

Council

Minutes of Proceedings

At the **Ordinary Meeting of the District Council of Ryedale** held in the **Council Chamber, Ryedale House, Malton** on **Thursday 6 April 2017**

Present

Councillors	Acomb Joy Andrews Paul Andrews Steve Arnold Val Arnold Bailey Clark Cleary Cowling Cussons MBE Duncan Farnell Frank Gardiner (Chairman) Goodrick Hope Jainu-Deen Jowitt Di Keal Maud Oxley (Vice-Chairman) Potter Raper Elizabeth Shields Thornton Wainwright Windress
-------------	--

In Attendance

Nicki Lishman
Clare Slater
Janet Waggott
Anthony Winship

Minutes

78 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Burr, Ives and Sanderson.

79 Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

80 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 21 February 2017 were presented.

Resolved

1. That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 21 February 2017 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record subject to the addition of paragraph 2 below:
2. Members requested that clarification on the Chief Executive's secondment to Selby District Council be added to the minutes and brought to the next meeting of Full Council.

It was resolved at the Full Council meeting on 7 July 2016 "that the request from the Leader of Selby District Council that the Chief Executive of Ryedale District Council works, on a part time basis, as the interim Chief Executive of Selby District Council from 1 August 2016 until further notice be approved".

Voting record

For 22

Abstentions 5

81 **Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business which the Chairman considered should be dealt with as a matter of urgency by virtue of Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

82 **Declarations of Interest**

The following interests were declared:

Councillors V Arnold, Clark and Shields declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest as a members of North Yorkshire Council.

83 **Announcements**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- That at the recent Iese awards the Council had won the Gold Award in the category Transforming Through People and the Bronze Award in the category Council of the Year.
- That the Council had been shortlisted in the Municipal Journal Awards for most improved Council.

- That there were two events coming soon in aid of the Chairman's Charities, the Civic Service on 30 April 2017 at Kirkdale Minster followed by a reception at Wombledon Village Hall and "A Night at the Movies" concert by Kirkbymoorside Brass Band on 6 May 2017.
- That he had attended a performance of Bugsy Malone by the 1812 Youth Theatre at Helmsley Arts Centre
- That he attended a Lord Lieutenant's presentation at Worsley Barracks for people volunteer to help young cadets etc

84 To Receive any Questions submitted by Members Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 10.2 (Questions on Notice at Full Council)

There were no questions on notice.

85 To Receive a Statement from the Leader of the Council and to Receive Questions and Give Answers on that Statement

Councillor Cowling, the Leader of the Council, presented the following statement:

I am pleased to be able to tell you tonight that our officers have again been successful in attracting funding into yet another project in Ryedale. Almost half a million pounds has been awarded through the National Productivity Investment Fund. The money is to upgrade Ings Lane at Kirkbymoorside in order to support the growth of Marshalls and Forum Technologies - two high tech businesses which help us to grow our economy and provide good quality jobs for our residents. Both Marshalls and Forum are very supportive of our work with young people, being regular attendees at Opportunity Knocks.

Tonight on our agenda we shall be discussing the improvement plan that flows from the recent Peer Review of Ryedale District Council. It is an important document for us as it maps the improvements we wish to make to this council in the future. There may be things in the plan that you would rather not hear - but there is much that is positive and will help us to be a better council.

The proposed waste transfer station at Kirby Misperton has been brought forward on our agenda tonight - again a very important decision for this council, with significant financial implications.

We shall also be looking at the allocation of £431,000.00 of Community Housing Funds which have been allocated to help provide housing in areas where there is a large number of second homes. Our success in using this award may well affect the money we are awarded in future rounds of funding.

The following questions were received on the Leader's Statement:

1. From Councillor Jowitt

Cllr Andrews requested at the last Council meeting if the Council could obtain monies from the Local Enterprise Council to improve drainage and sewerage systems in Malton and Norton. I think the from the Council Leader - Paul's got the letter - but I wonder if the Council Leader would like to inform the rest of Council of the answer to his question?

