

Policy and Resources Committee

Held at Council Chamber - Ryedale House, Malton, North Yorkshire YO17 7HH
on Thursday 14 February 2013

Present

Councillors Acomb (Chairman), Bailey, Mrs Goodrick, Ives, Knaggs, Mrs Knaggs, Legard (Vice-Chairman), Maud, Mrs Shields (Reserve) and Woodward

Substitutes: Councillor Mrs E Shields

In attendance: Councillor J S Clark and Councillor Mrs L Cowling

Overview & Scrutiny Committee Observers: Cllrs Cussons and Raper

In Attendance

Simon Copley, Paul Cresswell, Marie Lomax, Julian Rudd, Tim Sedman, Janet Waggott and Daniel Wheelwright

Minutes

103 **Apologies for absence**

Councillor Mrs Burr.

104 **Minutes of the meeting held on the 6 December 2012**

Decision

That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 6 December 2012 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

105 **Minutes of the Resources Working Party held on the 15 January 2013**

Decision

That the minutes of the meeting of the Resources Working Party held on the 15 January 2013 be received.

106 **Urgent Business**

The Chairman reported that there were no items to be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency by virtue of Section 100B(94)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

107 **Declarations of Interest**

The following interests were declared:

Councillor Mrs Knaggs declared a personal non pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 7 (Scrutiny Review recommendations) as a trustee member of Ryedale Voluntary Action.

Councillor Mrs Shields declared a personal non pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 7 (Scrutiny Review recommendations) as a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Knaggs declared a personal non pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 13 (Ryedale Development Fund) as a member of the Local Economic Partnership.

PART 'A' ITEMS - MATTERS TO BE DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS OR MATTERS DETERMINED BY COMMITTEE

108 **Scrutiny Review Recommendations**

Considered – Report of the Head of Corporate Services.

Decision

That the committee agreed with the following recommendation subject to the deletion of “the CIF Panel” and the addition of “the Commissioning Board and to be confirmed by full Council”

1. Grant schemes should be streamlined making it easier for organisations to access and, all decisions should be made by one panel i.e. the CIF panel.

That the committee deferred consideration of the following recommendation to consider a report requested by the Commissioning Board

2. Development officers are essential in helping to develop projects within the voluntary and community sector and this role is highly valued by the sector. The Council should continue to provide development officers and continue to support their provision within the voluntary sector.

That the committee agreed with the following recommendations

3. The Council should make it clear what its funding priorities are and what outcomes it is trying to achieve.
4. The Council should ensure that it is clear with all contracts and grants what it expects and monitor/evaluate/performance manage the outcomes accordingly ensuring Value for Money in the investment made.
5. Maintain a small grants element in all grant programmes.
6. The Council should take every opportunity to co-ordinate funding and evaluation processes with other funding bodies, for example, lists of projects supported and case studies illustrating the impact of the funding awarded should be published on the Council website.
7. The Council should use every opportunity to promote and champion Ryedale and all that it has to offer. It should also support, celebrate and recognise the value and contribution of the voluntary and community sector.
8. When considering future budget decisions, the Council must recognise that the funding available to the VCS to meet the needs of communities in Ryedale is reducing. The Council has a role in championing the needs of Ryedale with other funders.

109 **Evaluation of the Community Investment Fund**

Considered – Report of the Head of Economy and Infrastructure.

Decision

That:

- (i) the outcomes and conclusions of this review be noted and taken account of in decisions regarding the use of New Homes Bonus funding allocations for 2013/14 onwards;
- (ii) the CIF Panel ceases to operate following its March 2013 meeting; and
- (iii) that funds allocated for distribution by the CIF panel be managed by the Commissioning Board from 2013/14 onwards.

110 **Delivering the Council Plan**

Considered – Report of the Head of Corporate Services.

Decision

That the report be noted.

111 **Treasury Management Monitoring Report**

Considered – Report of the Corporate Director (s151).

Decision

That:

- (i) Members receive this report; and
- (ii) The current investments and performance in 2012/13 be noted.

112 **Site Selection Methodology - Local Plan Sites Document**

Considered – Report of the Head of Planning and Housing.

Decision

That Members:

- (i) note the consultation responses to the draft Site Selection Methodology set out in Annex 1;
- (ii) agree amendments to the draft Site Selection Methodology (as outlined in para 6.5 to 6.9 of the report) and publish a finalised Site Selection Methodology.

113 **Milton Rooms Development**

Considered – Report of the Head of Economy and Infrastructure.

Decision

That Members agree in principle support for the proposals subject to officers identifying sufficient funds within the 2013/2014 budget.

PART 'B' ITEMS - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

114 **Ryedale Development Fund**

Considered – Report of the Head of Economy and Infrastructure.

Recommendation to Council

That Council is recommended to approve that:

- (i) RDF funding be allocated for the following:

- a) Ryedale Employment Initiative £150K
- b) RDC Apprentice Scheme £100K
- c) Ryedale Business and Skills Initiative £20K
- d) Ryedale Major Projects £100k;

(ii) the distribution of funds under the 'Ryedale Employment Initiative' be made by the Council following an assessment of applications by the Policy and Resources Committee;

(iii) that the RDC apprentice scheme (subject to further detailed information being placed before this committee at its next meeting) and 'Ryedale Business' and 'Skills Initiative' as outlined in the report be implemented; and

(iv) RDF funding towards the development of 'Ryedale Major Projects' be considered through a report to a future meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee, with a recommendation to Council.

115 Committee Responsibility for Planning Policy Recommendations

Considered – Report of the Head of Planning and Housing.

Recommendation to Council

That Members recommend to Council the changes to the Constitution outlined in Annex A to transfer responsibility for making recommendations to Council on Planning Policy from the Policy and Resources Committee to the Planning Committee.

116 Member Information and Communication

Considered – Report of the Council Solicitor and Head of Health and Environment.

Recommendation to Council

That Council be recommended to approve that:

- (i) all Members who wish to communicate electronically via e mail with the Council must use Ryedale issued equipment and Ryedale email addresses with effect from 15 May 2013 provided that each member, by that time, has been issued with a laptop hybrid.
- (ii) subject to sufficient funding being identified, all members will be issued with laptop hybrids before the start of new civic year;
- (iii) all papers for meetings, committees and working parties of Council will be sent to members electronically, if possible, with effect from 1 October 2013; members should avoid the printing of such documents where

possible, and may choose to receive papers electronically before the deadline;

- (iv) officers to organise the procurement, testing, and training of the new equipment in consultation with the member Champion for IT; and
- (v) a report will presented to the policy and resources committee on the 26 September 2013 detailing the future IT strategy and investment of the Council

117 Exempt Information

Decision

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item as there will be a likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as the information provided relates to individuals.

118 Writes Offs

Considered – Report of the Senior Revenues Officer.

Decision

That the write offs set out in the Schedule of Council Tax and Business Rate Accounts be deferred and considered at Council .

119 Any other business that the Chairman decides is urgent.

There being no items of urgent business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm.