

## **Trowbridge Area Board – Thursday 26 January 2012**

### **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

#### **Former Caretakers House on Bradley Road**

Response from Councillor Toby Sturgis, Cabinet member for Waste, Property, Environment and Development Control Services:

We have looked at a range of options for this property, but it is ultimately being kept vacant to enable more flexibility in the future development of the site. Were we to occupy the property with protected tenants, then we may incur problems around right to buy etc at a later date.

However, we are currently looking at a number of such properties where we could work with a guardian-type business (eg. Camelot), who would let the property with no security of tenure but effectively to provide security to the property, while removing our empty building rates liability. This kind of arrangement does bring some risk, and whilst it would not strictly be an “affordable” rental of the building, it would provide a let at a low cost for tenants who accept the lack of security of tenure it would provide.

If you have any further questions, please contact Neil Ward, Head of Strategic Property Services on 01225 713298.