

Policy and Resources Committee

Held at Council Chamber, Ryedale House, Malton
on Thursday 16 June 2016

Present

Councillors Joy Andrews, Paul Andrews, Steve Arnold (Vice-Chairman), Clark, Cowling (Chairman), Farnell (Substitute), Goodrick (Substitute), Ives and Raper

Substitutes: Councillor F A Farnell and Councillor C Goodrick

Overview & Scrutiny Committee Observers: Councillors Frank and Wainwright

In Attendance

Beckie Bennett, Denise Hewitt, Jos Holmes, Peter Johnson, Nicki Lishman, Phil Long, Steve Richmond, Clare Slater, Janet Waggott and Anthony Winship

Minutes

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors V Arnold, substitute Councillor Farnell, Bailey and Oxley, substitute Councillor Goodrick.

2 Minutes

Decision
That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 31 March 2016 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
Voting record For 7 Abstentions 2

3 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

4 Declarations of Interest

Councillor P Andrews declared a personal non pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in Item 6 as he was a trustee of the Milton Rooms; Councillor S Arnold declared a personal non pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in Item 6 as he was a trustee of Helmsley Arts Centre; Councillor Ives declared a personal non pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in Item 8 as he worked within the Malton Air Quality Management Area and Councillor Clark declared a personal non pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in Item 8 as he was a North Yorkshire County Councillor.

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

5 **Creative Economy Commissioning 2016/17**

Considered - Report of the Head of Economy and Infrastructure

Decision

That the Creative Economy Commissions for 2016/17, as detailed in Annex B of the report, be approved.

Voting record

For 8

Abstentions 1

PART 'B' ITEMS - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

6 **Delivering the Council's Priorities**

Considered - Report of the Chief Executive

Recommendation to Council

1. That the progress made by the Council in delivering its priorities in 2015/16 and the challenges to be faced in 2016/17 be noted
2. That the Aims and Strategic Objectives of the Council Business Plan for 2016/21 as attached at Annex A of the report be agreed.

Voting record

For 6

Abstentions 3

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

7 **Update on Local Air Quality Management**

Considered - Report of the Head of Environment

Decision

That the contents of the report be noted.

Voting record

For 6

Against 1

Abstentions 2

8 **Appointment of Working Parties**

Members were appointed to the following Working Parties/Sub-Committees for the ensuing year, until such time as new appointments are made, as follows:

Senior Management Contracts Working Party

Conservative Members: Councillors S Arnold, Cowling, Farnell and Goodrick
Substitutes: Councillors V Arnold and Frank
Liberals: Councillor Clark, substitute Councillor Thornton
New Independents: One member to be appointed by the New Independents
Substitute: one member to be appointed by the New Independents

Resources Working Party (including Community Grants Working Party)

Conservatives: Councillors S Arnold, V Arnold, Cowling, Frank, Ives and Raper
Substitutes: Councillors Cleary, Farnell and Hope
Liberals: Councillor Clark
Substitutes: Councillor Thornton
New Independents: Councillor Burr
Substitutes: Councillor P Andrews
Liberal Democrats: Councillor Shields
Substitutes: Councillor Keal
Independents: Councillor Maud
Substitutes: Councillor Wainwright

Sub Committee – Appeals Panel

Conservatives: Councillors Farnell and Oxley
Liberal: Councillor Clark

In the absence of any of these Members, the panel to consist of three Members, reflecting political proportionality, to be appointed by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman of Policy and Resources, or in the Chairman's absence, the Vice Chairman. The panel to meet as and when required.

Constitution Working Party

Chairman of Council, Group Leaders and Councillor Ives

Voting record

Unanimous

PART 'B' ITEMS - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

9 Budget Strategy 2017/18 and Efficiency Statement

Considered - Report of the Finance Manager (s151)

Recommendation to Council

1. That Council be recommended to approve the following strategy for the preparation of the 2017/18 budget:

- (i) Proposals to be brought forward for a £5 increase in Council tax;
- (ii) Increases in fees and charges to be to a maximum of 4.5% on a cost centre heading basis excluding VAT and only those charges officers recommend above this figure to be considered by the relevant policy committee;
- (iii) Efficiencies to be maximised; and
- (iv) The use of New Homes Bonus in line with the medium term financial plan.
- (v) Options for service cuts to be provided if necessary. These proposals to be considered by the Resources Working Party and brought to the Policy and Resources Committee and Council.

