

Policy and Resources Committee

Held at Council Chamber, Ryedale House, Malton
on Thursday 24 September 2015

Present

Councillors Steve Arnold (Vice-Chairman), Val Arnold, Bailey, Burr MBE (Substitute), Clark, Cowling (Chairman), Hope (Substitute), Ives, Keal and Oxley

Substitutes: Councillor L M Burr MBE and Councillor E Hope

Overview & Scrutiny Committee Observers: Councillors Evans, Duncan and Wainwright

In Attendance

Jos Holmes, Peter Johnson, Nicki Lishman, Phil Long, Kim Robertshaw and Yvette Turnbull

Minutes

18 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Andrews, substitute Councillor Burr and Councillor Raper, substitute Councillor Hope.

19 Minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2015

Decision

That the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 18 June 2015 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Voting record

For 7

Abstentions 2

Not voted 1

20 Recommendations from the Resources Working Party held on 10 September 2015

Decision

That the recommendations from the meeting of the Resources Working Party held on 10 September 2015 be approved, except the proposed grant to Acorn Community Care, which was to be brought back to a future meeting of the Resources Working Party.

Voting record

For 9

Against 1

21 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

22 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors V Arnold and Clark declared a personal but non prejudicial interest in Item 11 as they were Members of North Yorkshire County Council. Councillors Bailey and Hope declared a personal but non prejudicial interest in Item 11 as they were users of Malton Livestock Market. Councillor Keal declared a personal but non prejudicial interest in Item 16 as she was involved with one of the organisations mentioned in the report.

PART 'B' ITEMS - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

23 **Exempt information**

Decision

- i. 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 the discussion of the report on the following item as there would be a likely disclosure of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and that under Paragraph 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), exempt information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
- ii. That officers be instructed to review the report with a view to redacting any exempt information to enable the report to be published in the public domain; and
- iii. To amend the recommendation in the report to add "if it is not within six months then to take steps to terminate the contract."

Voting record

For 9

Abstention 1

24 **Land at Wentworth Street, Malton including the Motion on Notice proposed by Councillor Andrews and seconded by Councillor Mrs Burr**

Considered - Report of the Chief Executive after which the following motion was debated;

Motion on Notice proposed by Councillor Andrews and seconded by Councillor Mrs Burr

The Council is asked to resolve that as:

- Clarification is needed for the business community in Malton and Ryedale
- The Contract for the sale of WSCP to GMI is due to expire (unless renewed) on 4 May 2015; and
- The Contract cannot be completed until GMI can provide a superstore developer to build a superstore on WSCP, and to date GMI have failed to comply with this condition; and
- WSCP is, by reason inter alia of its location and absence of direct access to the A64, not a prime site for a superstore; and

- The recent collapse of the market for new superstores is a permanent change in the business environment

The Council therefore resolves not to renew the contract to sell WSCP to GMI.

Recommendation to Council

That the following motion not be approved;

The Council is asked to resolve that as:

- Clarification is needed for the business community in Malton and Ryedale
- The Contract for the sale of WSCP to GMI is due to expire (unless renewed) on 4 May 2015; and
- The Contract cannot be completed until GMI can provide a superstore developer to build a superstore on WSCP, and to date GMI have failed to comply with this condition; and
- WSCP is, by reason inter alia of its location and absence of direct access to the A64, not a prime site for a superstore; and
- The recent collapse of the market for new superstores is a permanent change in the business environment

The Council therefore resolves not to renew the contract to sell WSCP to GMI.

Voting record

For 2

Against 7

Abstention 1

[Note - the officer recommendation was not debated or voted upon.] Amended on 26/11/15

25 Budget Strategy 2016/17

Considered – Report of the Finance Officer (s151)

Recommendation to Council

That Council be recommended to approve the following strategy for the preparation of the 2016/2017 budget:

- (i) Proposals to be brought forward for a freeze in Council Tax for the next financial year
- (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
- (iv) The use of New Homes Bonus in line with the medium term financial plan and
- (v) Options for service cuts to be provided. These proposals to be considered by the Resources Working Party and brought to the Policy and Resources Committee and Council.

Recorded vote

For – Councillors V Arnold, S Arnold, Bailey, Burr, Cowling, Hope, Ives and Oxley
Against – Councillors Clark and Keal

26 Living Wage Motion

This item was deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

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

27 Safeguarding Adults Multi Agency Policy & Procedure for West Yorkshire and North Yorkshire

Considered – Report of the Head of Planning and Housing

Decision

That the NYCC Multi Agency Policy and Procedure for West Yorkshire and North Yorkshire be adopted.

Voting record

For 7

Against 1

Councillor Clark requested that his vote against the decision be recorded.

28 Change to membership of Resources Working Party

This item was deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

29 Appointments to the Senior Management Contracts Working Party

This item was deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

30 Statement of Accounts 2014/15

Considered – Report of the Finance Officer (s151)

Decision

That under Paragraph 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the public be excluded from the meeting for part of the discussion on the following item as there would be a likely disclosure of exempt information which was likely to reveal the identity of an individual and that under Paragraph 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), exempt information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of a crime.

Voting record

Unanimous

Decision

That the Statement of Accounts 2015/2015 (appendix A of the report) be approved and that the Finance Manager (s151) be authorised to sign the letter of representation (appendix B of the report).

Voting record

For 6

Against 1

Councillor Clark requested that his vote against the decision be recorded but that this was not due to any criticism of the officers' report.

31 Treasury Management Monitoring Report

This item was deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

32 Creative Economy Commissioning 2015/16

Considered – Report of the Head of Economy and Infrastructure

Decision

That the Creative Economy Commissions for 2015/2016 as detailed in Annex B of the report be approved.

Voting record

For 7

Against 1

Councillor Ives requested that his vote against the decision be recorded.

33 Delivering the Council Plan

This item was deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

34 Housing Strategy

Considered – Report of the Head of Planning and Housing

Decision

i. That the Ryedale District Council Housing Strategy Action Plan 2015 – 2021 be endorsed and consultation undertaken with stakeholders; and
ii. That the final version of the Action Plan, to include Members comments' and appropriate revisions as a result of the consultation be referred to a future meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee for decision.

Voting record

Unanimous

35 Any other business that the Chairman decides is urgent.

After deferring the remaining business to the next meeting of the Committee, the meeting closed at 10.35 pm.