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Council

Minutes of Proceedings

At the **Ordinary Meeting of the District Council of Ryedale** held in the **Council Chamber, Ryedale House, Malton** on **Thursday 31 October 2013**

Present

Councillors P J Andrews
Arnold
Bailey
Mrs Burr MBE
Clark
Collinson
Mrs Cowling
Cussons
Mrs Frank (Chairman)
Fraser
Mrs Goodrick
Hawkins
Mrs Hopkinson (Vice-Chairman)
Ives
Mrs Keal
Legard
Maud
Raper
Richardson
Mrs Sanderson
Mrs Shields
Wainwright
Ward
Woodward

In Attendance

Simon Copley
Paul Cresswell
Janet Waggott
Anthony Winship

Minutes

69 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Acomb, Joy Andrews, Hicks, Hope, Walker and Windress.

70 Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

71 Minutes

The minutes of the Extraordinary and Ordinary Meetings of Council held on 5 September 2013 and of the Extraordinary Meeting of Council held on 21 October 2013 were presented.

Resolved

That the minutes of the Extraordinary and Ordinary Meetings of Council held on 5 September 2013 and of the Extraordinary Meeting of Council held on 21 October 2013 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to amendments to the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 5 September 2013 to indicate that Councillor Mrs Shields was present and that apologies were given by Councillors Ives and Ward.

In response to a request for an update on the situation with the judicial review referred to in the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Council held on 21 October 2013, the Council's Solicitor made the following statement:

Queen on the application of William Shaw -v- Ryedale DC & Anor - Kirkdale Road, Kirkbymoorside

The District Council has received a legal challenge by way of Judicial Review to the decision of the Planning Committee meeting on 28 August 2013 to grant planning permission to Gladman Developments Limited in respect of major residential development on land near Kirkdale Road Kirkbymoorside.

The claimants are Mr William Shaw and Mr Brian Hewitt.

The Court papers were received from Rollits who are the Solicitors for Mr William Shaw and Mr Brian Hewitt.

Given that the grant of planning permission to Gladman Developments Limited is now the subject of legal proceedings Members are requested to be circumspect and avoid discussing the particulars of the case in a way which could prejudice the Council's legal position in advance of the High Court hearing.

Officers have obtained specialist legal advice on the court papers. The legal advice was not to contest the proceedings. The District Council has accordingly completed the Acknowledgement of Service on that basis

There is a two stage process for the Court dealing with a Judicial Review action.

Firstly, there is a permission or leave stage. The Judicial Review application needs the permission of the Court to proceed to hearing.

A Judge in Chambers will consider the papers for the case and decide whether or not to grant permission to proceed.

If the application is refused a party can request an oral hearing.

The papers will be considered by the Judge within a maximum of three weeks.

Secondly, if permission is given to proceed to hearing there will be a full hearing. This can take place within six months.

72 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).

73 Declarations of Interest

The following interests were declared:

Councillor Paul Andrews declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 10 minute 30 (Parish Grant Funding 2014/2015) as a Malton Town Councillor and agenda item 11 (Notices on Motion) as he had been canvassed.

Councillor Arnold declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 11 (Notices on Motion) as he had been lobbied.

Councillor Mrs Burr declared a personal pecuniary and prejudicial interest in agenda item 11 (Notices on Motion) and left the room and took no part in the discussion or vote on the item.

Councillor Clark declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 11 (Notices on Motion) as he had been lobbied by a member of Council and as a County Councillor.

Councillor Collinson declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in as he had been lobbied by a member of Council.

Councillor Mrs Cowling declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 11 (Notices on Motion) as she had been lobbied by a member of Council.

Councillor Fraser declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 11 (Notices on Motion) as he had been lobbied by a member of Council.

Councillor Mrs Hopkinson declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 11 (Notices on Motion) as she had been lobbied by a member of Council.

Councillor Ives declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 11 (Notices on Motion) as he and his family had been canvassed by a member of Council.

Councillor Mrs Keal declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 10 minute 30 (Parish Grant Funding 2014/2015) as a Norton Town Councillor and agenda item 11 (Notices on Motion) as she had been canvassed.

Councillor Richardson declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 11 (Notices on Motion) as he had been lobbied by a member of Council.

Councillor Mrs Sanderson declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 11 (Notices on Motion) as she had been lobbied and as a County Councillor.

Councillor Mrs Shields declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 11 (Notices on Motion) as she had been canvassed and as a County Councillor.

