

Council

Minutes of Proceedings

At the **Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the District Council of Ryedale** held as a **Virtual meeting** on **Wednesday 27 January 2021**

Present

Councillors Joy Andrews, Paul Andrews, Arnold, Bailey, Brackstone, Burr MBE, Clark, Cleary (Chairman), Cussons MBE, Delaney, Docwra, Duncan, Frank, Garbutt Moore (Vice-Chairman), Goodrick, Graham, Di Keal, King, MacKenzie, Mason, Middleton, Oxley, Potter, Raine, Raper, Riby, Thackray, Wass and Windress

In Attendance

Stacey Bulet, Simon Copley, Anton Hodge, Lisa Hutchinson, Christine Phillipson, Phillip Spurr, Paul Taylor, Ellen Walker and Margaret Wallace

Minutes

52 Announcements

On behalf of the Council, the Chairman offered condolences and sincere sympathy following the passing of Honorary Alderman Daphne Stead, who served on Ryedale District Council between 1976 and 1996.

The Chairman also acknowledged Holocaust Memorial Day and lives lost as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

A minutes of silence was held in memory of Honorary Alderman Stead, victims of the Holocaust and the lives lost to COVID-19.

The Chairman offered thanks to officers and partners of the Council for their response to the recent floods in Ryedale.

53 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Hope.

Apologies were also received from Councillor Burr, who subsequently joined the meeting at 6:50pm.

54 Declarations of Interest

The Chairman advised that declarations arising from email correspondence received by all members from members of the public regarding item 5 (Motion in respect of Continued Community Use of the RVS Centre, Pickering) would be taken as given.

The Chairman advised that declarations of all members of North Yorkshire County Council would be taken as given.

Councillor J Andrews declared a personal pecuniary and prejudicial interest in item 5 (Motion in respect of Continued Community Use of the RVS Centre, Pickering) as an employee of the Pickering War Memorial Hall. Councillor J Andrews then left the meeting and did not participate in the debate or the vote.

Councillor Oxley declared a personal non-pecuniary interest in item 5 (Motion in respect of Continued Community Use of the RVS Centre, Pickering) as a member of the Ryedale Lions club.

55 Exempt Information

Resolved

To exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following item 5 (Motion in respect of Continued Community Use of the RVS Centre, Pickering) as provided by paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as they contain information relating to the financial or businesses affairs of any person (including the authority holding that information).

The public interest test has been considered and, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption is considered to outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information.

Voting record

15 For

13 Against

Recorded vote

For

Councillors Arnold, Bailey, Cleary, Delaney, Docwra, Duncan, Garbutt-Moore, Goodrick, Graham, King, Mackenzie, Oxley, Raper, Riby and Windress

Against

Councillors P Andrews, Brackstone, Burr, Clark, Cussons, Frank, Keal, Mason, Middleton, Potter, Raine, Thackray and Wass

56 Motion in respect of Continued Community Use of the RVS Centre, Pickering

Councillor Clark proposed and Councillor Potter seconded the following motion:

“The RVS building in Pickering was built by the people of Pickering for use by the people of Pickering. The finances were raised by donations and fund raising. For technical reasons the building was given to the WRVS on the understanding that it would be used by the people of Pickering.”

Early in 2020 the RVS closed the building for community use and announced that they were going to sell. It is now on the open market at an asking price of £155,000.

As a community asset-

- *It has adequate car parking.*
- *It is all on a single ground floor and therefore very useable in disability terms.*
- *It is on bus routes east/west and very close to north/south.*

It is vital that this community asset is retained for use by the people of Pickering.

This Council therefore resolves that:-

- 1) *It will purchase the RVS centre for community use.*
OR
- 2) *It will facilitate the purchase of the building by others to ensure continued community use.*
OR
- 3) *With partners, achieve either 1) or 2) so as to ensure continued community use.”*

Councillor Duncan proposed and Councillor Arnold seconded the following amendment:

Delete:

This Council therefore resolves that:-

- 1) It will purchase the RVS centre for community use.
OR
- 2) It will facilitate the purchase of the building by others to ensure continued community use.
OR
- 3) With partners, achieve either 1) or 2) so as to ensure continued community use.

Add:

This Council, therefore:

- (i) joins with others in calling on the RVS, formally and in the strongest terms possible, to halt the sale of the Hungate Centre;
- (ii) calls on the RVS to work with relevant community groups to agree a viable operating mechanism that allows the building to remain in community use;

- (iii) asks Council Officers to be part of the above discussions, where possible, and report back to Councillors on progress

Upon being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

Voting record

16 For
12 Against

Recorded vote

For

Councillors Arnold, Bailey, Cleary, Cussons, Delaney, Docwra, Duncan, Garbutt-Moore, Goodrick, Graham, King, Mackenzie, Oxley, Raper, Riby and Windress

Against

Councillors P Andrews, Brackstone, Burr, Clark, Frank, Keal, Mason, Middleton, Potter, Raine, Thackray and Wass

Councillor Clark proposed and Councillor Mason seconded the following amendment:

Add:

If the above influence fails to stop the sale then this Council will purchase the RVS centre for community use.

Upon being put to the vote, the amendment was lost.

Voting record

12 For
16 Against

Recorded vote

For

Councillors P Andrews, Brackstone, Burr, Clark, Frank, Keal, Mason, Middleton, Potter, Raine, Thackray and Wass

Against

Councillors Arnold, Bailey, Cleary, Cussons, Delaney, Docwra, Duncan, Garbutt-Moore, Goodrick, Graham, King, Mackenzie, Oxley, Raper, Riby and Windress

Councillor Duncan moved and Councillor Raper seconded a motion that the question be put.

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

Voting record

16 For

12 Against

Recorded vote

For

Councillors Arnold, Bailey, Cleary, Cussons, Delaney, Docwra, Duncan, Garbutt-Moore, Goodrick, Graham, King, Mackenzie, Oxley, Raper, Riby and Windress

Against

Councillors P Andrews, Brackstone, Burr, Clark, Frank, Keal, Mason, Middleton, Potter, Raine, Thackray and Wass

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

Resolved

The RVS building in Pickering was built by the people of Pickering for use by the people of Pickering. The finances were raised by donations and fund raising. For technical reasons the building was given to the WRVS on the understanding that it would be used by the people of Pickering.

Early in 2020 the RVS closed the building for community use and announced that they were going to sell. It is now on the open market at an asking price of £155,000.

As a community asset-

- It has adequate car parking.
- It is all on a single ground floor and therefore very useable in disability terms.
- It is on bus routes east/west and very close to north/south.

It is vital that this community asset is retained for use by the people of Pickering.

This Council, therefore:

- (i) joins with others in calling on the RVS, formally and in the strongest terms possible, to halt the sale of the Hungate Centre;
- (ii) calls on the RVS to work with relevant community groups to agree a viable operating mechanism that allows the building to remain in community use;
- (iii) asks Council Officers to be part of the above discussions, where possible, and report back to Councillors on progress

Voting record

20 For

7 Against

1 Abstention

Recorded vote

For

Councillors P Andrews, Arnold, Bailey, Cleary, Cussons, Delaney, Docwra, Duncan, Garbutt-Moore, Goodrick, Graham, Keal, King, Mackenzie, Mason, Middleton, Oxley, Raper, Riby and Windress

Against

Councillors Brackstone, Burr, Clark, Frank, Potter, Thackray and Wass

Abstain

Councillor Raine

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:30pm.