The Leader replied:

Yes I'm quite happy to do that. It's not actually part of my Leaders Statement but we'll go with it. So, a bid for £5million was made in Round 3 last July for money towards flood schemes in our patch. There had been 5 schemes put forward by local authorities and these were prioritised by the LEP according to the amount - by various factors including the amount of growth they unlocked. Malton came 4th which was disappointing but the scheme doesn't deliver new housing or jobs to any great degree. We only got £0.5 million of the £5 million of the money that we bid for and this money is going into Pocklington, which was the highest scored project as it releases 200 new homes. The LEP will continue to press when more funding for flood defences opportunities arise but it is their role to support growth and not the Environment Agency. This means the schemes like Malton we at Ryedale District Council will need to pursue a range of opportunities to raise the necessary funds.

Councillor Jowitt then asked the following supplementary question:

Given that we haven't obtained money from the LEP to improve the drainage and sewerage system in Malton and Norton, I wonder if there's been or if there'll be any other exploratory enquiries regarding further sources of funding?

The Leader then replied:

Part of the money that we awarded was to employ someone or to fund a post to put someone in position to take this scheme forward so yes, other opportunities will be looked at.

2. From Councillor Shields

In your last paragraph you refer to housing in areas with a large number of second homes. Could you give some examples of where those are please?

The Leader replied:

I would have to give you a written answer to that. Our Council Tax department would be able to give the answer to that because I think they

are identified through Council Tax as second homes. It's very difficult because some people buy a home in Ryedale, we don't necessarily know that it is a second home and these second homes tend to be in the price bracket that would be suitable for first time home buyers. It is a big concern for us, so therefore it was really good to get this money to allow us to try and do something about it. Scarborough were also very successful because they have a higher proportion than we have but if you like I can get that information from our Council Tax department for you.

Councillor Shields then asked the following supplementary question:

I just hope that some of them are not going to be in Norton. We've had a huge amount of development over the course of the last 5 - 6 years up Scarborough Road and up Beverley Road and as a result the traffic that's mounting up on our side of the bridge is quite incredible and providing a lot of problems. These are being looked into now by the highways but I'm just anxious that we don't have a whole lot more houses on our side of the river. Hopefully they're going to be in some of the rather nice villages, perhaps where people have got their second homes.

The Leader then replied:

This money is targeted at rural housing and it is called Community Led Housing, so it is housing schemes that the community itself brings forward and it is particularly targeted in rural areas.

3. From Councillor Thornton

I would hate to disappoint the Leader of the Council by informing her that I haven't heard her every word and for the last 2 meetings we've had a lot of interference on the microphone system. Could we please look into this and ensure that we have a properly effective microphone system working, also for the recordings?

The Leader replied:

Yes we are looking into it. It appears to be something in this room at Full Council meetings that is causing the interference. We don't seem to get the problem quite so often in Committee meetings. So whether it's the number of iPads or something else that's causing the problem we're not quite sure.

The Chairman added:

I can add to that, I think a manufacturers' technician has been here or is coming here to try and solve the problem.

4. From Councillor Potter

For information. It was quite a serious problem at the last O&S when there weren't many people present. I was rather interested to hear about the LEP money going to Pocklington as the top priority for 200 new homes. I thought it might interest people that of those 200 homes, quite a significant number of those are in flood zones 2 and 3, which to anybody who understands flooding that means they're in the flood plain. I find it rather interesting that the top priority of LEP money is going toward flood plain development specifically.

5. From Councillor P Andrews

I have given you notice of this question. I can make it relevant to the statement, as I've given notice of the question, why isn't it on the statement but I'm trying to be polite. I'm trying in a way that is respectful rather than making a nuisance of myself Chairman. The question is bearing in mind that this Council has made certain observations about the Minerals and Waste Plan and bearing in mind that this Council does not employ a qualified minerals planner, will the Council consider the employment, engagement of a qualified minerals planner, professional minerals planner to conduct its case in the examination in public into the minerals and waste plan?

The Leader replied:

That would be a significant cost to this Council and would have to go to P&R. I'm not quite sure how you would get that to P&R but that would have to be where it would be considered.

Councillor P Andrews then asked the following supplementary question:

Could it be put to the next meeting of Policy and Resources then please?

The Leader then replied:

That will be for the Chairman of Policy and Resources to decide. I honestly don't believe that we should be doing that, I think that we've sent in our response, I think we were happy with that response - it's gone through this Council, I'm not sure that we should be considering it but I'll talk it over with officers for you.