Councillor Ward declared a personal pecuniary and prejudicial interest in agenda item 10 minute 22 (Review of Visitor Information Services) and left the room and took no part in the discussion or vote on the item. She also declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 10 minute 30 (Parish Grant Funding 2014/2015) as a Kirkbymoorside Town Councillor and agenda item 11 (Notices on Motion) as she had been canvassed.

Councillor Woodward declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 10 minute 22 (Review of Visitor Information Services) as his wife ran a Bed & Breakfast and he was a partner in the business, but they sent business to but did not get business from the Tourist Information Centre, agenda item 10 minute 30 (Parish Grant Funding 2014/2015) as a Pickering Town Councillor and agenda item 11 (Notices on Motion) as he had been lobbied indirectly.

74 **Announcements**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- That she would be laying a wreath at the Remembrance Day service at Kirkbymoorside on 10 November 2013.
- Marcel Fraenzel the Mayor of Woensdrecht Netherlands with a population of 22,000 and an area of 100 square kilometres near the Belgian border was welcomed to the meeting. Mayor Fraenzel was observing the operation of local democracy at Ryedale District Council

with elected Councillors most of whom were in political parties . In the Netherlands the Mayors are selected and appointed by the Crown.

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

1. Councillor Wainwright submitted the following question:

To Councillor Mrs Cowling, Leader of Council:

“Much has been spoken and written recently about the unfairness of employees having to work on a zero hours contract.

Does Ryedale District Council have any members of staff on a zero hours contract?”

The Leader of Council, Councillor Mrs Cowling replied

“We have no zero hours contracts, nor do we plan to introduce them.”

Councillor Wainwright asked the following supplementary question:

“What provision does the Council have to ensure that external contractors working for the Council do not have employees on a zero hours contract?”

Councillor Mrs Cowling replied

“I’m not aware that we have any provision at all to prevent external contractors having employees on zero hours contract but I will make enquiries for you and if it is any different I’ll reply to you and the rest of the Council.”

2. Councillor Wainwright submitted the following question:

To Councillor Mrs Cowling, Leader of Council:

“At the Full Council Meeting on September 5th in your Leader’s statement you said;

‘It is my intention that we should give as much assistance to the Ryedale Community and Leisure Centre (RCLC) as reasonably possible to enable them to put together a successful bid to buy the building.’

What assistance has been given to the RCLC in their attempt to buy the club?”

The Leader of Council, Councillor Mrs Cowling replied

“Within a week of that meeting the Council had contacted the RCLC for relevant information, met with them, evaluated their proposal, obtained payment and sorted the licence to occupy. The Council has also dealt with the Business Rate Relief issue with the club.

The Corporate Director contacted the club and left it with them to contact him with any requests for assistance. The RCLC met yesterday with the Corporate

Director and I can report that the club are actively working on a future for the club and advice on finance and planning issues has and will continue to be provided to help them finalise a proposal for the Council.

I also visited RCLC on Tuesday night along with a few other councillors and it was nice to see it in such good condition, I was worried the building may have deteriorated, and to see the enthusiasm to continue the club.”

Councillor Wainwright asked the following supplementary question:

“I am concerned that we're now 8 weeks in to a 16 week window of opportunity for the RCLC to purchase the building. In the minutes of the last full council meeting on page 4 of our agenda the resolved portion states that the Council would provide reasonable officer support to the RCLC that wishes to purchase the building. Officers and the local ward members are to work with the RCLC throughout this process. Are you aware of any assistance that the local ward members have given to assist the RCLC in the purchase of the building?”

Councillor Mrs Cowling replied

“I'm not personally aware of the local ward members involvement but I do know that they have been involved and I'm sure that any of them will give any help whatsoever that they can.”

3. Councillor Clark submitted the following question:

To Councillor Mrs Frank, Chairman of Council:

“Could you please update Council on the Farndale evictions. How is your ‘hard nosed’ campaign going?”

The Chairman of Council, Councillor Mrs Frank replied

“Although the press might have reported me as saying ‘hard nosed’ I did not say that. As you are aware I have been involved and chaired a meeting of all of the affected residents as I was keen to ensure they got the necessary support they required. After that I have let the Council’s excellent Housing Team take on the issue. Two families have been assisted by the housing team, the only two who approached them after their contact details were supplied. Both households have been found alternative accommodation. I have since spoken to other affected residents who have managed their own re-housing need. I am not aware of any other residents who still require assistance.”

Councillor Clark asked the following supplementary question:

“I think it is a little questionable to be accrediting the “hard nosed campaign” to the press. The hard nosed campaign came from your very lips and that that meeting committed itself and the campaign that you referred to was to try and prevent the evictions...You committed yourself on that night, did you not, to work with, to prevent the evictions and if you're saying tonight that what you did was hand it over to the good housing officers here to help with re-accommodation would you not agree with me that that does absolutely nothing to stop the bullying of the Barretts estate of the tenants in Farndale.”

Councillor Mrs Frank replied

"I think you've been a bit mis-informed John because...I spoke to Nicky Wilson and Mrs Watson who were on the table at the front with me and I actually told them that I didn't have time, I couldn't commit myself, I didn't have the time to front their campaign and Nicky Wilson actually said that she would do it and Chloe Watson and 2 other members that evening put their hands up and said that they would help her and that they would form a committee and they would take it forward. I did not commit to doing that that night. So I'm sorry but you've been misinformed."

4. Councillor Clark submitted the following question:

To Councillor Raper, Chairman of Planning Committee:

"Have you reconsidered your position as Chair of the Planning Committee?"

The Chairman of Planning Committee, Councillor Raper replied

"The Planning Committee can only properly operate if all Councillors on the Committee from all political groups make decisions on planning applications on planning grounds.

As the Chairman of the Planning Committee I have always acted in good faith and in the best interests of all the residents of Ryedale.

I have sought to raise the standards of decision making by supporting Member development through specialist planning training, soon to take place on 14 November and ensuring regular further training after that, and regularly urging Members to consult and read the Planning Code of Practice.

Against this background I have not reconsidered my position as Chairman of the Planning Committee."

5. Councillor Clark withdrew the following question:

To Councillor Mrs Cowling, Chairman of Policy & Resources Committee:

"Could you please inform Council of what support RDC has given to RCLC since the 5th September 2013?"

6. Councillor Wainwright submitted the following question:

To Councillor Mrs Cowling, Leader of Council:

"We must accept that Local Government at a District level is always changing and that small Councils such as ours need to adapt to change.

I am hoping to stand for the last time at the election for the Hovingham Ward at the Local elections in 2015. As the Leader of the Council what strategies are

you adopting to ensure that Ryedale District Council survives until 2019 and beyond?"

The Leader of Council, Councillor Mrs Cowling replied

"The long term survival of Ryedale District Council is within the gift of this Council and the decisions it takes today and going forward.

We are in a relatively strong financial position as a District Council, over the past three years we have reviewed all services to make them low cost and efficient as possible to deliver the priorities we set as members. Austerity is likely to be here beyond your stated time with the Council and to survive the next round of challenges and cuts to our funding we need to act now and look forward and not get bogged down in trivial issues and firefighting.

Tonight's decisions will help that survival, green waste will save £280k out of the base budget over the next 2 years, increasing the Council tax base by 2% brings additional income to the Council now and every year in the future, the TIC proposals save over £50k each year.

Officers will continue to identify efficiencies, undertake good housekeeping, clever procurement, maximising income as well as bringing forward new initiatives. We are also going to look at the way we work and are carefully watching the progress that NYCC and Selby make with their joined up proposals and will seek and create opportunities.

These changes will help us preserve services, no mean feat in the current climate. We have been prudent and not applied the New Homes Bonus earned by the Council to the revenue budget unlike many councils. Next year we will receive over £1m in New Homes Bonus. This gives the Council the scope to drip feed this into the budget over a number of years again to try and protect valuable services. I also intend to ensure that Ryedale gets value from the NHB it will be mandated to give to the LEP from 2015/16.

Even with all that we may still have difficult choices to make but I am confident Ryedale has a bright future. Even with all the savings we have made over recent years our track record of achievement is significant with Brambling Fields, Malton Sports Centre, Apprentices, the community grants, LDF, the Ryedale Development fund, Harrison House, Tara Park extension, Derwent Lodge, affordable housing performance, leading recycling rates etc.

To summarise my strategies are

- Continuing careful proactive financial management*
- Taking long term decision in the interests of Ryedale residents*
- Protecting services where possible*
- Using the New Homes Bonus wisely*
- Looking at the future arrangements for the Council*
- Continuing to deliver and maximise external funding from the LEP and others*

No-one should be scared of standing as a Councillor for Ryedale, it is not an easy time, but we have shown we have the scope to survive and thrive in difficult times.”

Councillor Wainwright asked the following supplementary question:

“A lot of what you've told me is concerning what happens internally at Ryedale. In the opportunities that you've had to have meetings with the other leaders of North Yorkshire districts, have you been able to discuss with them what future they have and what future we have with them?”

Councillor Mrs Cowling replied

“Yes, that's one of the most interesting parts of this job at this specific time in the life of this Council because the future of this Council and many other Councils will be their ability to work with others. Some partnerships are working well, some partnerships have stumbled and not worked well and I think that what we have to do as a Council is choose our partners very carefully and make sure that we pick the right ones. And the process of getting to know the leaders of other Councils and how they work is a very important one for me. thank you.”

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

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

“As we have a busy agenda this evening I only have a brief statement to make tonight. I know that other points I wish to raise will be picked up as agenda items.

Some of you will have seen the headline in the Gazette and Herald which states that the Council is considering putting up Council Tax by 7%. I must stress that this is absolutely not the case. We are considering a package of measures to manage our budget and finances which may result in putting up council tax by 7p per week.

The challenge period for our local plan ended on 17 October 2013. Members will be aware that the Council's solicitor informed us that there has been a challenge by Gladman's about the housing chapter. This challenge appears to be part of a national test case and our Officers are working very hard and are doing all they can to ensure that they obtain the best advise to assist us in this challenge. We will be kept informed by Officers.

I wish to update you on the governance of the Local Economic Partnership. (LEP). Since my last Leaders statement I can inform you that, work is on going to make sure that the Leaders of all Districts and all Council's in the LEP have a stronger part to play. It is has been proposed that a Leaders Board sits alongside the LEP Board This means that all Leaders from all the Authorities in the North Yorkshire, York and East Riding LEP have a place at the table and

bearing in mind how much money is going to the LEP this is very important to Ryedale.”

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

1. From Councillor Paul Andrews

“My first question is what will be the impact of the application for judicial review on the sites DPD document? Does this mean that it’ll be necessary to defer this document until the outcome of that judicial review is known?”

The Leader replied:

“As I understand it the answer to that is no, the same as with the other judicial review that we’re involved in at the moment. I understand that the first decision that has to be made is if there is a case for judicial review and that the LDF stands but I will defer to our solicitor, he may tell me different but I think that’s right. I’m being told that is correct.”

Councillor Paul Andrews then asked the following supplementary question:

“Does that mean therefore that if the judicial review sets aside the Local Plan, that any money spent on the sites DPD will have been wasted?”

The Leader then replied:

“I’m sorry but I can’t answer that. I will have to get you a written answer to that, which I will copy everyone into.”

2. From Councillor Richardson

“I’ve got 2 questions to the Leader for you. The first one’s regarding the Council Tax. Interestingly there’s a change in units (?) are Council Tax was being told in the paper at 7% and we put it in terms of pence per week. I just wondered if the Leader could put that in the same currency as a percentage increase? The second one is regarding the LEP. What is the stake of Ryedale in terms of seats on that cabinet that’s now being made out of the leaders from the different stakeholders and is that an increase in proportion from the current situation for Ryedale?”

The Leader replied:

“The 7p per week is the equivalent to 1.99% above 2% the Council would have to hold a referendum which would cost this council £70000 approximately. So we don’t want to go above 2%. I don’t believe there is any need to anyway. and I think you wanted to know the status of the position on the new leaders board if that goes ahead. At present we’re

represented by Tom Fox from Scarborough, leader of Scarborough Borough Council on the LEP. Given that this Council will be putting so much money into the LEP, and along with the rest of the district councils, we all felt that we didn't want to be represented by other people. We wanted our own representation there."

Councillor Richardson then asked the following supplementary question:

"On the first one, our previous leader described a motion to bring it under 2% as a little sneaky. I just wonder if the new leader, has a rationale for the 1.9% in contrast to the previous leader's view? Also on the second one with Scarborough Borough Council I assume that 0% representation at the moment for Ryedale and that will then increase with this new proposed arrangement?"

The Leader then replied:

"No I wouldn't say it's 0% representation. Cllr Fox has duty to represent the interests of this Council. That is his role on the LEP. And sneaky 1.99% yes it is sneaky because it saves us £70000."

3. From Councillor Woodward

"A couple of questions. Firstly on the LEP I just wondered if our hard worked leader actually had time to take her place on the leaders board Chair?"

The Leader replied:

"Yes."

Councillor Woodward continued:

"That's nice to know Chair. Secondly I think Cllr Cowling shouldn't worry too much about the Gazette and Herald's ability to correctly report figures. I realised how far out it was every time I read the attendance figures for Boxing Day Hunt but was the Gazette and Herald correct when it quoted Cllr Cowling as saying that she would talk to each of the businesses that were rejected for the Ryedale Apprenticeship Project?"

The Leader replied:

"As Cllr Woodward knows that particular saga isn't over yet and when it is over then I will talk to those businesses, yes."

Councillor Woodward then asked the following supplementary question:

"Just as a supplementary Chair if we can confirm that at this moment in time none of the businesses that were encouraged to apply because we

had no restrictions on who could apply, who were all voted through by, at P&R with a Conservative majority, they haven't yet been told why they lost their funding that they were encouraged to apply for to pay for apprentices?"

The Leader then replied:

"I would say that that is an officer's job really not mine but when, after tonight, I have spoken to some businesses already but I will speak to the rest of them after tonight."

4. From Councillor Ward

"Cllr Mrs Cowling can I just ask a couple of questions about the LEP? Can you tell us what the composition is of the LEP board in term of public and private sector members and whether the Chairman is public or private sector please?"

The Leader replied:

"The Chair is private sector, Barry Dodd, I'm not quite sure what the composition is - the ratio - but I will find that out for you and I will let you know."

Councillor Ward then asked the following supplementary question:

"Thank you. A quick supplementary, could you give the Council your view of a private sector Chairman who potentially could be working to his own agenda as an unelected person distributing public sector funds?"

The Leader then replied:

"I think you have to look back to why the LEP was formed in the first place and why it has a private sector Chairman and it was to do with employment, jobs, skills things like that. The role of the LEP has moved on and Barry Dodd himself has said it will be down to the LEP to decide whether he is a suitable person to be the Chairman in the future. So everyone acknowledges that the role of the LEP is changing, that it's going to be handling a lot more money than it initially expected to be and it's also going to be carrying out a very different role to that which it expected to be carrying out and I think that the private sector brings much to what the LEP can do. I think it's a really good thing to have the private sector in there, I'm very supportive of the retention of the private sector within the LEP."

Councillor Ward then responded:

“Chairman. I agree. I think the private sector does bring a lot to this sort of board but they have no public mandate to distribute public funds and I ask that you take that on board when you go to these meetings.”

The Leader replied:

“I absolutely do and the word that springs to mind is QUANGO isn't it?”

5. From Councillor Paul Andrews

“Coming back to the judicial review of the Local Plan Chairman, Assuming that Gladmans do obtain leave to proceed Chairman, when is there then likely to be a decision on the judicial review. Are we talking about a 6 month timescale, a 12 months timescale or a longer or short timescale?”

The Leader replied:

“I'll stand to be corrected again but I'm understood to believe that sort of a normal timescale for a JR is 6 months.”

6. From Councillor Paul Andrews

“A final question Chairman is could a written report be made available to all members specifying the precise nature of the claims that have been made against the Council, detailing the grounds. I'm not asking for any officers comments on the claims, if they want to comment of course that's fine, but I don't want to prejudice the way that this Council handles the claim but I do think that members should have more details about that claims being made and has so far been made publicly available and I would ask the Leader of the Council that we do have such a report. Can we have one please?”

The Leader replied:

“I will certainly find out for you whether it is legal, safe, won't put us in a difficult position or anything like that and is that is possible I will try and find out more for you on the grounds of that judicial review.”

Councillor Paul Andrews then asked the following supplementary question:

“The point that I'm making Chairman, it's a supplemental, is that this, once legal proceedings have been handed into the court they are a public document, so therefore as a public document members should be provided, I think, with a brief summary of them.”

The Leader then replied:

“Thank you for that. You obviously know a great deal more about the law than I do and I’ll be guided by you on that.”

7. From Councillor Clark

“Most unusual to hear Cllr Cowling hinted at the answer to the question that I’m about to ask. Yes it is true - on the basis that it is true - that the government abolished the regional development agencies on the basis that they were quangos and wasting public money and this was, the replacement was going to be using private money and it was going to be run by private enterprise business etc. Will she write on behalf of this Council to her government along with her other bedfellows and point out to them that they’re creating what was there before and that the best place for handling local money raised by the people of Ryedale is Ryedale District Council?”

The Leader replied:

“If it was the decision of this Council that it wanted me to do that, yes I would do that but it isn’t the question nor to be voted on tonight in front of this Council. What I will tell you is that government are saying that the LEP is here to stay. The Labour party have also stated that if they win the next election that the LEPs are here to stay. And what I intend to do is get the best value out of the LEP that I possibly can. They’re handling a lot of money. We have officers working really hard on bids to the LEP to get our hands on some of the money to help the infrastructure in RDC. We all need to work together, Scarborough, Ryedale, York all our partners in the LEP who are round about us and I have no intention of writing that letter personally. I would have to be instructed by a decision of the whole of this Council to do that and I have no intention of doing it off my own bat. I intend to make best use of the LEP that I possibly can.”

Councillor Clark then asked the following supplementary question:

“On the basis that she has no intention of doing it off her own bat, could she tell me that if I were to propose a motion requesting her to do that, would she second it?”

The Leader then replied:

“No I wouldn’t because I believe the LEPs are here to stay and it’s no good kicking and screaming against what’s here, you have to do the best you can with it.”

8. From Councillor Raper

“The Gladmans challenge seems to be a national challenge and we have officers working on a response to this. It seems to me that we need to be in collaboration with lots of other local authorities and were hoping that

this particular angle has not been missed and our councillors...that we will be collaborative in the response because many heads put together make a better result."

The Leader replied:

"Yes that line is already underway, I think we've already contacted other Councils in fact."

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

Commissioning Board – 19 September 2013

Minute 21 – Capital Funding - Pools

It was moved by Councillor Arnold and seconded by Councillor Fraser that the following recommendations of the Commissioning Board be approved and adopted.

That Council be recommended to approve:

The sum of £275,000 in the capital programme for works to Ryedale and Derwent Pools for the period up to 31 March 2017.

Upon being put to the vote the motion was carried.

Resolved

That Council approve:

The sum of £275,000 in the capital programme for works to Ryedale and Derwent Pools for the period up to 31 March 2017.

Minute 22 – Review of Visitor Information Services

It was moved by Councillor Arnold and seconded by Councillor Fraser that the following recommendations of the Commissioning Board be approved and adopted.

That Council be recommended to approve:

- (i) modernisation of the Council's visitor information services to provide face-to-face and telephone information through Pickering TIC only (thereby closing Malton and Helmsley TICs) alongside an expanded website and on-line presence; and

- (ii) the savings achieved from the implementation of the above to be considered as part of the Council's 2014/2015 budget strategy process.

Upon being put to the vote the motion was carried.

Recorded Vote

For

Councillors Arnold, Bailey, Clark, Collinson, Mrs Cowling, Cussons, Mrs Frank, Fraser, Mrs Goodrick, Hawkins, Mrs Hopkinson, Ives, Legard, Raper, Richardson, Mrs Sanderson, Wainwright, Ward and Woodward.

Against

Councillors Paul Andrews, Mrs Burr, Mrs Keal, Maud and Mrs Shields.

Abstentions

None.

Resolved

That Council approve:

- (i) modernisation of the Council's visitor information services to provide face-to-face and telephone information through Pickering TIC only (thereby closing Malton and Helmsley TICs) alongside an expanded website and on-line presence; and
- (ii) the savings achieved from the implementation of the above to be considered as part of the Council's 2014/2015 budget strategy process.

Policy and Resources Committee – 26 September 2013

Minute 28 – Budget Strategy

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Cowling and seconded by Councillor Legard that the following recommendations of the Commissioning Board be approved and adopted.

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.

Upon being put to the vote the motion was carried.

Resolved

That Council 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.

Minute 29 – Charging for Green Waste

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Cowling and seconded by Councillor Legard that the following recommendations of the Commissioning Board be approved and adopted.

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.

Councillor Clark moved and Councillor Woodward seconded the following amendment:

To insert the words “subject to RDC budget process” between “approve” and “the implementation”.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was lost.

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

Recorded Vote

For

Councillors Arnold, Bailey, Mrs Cowling, Cussons, Mrs Frank, Fraser, Mrs Goodrick, Hawkins, Legard, Maud, Raper, Mrs Sanderson and Wainwright.

Against

Councillors Paul Andrews, Mrs Burr, Clark, Collinson, Mrs Hopkinson, Ives, Mrs Keal, Richardson, Mrs Shields, Ward and Woodward.

Abstentions

None.

