

FARMS ESTATE (INTERVIEWING) COMMITTEE

27 September 2021

Present:-

Councillors J Yabsley (Chair), J Brook (Vice-Chair), J Berry and L Warner

* **11** **Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

There was no item raised as a matter of urgency.

* **12** **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act, namely information relating to, and which was likely to reveal the identity of, tenants and information relating to the financial or business affairs of tenants and the County Council and, in accordance with Section 36 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, by virtue of the fact that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

13 **Farm Re-lettings: Topshayes Farm, Aylesbeare and Higher Artiscombe Farm, Gulworthy.**

(An item taken under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 during which the press and public were excluded, no representations having been received to such consideration under Regulation 5(5) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012).

The Head of Digital Transformation and Business Support reported on the circumstances of these re-lettings.

The Committee then considered the rent for the holdings and interviewed prospective tenants.

(a) Topshayes Farm, Aylesbeare

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Yabsley, **SECONDED** by Councillor Brook and

RESOLVED

- (i) that the tenancy of Topshayes Farm, Aylesbeare be offered to Mr IP as a progression tenancy on the subject to contract terms and conditions proposed;

- (ii) that the 26.74 acres or thereabouts of land at Thorne Farm, Ottery St Mary be offered to Mr IP for an initial term of up to three and a half years and on a Farm Business Tenancy Agreement commencing 1 October 2021 and terminating 25 March 2025, subject to terms being agreed;
- (iii) that Mr IP be required to surrender his tenancy of Thorndon Farm, Broadwoodwidge with effect from 25 March 2022; and
- (iv) that Thorndon Farm, Broadwoodwidge be advertised to let on the open market to new entrants as a starter farm for a term of seven years commencing 25 March 2022 and terminating 25 March 2029, subject to terms being agreed.

(b) Higher Artiscombe Farm, Gulworthy

No internal applications for Higher Artiscombe Farm having been received, Members discussed advertising the farm on the open market as a new entrant opportunity in the alternative.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Yabsley, **SECONDED** by Councillor Brook and

RESOLVED that Higher Artiscombe Farm, Gulworthy be advertised to let on the open market to new entrants as a starter farm for a term of seven years commencing 25 March 2022 and terminating 25 March 2029, subject to terms being agreed.

* **DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

The Meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 12.00 pm