6. From Councillor Clark

I wonder if the Leader, when she's having her discussions with the Chair of Policy and Resources, if she could consider why there is absolutely nothing in this report about the annual cost of iese, so how much is that? There's nothing in this report about the total amount paid to iese and we've gone 2 or 3 stages and still not been getting an answer, so hopefully the Leader or the Chair of Policy - I don't mind which - can get

me the answers to those. There is good news here, absolutely, but the questions about where things might need looking at are missed out. Yes Cllr Andrews is right, it might need looking at but it's just the presentation policy side - do you not think it would be possible to answer the questions I've just asked you if not today, in a written form?

The Leader replied:

No it wouldn't. You're supposed to ask questions on the statement I've given tonight. If you had other questions, you could have raised them through the proper procedures.

Councillor Clark then asked the following supplementary question:

I've asked in relation to the statement tonight that's arrived here so late as usual that's it's not possible to know what's in to and what isn't before. if it came out with the agenda, then we'd be able to decide whether or not we were going to ask a question. When we get it like this there's nothing about iese in it and you're left with the awkward position of where you put it on the agenda. So if you're not going to answer questions, you aren't answering the question - why are those things not on your statement?

The Chairman responded:

I thank you for that observation and I think it's a good idea to produce Leader's statement ahead of the time, so we look for that for the future.

86 **To consider for Approval the Recommendations in respect of the following Part 'B' Committee Items:**

Policy and Resources Committee – 23 March 2017

Minute 57 – Changes to Disabled Facilities Grant Policy

It was moved by Councillor Cowling and seconded by Councillor Steve Arnold that the following recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee be approved and adopted.

That Council agrees the following changes to the DFG Policy:

- a) The removal of means test contributions from clients for all applications where the value of works is less than £5000;
- b) The use of private occupational health therapists where NYCC in their role as social service authority are unable to respond to requests for assistance and undertake assessments within a reasonable period.

That Council also agrees to an increase of fees levied for capital works undertaken by the White Rose Home Improvement Agency (WRHIA) from 12.5% to 15%.

Upon being put to the vote the motion was carried.

Resolved

That Council agrees the following changes to the DFG Policy:

- a) The removal of means test contributions from clients for all applications where the value of works is less than £5000;
- b) The use of private occupational health therapists where NYCC in their role as social service authority are unable to respond to requests for assistance and undertake assessments within a reasonable period;

That Council also agrees to an increase of fees levied for capital works undertaken by the White Rose Home Improvement Agency (WRHIA) from 12.5% to 15%.

Voting Record

Unanimous

Minute 58 – Community Housing Fund

It was moved by Councillor Cowling and seconded by Councillor Steve Arnold that the following recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee be approved and adopted.

That Council agrees:

- (i) the principle of using £86,200 (20%) of the total allocation for revenue purposes to support the delivery of new homes;
- (ii) that £43,100 (10%) of the allocation be used for additional Community Development capacity working with a specialised provider, in partnership with Hambleton District Council for a 2 year period;
- (iii) to passport £12,930 (3%) of the allocation into a pooled North Yorkshire enabling fund;
- (iv) that the remaining £288,770 (67%) be used for capital works provided through grants, land acquisition or purchase of property in support of Community Led Housing.

Upon being put to the vote the motion was carried.

Resolved

That Council agrees:

- (i) the principle of using £86,200 (20%) of the total allocation for revenue purposes to support the delivery of new homes;
- (ii) that £43,100 (10%) of the allocation be used for additional Community Development capacity working with a specialised provider, in partnership with Hambleton District Council for a 2 year period;
- (iii) to passport £12,930 (3%) of the allocation into a pooled North Yorkshire enabling fund;
- (iv) that the remaining £288,770 (67%) be used for capital works provided through grants, land acquisition or purchase of property in support of Community Led Housing.

Voting Record

Unanimous

Minute 59 – Corporate Peer Challenge Improvement Plan

It was moved by Councillor Cowling and seconded by Councillor Steve Arnold that the following recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee be approved and adopted.

1. That Council agrees the Corporate Peer Challenge Improvement Plan
2. That progress with delivering Improvement Plan be monitored by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

An amendment was moved by Councillor Cowling and seconded by Councillor S Arnold;

1. That Council agrees the Corporate Peer Challenge Improvement Plan headline points numbers 1 - 10
2. That a working Group of the Policy & Resources Committee is set up to finalise the detail of the improvement plan. The working group should consist of representatives from all political groups, not necessarily members of Policy & Resources Committee
3. That progress with delivering the Improvement Plan be monitored by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee
4. That recommendations come before Policy & Resources and then Full Council

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was carried.