Resolved

That Council 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.

Minute 30 – Parish Grant Funding 2014/2015

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Cowling and seconded by Councillor Legard that the following recommendations of the Commissioning Board be approved and adopted.

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.

Upon being put to the vote the motion was carried.

Resolved

That Council approve:

That the parish grant be halved for the 2014/2015 financial year and not paid in 2015/2016 and beyond.

Minute 31 – Council Tax Discounts

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Cowling and seconded by Councillor Legard that the following recommendations of the Commissioning Board be approved and adopted.

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.

Upon being put to the vote the motion was carried.

Resolved

That Council 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.

78 Notices on Motion Submitted Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 11

1. It was moved by Councillor Paul Andrews and seconded by Councillor Mrs Shields

We the undersigned Councillors in accordance with the Council's constitution (motion to rescind a previous decision) request that the following parts of the decision taken at Council on the 5 September 2013 for the item Part B Referrals from the Policy and Resources Committee on the 29 August 2013, Ryedale Apprenticeship Scheme, be reversed at the Council meeting on the 31 October 2013 Council:

...the deletion of amounts allocated to Norton Primary School, Suddabys, The Yard and Goodys Group.

...the deletion of the £13,500 allocation to the Academy as training provision.

[Signatories: Councillors Paul Andrews, Mrs Shields, Maud, Wainwright, Ward, Joy Andrews, Richardson, Mrs Keal.]

An amendment was moved by Councillor Clark and seconded by Councillor Woodward:

To delete the wording:

“and Goodys Group.

...the deletion of the £13,500 allocation to the Academy as training provision.”

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was lost.

Recorded Vote

For

Councillors Clark, Collinson, Mrs Hopkinson, Ives, Maud, Richardson, Mrs Sanderson, Ward and Woodward.

Against

Councillors Paul Andrews, Arnold, Mrs Cowling, Cussons, Mrs Frank, Fraser, Mrs Goodrick, Hawkins, Mrs Keal, Legard, Raper, Mrs Shields and Wainwright.

Abstentions

Councillor Bailey.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was then lost.

Councillor Mrs Frank then moved and Councillor Ward seconded a procedural motion that the meeting be continued. On being put to the vote, this motion was carried.

79 Political Management Structure

The Chief Executive submitted a report (previously circulated) which proposed a revision to the current committee structure for 2014/15 to ensure that the Council's decision making structure continues to meet the requirements to deliver efficient, transparent and accountable decision making.

Councillor Mrs Cowling moved and Councillor Mrs Goodrick seconded the recommendations in the report.

Resolved

That Council support in principle a revised committee structure for 2014/15 which has the following 3 main Committees:

- Policy and Resources
- Regulatory (Planning and Licensing)
- Overview and Scrutiny (including Audit, Crime and Disorder and Standards)

80 **Changes to Committee Membership**

Resolved

That the following changes to committee membership be approved:

- (i) Councillor Mrs Frank to replace Councillor Mrs Hopkinson on Overview & Scrutiny Committee;
- (ii) Councillor Collinson to replace Councillor Mrs Hopkinson as a substitute on Planning Committee;
- (iii) Councillor Mrs Hopkinson to replace Councillor Mrs Frank on Commissioning Board.

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

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 10.45pm.

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31 October 2013 – Responses to Supplementary Questions

The Leader's Statement

Councillor Paul Andrews then asked the following supplementary question:

“Does that mean therefore that if the judicial review sets aside the Local Plan, that any money spent on the sites DPD will have been wasted?”

The Leader then replied:

“I'm sorry but I can't answer that. I will have to get you a written answer to that, which I will copy everyone into.”

Written Answer

I have sought officer advice on this question. I am advised that money will not be wasted if we progress the sites and the challenge is successful. A successful challenge will mean we have to re-visit the housing figure, whatever happens we will still need to prepare a plan with site specific allocations. The site's work would still be necessary.

From Councillor Ward

“Cllr Mrs Cowling can I just ask a couple of questions about the LEP? Can you tell us what the composition is of the LEP board in terms of public and private sector members and whether the Chairman is public or private sector please?”

The Leader replied:

“The Chair is private sector, Barry Dodd, I'm not quite sure what the composition is - the ratio - but I will find that out for you and I will let you know.”

Written Answer

The make-up of the LEP board is set out at <http://www.businessinspiredgrowth.com/about-the-lep/who-we-are/>

Further details about each LEP Board Member are also available at this site.

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