

Policy and Resources Committee

Held at Council Chamber, Ryedale House, Malton
on Thursday 3 February 2022

Present

Councillors J Andrews, Arnold, Burr MBE (Vice-Chair), Docwra, Duncan, Frank, Graham, Di Keal (Chair), MacKenzie (Substitute) and Potter (Substitute)

By Invitation of the Chair: Councillor A Clark

Overview & Scrutiny Committee Observers: Councillors Middleton and Garbutt-Moore (virtually)

In Attendance

Beckie Bennett, Lucy Furneaux, Lily Hamilton, Anton Hodge, Kim Robertshaw and Margaret Wallace

Stacey Bulet, Catriona Gatrell, Elizabeth Heath and Phillip Spurr attended virtually.

Minutes

89 **Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

90 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor Delaney, Cllr Mackenzie substituting.

91 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

92 **Minutes of the meeting held on 29 November 2021**

Decision

That the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 29 November 2021 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.
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Voting Record

Carried by general affirmation

93 **Minutes of the Flood Management Working Party held on 9 December 2021**

The minutes of the Flood Management Working Party held on 9 December 2021 were received.

94 **Minutes of the Livestock Market Working Party held on 19 January 2022**

The minutes of the Livestock Market Working Party held on 19 January 2022 were received.

95 **Urgent Business**

The Chair advised Committee that there was one item of urgent business regarding the Covid-19 Additional Relief Fund (CARF). The fund will be available to support businesses affected by the pandemic who are ineligible for the existing business support linked to business rates which is administered by Local Authorities.

For the purpose of clarity and transparency, the Chair advised the Committee that due to the Government imposed deadline, the item will be presented to the next meeting of Full Council on 17 February 2022 rather than the next Policy & Resources Committee meeting on 17 March 2022.

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

96 **Private Sector Housing Financial Assistance Proposed Policy Revisions**

Considered – report of the Programme Director of Place and Resources

Decision

Policy and Resources Committee:

- (i) Approves the flexible approach to the use of the existing capital budget to ensure that the current array of loan/grants can be utilised more effectively.
- (ii) Approves the increase to the value of the Property Improvement Loan from £7.5K to £15K and Landlord Improvement Grants and Landlord Improvement Loans from £15K to £20K.
- (iii) Approves the increase of the level of the low income threshold from £21K to £30K for the Ryedale Energy Saver Scheme.

Voting Record

Carried by general affirmation

PART 'B' ITEMS - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

97 **Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Q3 2021/22**

Considered – report of the Chief Finance Officer (s. 151)

Recommendation to Council

It is recommended that the content of the report is noted.

Voting Record

Carried by general affirmation

98 **Ryedale's Financial Strategy 2022/23**

Considered – report of the Chief Finance Officer (s.151)

Recommendation to Council

It is recommended that Council agree the updated Financial Strategy and in particular:

- (i) To note the Section 25 assurance statement provided by the Chief Finance Officer (s151) regarding the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the reserves and the risk assessment detailed in Section 10 of the Strategy
- (ii) To approve a revenue budget of Revenue Budget for 2022/23 of £10,506k, after use of Reserves which includes
 - a. Savings/additional income totalling £82k (Financial Strategy Appendix 4)
 - b. Removal of £787k one-off funding agreed to support COVID in 2021/22, replaced by a further £221k
 - c. Council Plan priorities of £313k, as set out in Appendix 3.
 - d. Other pressures of £1,268k as set out in Appendix 3, which includes £500k for Local Government Reorganisation
- (iii) To approve a council tax charge of £210.53 for a Band D property (note that total Council Tax, Including the County Council, Fire and Police is covered within the separate Council Tax setting report to Full Council)
- (iv) To approve the special expenses amounting to £57,430 (6.20 below)
- (v) To approve the revised Capital Programme (Appendix 6)
- (vi) To note the financial projection for 2022/23 – 2025/26

Voting Record

6 For

4 Against

0 Abstentions

Recorded Vote

For

Councillors J Andrews, Arnold, Burr, Frank, Keal, Potter

Against

Councillors Docwra, Duncan, Graham, Mackenzie

99 **Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2022/23**

Considered – report of the Chief Finance Officer (s. 151)

Recommendation to Council

That Council is recommended to approve:

- (i) Members receive this report;
- (ii) The Operational Borrowing Limit for 2022/23 is set at £7m;
- (iii) The Authorised Borrowing Limit for 2022/23 is set at £12.5m;
- (iv) Councillors delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer to effect movement within the agreed authorised boundary limits for long-term borrowing for 2022/23 onwards.
- (v) Councillors delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer to effect movement within the agreed operational boundary limits for long-term borrowing for 2022/23 onwards.
- (vi) The treasury management strategy statement 2022/23 be approved.
- (vii) The minimum revenue provision policy statement for 2022/23 be approved.
- (viii) The treasury management investment strategy for 2022/23 be approved.
- (ix) The prudential indicators for 2022/23 which reflect the capital expenditure plans which are affordable, prudent and sustainable be approved.
- (x) The Capital Strategy for 2022/23 be approved

Voting Record

Carried by general affirmation

100 **Report on a Motion Referred from Council: Garden Waste Collection Service**

Considered – report of the Programme Director People and Resources

Recommendation to Council

Policy and Resources Committee recommends that:

- (i) The motion is not supported and that decisions affecting the garden waste service are informed by the new legislation expected under the Environment Act 2021. This will be subject to the outcome of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) consultations on the consistency of collections which propose that free garden waste collections are provided by local authorities from 2023/24.
- (ii) There is no change to the current garden waste collection service and the price for the annual licence remains at £38 in 2022/23 (Option 1).

Voting Record

6 For

4 Against

0 Abstentions

Recorded Vote

For

Cllrs J Andrews, Arnold, Burr, Frank, Keal, Potter

Against

Cllrs Docwra, Duncan, Graham, Mackenzie

101 **Report on a Motion Referred from Council: Flood Management - Contribution Towards Yorkshire Water Permanent Solution for Norton**

Considered – report of the Head of Waste and Environment

Recommendation to Council

Policy and Resources Committee recommend that the motion is amended as follows:

To delete:

“We call on Council to commit up to £2.5 million of reserves to contribute to partnership funding a permanent pumping solution for Norton to prevent surface water and sewer flooding occurring when water levels in the River Derwent are high.”

And replace with:

“It is recommended that the Council agrees a contribution towards the Yorkshire Water Permanent Scheme for Norton of 20% of the total scheme costs to a maximum of £152,000 (based on total costs of £760,000). This funding will be allocated within the capital budget for 2022/23.”

Voting Record

Carried by general affirmation

102 **Any other business that the Chair decides is urgent.**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8:45pm.