Voting record

Unanimous

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

Resolved

1. That Council agrees the Corporate Peer Challenge Improvement Plan headline points numbers 1 - 10
2. That a working Group of the Policy & Resources Committee is set up to finalise the detail of the improvement plan. The working group should consist of representatives from all political groups, not necessarily members of Policy & Resources Committee
3. That progress with delivering the Improvement Plan be monitored by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee
4. That recommendations come before Policy & Resources and then Full Council

Voting Record

21 For

6 Against

Minute 60 – The Council's Priorities 2017 - 2022

It was moved by Councillor Cowling and seconded by Councillor Steve Arnold that the following recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee be approved and adopted.

That Members agree the priorities for the Council Business Plan for 2017/22 as:

- (a) Promoting sustainable growth
- (b) Supporting customers and communities
- (c) Working together – One Ryedale

An amendment was moved by Councillor Potter and seconded by Councillor J Andrews to;

Delete the following points under the heading One Ryedale

- Utilising assets in support of the delivery of priorities
- Delivering the Towards 202 programme and anticipating further savings required to 2022

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was lost.

Voting record

6 For

21 Against

An amendment was moved by Councillor Clark and seconded by Councillor Thornton that;

This Council will produce an objectives/targets/achievements document for 2017 - 2022.

It will be expressed in terms and language clearly understandable to the residents of Ryedale.

The document to cover obvious areas including;

- Housing - inc affordable, council, homelessness, and fuel poverty
- Environment - including traffic level and noise, air quality, light pollution, green house gas emissions
- Health and Wellbeing - poverty, food banks, air quality
- Employment - wage range, increasing the mean wage level in Ryedale, particularly the low paid
- Economy - move Ryedale away from a low wage economy

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was lost.

Voting record

4 For

21 Against

2 Abstentions

An amendment was moved by Councillor Oxley and seconded by Councillor Duncan to;

Add the words "for future generations" to the first bullet point under Sustainable Growth to read;

- promoting a strong economy with thriving businesses and supporting infrastructure for future generations

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was carried.

Voting record

Unanimous

Upon being put to the vote the motion was carried.

Resolved

1. That Members agree the priorities for the Council Business Plan for 2017/22 as:
 - (a) Promoting sustainable growth
 - (b) Supporting customers and communities
 - (c) Working together – One Ryedale
2. That the words "for future generations" be added to the first bullet point under Sustainable Growth in the Business Plan to read:

- promoting a strong economy with thriving businesses and supporting infrastructure for future generations

Voting Record

21 For

5 Against

1 Abstentions

Recorded vote

For - Councillors Acomb, S Arnold, V Arnold, Bailey, Cleary, Cowling, Cussons, Duncan, Farnell, Frank, Gardiner, Goodrick, Hope, Jainu-Deen, Keal, Maud, Oxley, Raper, Shields, Wainwright and Windress.

Against - Councillors J Andrews, P Andrews, Clark, Potter and Thornton.

Abstention - Councillor Jowitt

Minute 61 – Proposed Waste Transfer Station for Ryedale

It was moved by Councillor Cowling and seconded by Councillor Steve Arnold that the following recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee be approved and adopted.

1. That Members recommend to Full Council that this Council enter into an agreement with North Yorkshire County Council, as the Waste Disposal Authority for RDC, to provide a waste transfer station at Kirbymisperton, conditional upon a maximum contribution up to £265k per annum from RDC.
2. That the Medium Term Revenue Forecast be amended to reflect an additional growth item of £152k and that officers work to deliver additional savings through the Towards 2020 efficiency programme to mitigate the impact.

Upon being put to the vote the motion was carried.

Resolved

1. That Full Council agree that this Council enter into an agreement with North Yorkshire County Council, as the Waste Disposal Authority for RDC, to provide a waste transfer station at Kirbymisperton, conditional upon a maximum contribution up to £265k per annum from RDC.
2. That the Medium Term Revenue Forecast be amended to reflect an additional growth item of £152k and that officers work to deliver additional savings through the Towards 2020 efficiency programme to mitigate the impact.

Voting Record

Unanimous

87 **Any other business that the Chairman decides is urgent.**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.10 pm.