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Policy and Resources Committee

Held at Council Chamber - Ryedale House, Malton, North Yorkshire YO17 7HH
on Thursday 26 September 2013

Present

Councillors Mrs Cowling (Chairman), Acomb (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Burr MBE,
Mrs Goodrick, Ives, Legard, Maud, Ward and Woodward

By Invitation of the Chairman: Councillor Clark

Overview & Scrutiny Committee Observers: Councillor Wainwright

In Attendance

Beckie Bennett, Simon Copley, Paul Cresswell, Peter Johnson, Phil Long and Janet
Waggott

Minutes

19 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence. Councillors Ives and Maud apologised
for having to leave the meeting early.

20 Minutes of the meeting held on 29 August 2013

Decision

That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held
on 29 August 2013 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct
record.

21 Minutes of the Resources Working Party held on 10 September 2013

Decision

That the minutes of the Resources Working Party held on 10 September 2013
be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

22 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

23 **Declarations of Interest**

The following Members declared personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interests in agenda item 13 (Parish Grant Funding 2014/2015) as members of the following parish or town councils:

Councillor Acomb – Thornton-le-Dale
Councillor Maud – Rillington
Councillor Ward – Kirkbymoorside
Councillor Woodward - Pickering

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

24 **Annual Statement of Accounts**

Considered – Report of the Corporate Director (s151).

Members recorded their thanks to the Finance Manager and the Finance team for their work on the accounts.

Decision

That the 2012/13 Statement of Accounts (Annex A) be approved and the Corporate Director (s151) be authorised to sign the letter of representation (appendix 3 to Annex B).

25 **Delivering the Council Plan**

Considered – Report of the Chief Executive.

Decision

That the report be noted.

26 **IT Strategy**

Considered – Report of the Head of Environment.

Decision

- (i) that the report and its contents be noted; and
- (ii) that a report be brought to the next meeting of the committee with details of the capital spend requirements for IT for recommendation to Council.

27 **Treasury Management Monitoring**

Considered – Report of the Corporate Director (s151).

Decision

- (i) That the report be received; and
- (ii) The current investments and performance in 2013/14 be noted.

PART 'B' ITEMS - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

28 Budget Strategy

Considered – Report of the Corporate Director (s151).

Recommendation to Council

That Council be recommended to approve the following strategy for the preparation of the 2014/2015 budget:

- (i) Proposals be brought forward for a 1.99% increase in Council tax;
- (ii) Increases in fees and charges to be 3.5% - 4.5% on a cost centre heading basis excluding VAT and only those charges officers recommend above or below this figure to be considered by the relevant policy committee;
- (iii) Efficiencies to be maximised; and
- (iv) 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.

29 Charging for Green Waste

Considered – Report of the Head of Environment.

Recommendation to Council

That Council be recommended to approve the implementation of charging for garden waste service from 1 June 2014 on a voluntary subscription basis with:

- (i) detailed promotional literature to all households explaining the scheme and their options, including the option to purchase subsidised composting bins;
- (ii) a charge of £27 per bin in 2014/15 to be introduced;
- (iii) a charge of £36 per bin in 2015/16 to be introduced; and
- (iv) the service available to all Ryedale Households.

30 **Parish Grant Funding 2014/2015**

Considered – Report of the Corporate Director (s151).

Recommendation to Council

That Council be recommended to approve that the parish grant be halved for the 2014/2015 financial year and not paid in 2015/2016 and beyond.

31 **Council Tax Discounts**

Considered – Report of the Corporate Director (s151).

Recommendation to Council

That Council be recommended to approve that from the 1 April 2014:

- (i) the PCLD Council Tax discount be removed; and
- (ii) the PCLC Council Tax discount be reduced to 100% for 28 days;
- (iii) officers bring forward an option for a residual discretionary Local Council Tax Discount Policy.

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

There being no items of urgent business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm.