

## FARMS ESTATE (INTERVIEWING) COMMITTEE

31 August 2021

Present:

Councillors J Yabsley (Chair), J Brook and J Berry

Apologies:

Mrs L Warner

\* **8**      **Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

There was no matter raised as a matter of urgency.

\* **9**      **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.

\* **10**      **Farm Relettings**

(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).

(a) **Great Stone Farm, South Molton**

The Head of Digital Transformation and Business Support reported on the circumstances of this reletting.

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

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

**RESOLVED**

- (i) that the tenancy of Great Stone Farm, South Molton be offered to Mr AW as a progression tenancy on the subject to contract terms and conditions proposed and in the event that Mr AW does not take up the offer of tenancy the farm can be offered in the alternative to Mr IP as runner up;
- (ii) that Mr AW be required to surrender his tenancy of Little Stone Farm, South Molton with effect from 25 March 2022; and
- (iii) that Little Stone Farm, South Molton 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 Bradaford Farm, Virginstow**

The Head of Digital Transformation and Business Support reported on the circumstances of this reletting.

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

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

**RESOLVED**

- (i) that the tenancy of Higher Bradaford Farm, Virginstow be offered to Mr SB and Ms SP as a progression tenancy on the subject to contract terms and conditions proposed;
- (ii) that Mr SB and Ms SP be required to surrender their tenancy of Coppa Dolla Farm, Denbury with effect from 25 March 2022; and
- (iii) that Coppa Dolla Farm, Denbury 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.

(c) **Southacott Farm, Mariansleigh**

The Head of Digital Transformation and Business Support reported on the circumstances of this reletting.

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

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

**RESOLVED**

- (i) that the tenancy of Southacott Farm, Mariansleigh be offered to Mr NT as a progression tenancy on the subject to contract terms and conditions proposed;
- (ii) that Mr NT be required to surrender his tenancy of Ten Oaks Farm, Roborough with effect from 25 March 2022; and
- (iii) that Ten Oaks Farm, Roborough 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.

(d) **Higher Artiscombe Farm, Gulworthy**

The Head of Digital Transformation and Business Support reported on the circumstances of this reletting.

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.

(e) **Topshayes Farm, Aylesbeare**

The Head of Digital Transformation and Business Support reported on the circumstances of this reletting.

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

**RESOLVED**

- (i) that the tenant's proposed early surrender of Topshayes Farm, Aylesbeare be accepted;
- (ii) that Topshayes farm, Aylesbeare be advertised to let on the open market to new entrants as a starter farm for a term of up to seven and a half years commencing 1 October 2021 (or as soon as possible thereafter) and terminating 25 March 2029, subject to terms being agreed;
- (iii) that the 49.95 acres or thereabouts of land at Little Allercombe Farm, Rockbeare formerly farmed with Topshayes Farm, be offered to the tenant of New Ford Farm, Rockbeare on a seven and a half year Farm

Business tenancy Agreement commencing 1 October 2021 and terminating 25 March 2029, subject to terms being agreed; and

- (iv) that the 26.74 acres or thereabouts of land at Thorne Farm, Ottery St Mary (as farmed by the tenant of Topshayes Farm) be advertised to let with Perriton Barton Farm, Whimble 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.

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

The Meeting started at 9.30 am and finished at 3.00 pm