2. That Council be recommended to approve the Annual Efficiency Plan and that delegated authority be given to the Finance Manager, in conjunction with the Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee, to accept the 4 year funding offer should they deem that it is in the best interests of the Council to accept the offer.

Voting record

For 6

Against 2

Abstentions 1

10 **Member Involvement in Appeal Panels**

Considered - Report of the Corporate Director

Recommendation to Council

That Council be recommended to approve that the Member Appeals Panel be replaced by an Officer Appeals Panel in all appeals against dismissal except where a case cannot be considered by the Head of Paid Service or nominated representative.

Voting record

For 5

Against 3

Abstention 1

Recorded Vote

For: Councillors Cowling, Farnell, Goodrick, Ives and Raper

Against: Councillor J Andrews, P Andrews and Clark

Abstention: Councillor S Arnold

11 **EXEMPT INFORMATION**

Decision

That those paragraphs referring to the Use of Reserves be removed from the exempt item and that under Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the public be excluded from the meeting for part of this item referring to Senior Staffing Matters, as there would be a likely disclosure of exempt information relating to any individual or which is likely to reveal the identity of any individual or the financial or business affairs of a particular person.

Voting record

Unanimous

12 **Towards 2020 - Use of Reserves**

Considered - Report of the Chief Executive

Recommendation to Council

That Council be recommended to approve:

i. that £958K is transferred from the NHB reserve as follows:

- transfer of £778K to the restructure reserve giving a total balance of £1.2m to fund the cost of further redundancies
- transfer of £180K to the ICE Fund as an invest to save measure to accommodate other organisational costs of change, including IT and transformational support and the continued work with iESE.

ii. that £150k is transferred from the General Reserve to the ICE Fund as detailed in bullet point 2 above

iii. Any unused funds which have been transferred from the NHB Reserve be returned to the NHB Reserve

Voting record

For 6

Against 1

Abstentions 2

13 Towards 2020 - Senior Staffing Matters

The Chief Executive presented a report which outlined the need to save £1.1 M and the corresponding need to reduce the numbers of staff including the numbers of senior managers within the Management team. As part of this report a request for Voluntary Redundancy was considered.

The Council is recommended to approve

i) The request for voluntary redundancy for Chief Officer Post CMT 165 be approved

ii) that delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive to terminate the employment of postholder CMT165 on the grounds of redundancy on the terms set out in the Council's Redundancy and Redeployment Policy

Cllr Ives moved an amendment which was seconded by Cllr Cowling that:

"The Chief Executive prepare a report to be considered at 7 July Council to address the request from the Leader of Selby District Council for the Chief Executive of Ryedale District Council to work as the interim Chief Executive for Selby District Council on a part time basis. It is proposed that this would commence from 01.08.16."

7 Members voted for the amendment

1 Member voted against the amendment

1 Member abstained

The amendment was carried.

Upon being put to the vote the substantive motion was carried.

Recommendation to Council

(A) That Council be recommended to approve the following matters:

(i) The request for voluntary redundancy for Chief Officer Post CMT 165 be approved;

(ii) That delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive to terminate the employment of postholder CMT165 on the grounds of redundancy on the terms set out in the Council's Redundancy and Redeployment Policy

(B) That Council consider a report from the Chief Executive consequent upon the Policy and Resources Committee making the following resolution :

The Chief Executive prepare a report to be considered at 7 July 2016 Council to address the request from the Leader of Selby District Council for the Chief Executive of Ryedale District Council to work as the interim Chief Executive for Selby District Council on a part time basis. It is proposed that this would commence from 01.08.16.

Voting record

For 7

Against 2

Abstentions 0

14 Any other business that the Chairman decides is urgent.

There being no items of urgent business the meeting closed at 11 pm.