight years and has been instrumental in helping develop the succession strategy and the Trust.

It is recommended that the Council agree to this request as part of its contribution to ensuring successful succession following the completion of the NDC programme.

The City Council does not have to nominate directors to the Trust and could decline the invitation to nominate directors.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 The NDC succession strategy was consulted on widely in the community and formally agreed with DCLG.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 The decision will be implemented immediately by submission of nominations to company house.

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Legal Services

- 5.1 Financial implications
There are no financial implications beyond the normal indemnity that the City Council provides to individual officers and members who take up a role as a company director in response to a request to the Council to provide support in this way.
- 5.2 Legal implications
The City Council's legal team advice that these appointments are appropriate provided you are satisfied that the Trust is a body the Council wants to support as part of its obligations under the NDC succession strategy.

6. Other implications

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / LAA (or Coventry SCS)?

The work of the Trust supports the continuation of regeneration, neighbourhood, and housing development in the NDC area, one of the most deprived areas of the City.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

It is proposed that the Directors submit an annual report to your Cabinet Member meeting to report on their work and the activities of the Trust.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

The proposal has a marginal impact on the Council requiring the allocation of a small amount of officer time.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

This Trust supports one of the City's most deprived neighbourhoods and its work is positive action to address existing inequalities across the City.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

None

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

The Trust involves other key local partners and is an opportunity for joint working to meet the needs of a deprived community in the City

Report author(s):

Name and job title:

Carl Pearson, Assistant Director, Economy and Community

Directorate:

City Services and Development

Tel and email contact:

x2010, carl.pearson@coventry.gov.uk

Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Rebecca Young	Strategy & Resources Manager	City Services & Development		
Afzal Hussain	Director NDC	City Services & Development		
Other members				
Cllr Kevin Maton				

Names of approvers: (officers and members)				
Finance: Phil Helm		Finance & legal		
Legal: Clarissa Evans		Finance & legal		
Martin Yardley	Director City Services & Development	City Services & Development		

This report is published on the council's website:

www.coventry.gov.uk/meetings

Appendices