

SELBY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Council held on 20 March 2007, in the Civic Suite, the Civic Centre, Portholme Road, Selby, commencing at 6.00 pm.

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Present: Councillor J Mackman (Chairman) in the Chair

Councillors: Mrs J Ashton, D N Bain-Mackay, J Bedworth, Mrs E Casling, J Cattanach, I Chilvers, M Crane, J Crawford, G Croston, Mrs D Davies, Mrs S Duckett, Mrs J Dyson, P Harvey, Mrs M Hulme, Mrs G Ivey, C Lunn, B Marshall, Mrs W May, J McCartney, Mrs K McSherry, D McSherry, J Meehan, Mrs W Nichols, I Nutt, R Packham, R Parker D Peart, C Pearson, B Percival, Mrs F Ryan, R Sayner, RH Sweeting and R Wilson.

Officials: Chief Executive, Strategic Directors, Head of Service – Environmental Services and Leisure, Head of Service – Legal and Democratic Services, Head of Service – Finance and Central Services, Head of Service – Planning and Economic Development, Planning Policy Manager, Principal Economic Development Officer, Democratic Services Officer, Committee Administrator.

Observers: 1

The Reverend J Mdumulla offered opening prayers.

Public: 1

Press: 0

1586 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N Martin, C Metcalfe, Ms M Davis, S Shaw-Wright and W Inness.

1587 **Disclosure of Interest**

None received.

1588 **Minutes**

The Chief Executive confirmed to councillors that a formal response to the Post Office Network Consultation had been sent on behalf of Selby District Council and the other District Councils of North Yorkshire, following circulation to councillors (minute 1472 (c) – Council 6 February 2007).

Councillors were informed that the minutes from 6 March 2007 required amendment to include the condolences offered by the Chairman and members of Council to Councillor Mrs W May on the recent death of her daughter.

Resolved that:

- (i) **The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of Council held on 6 February 2007 be confirmed as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman; and**
- (ii) **The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of Council held on 6 March 2007 be confirmed as a correct record, subject to the amendment above, and be signed by the Chairman.**

1589 **Communications**

(a) Provision of Waste Bring Facilities in Sherburn

Councillors expressed their strong disappointment at the letter that had been received from Mr G Gresty, Corporate Director at North Yorkshire County Council with regard to providing a Waste Bring Facility at Sherburn-in-Elmet (minute 1472 (b) – Council 6 February 2007).

Resolved:

That the matter be further explored by Council following the elections in May 2007.

(b) Tewkesbury Borough Council

The Chief Executive informed councillors that he had received a letter from Tewkesbury Borough Council following a decision by the Government to disband the scheme whereby the Armed Forces' personnel received parcels free of charge when serving abroad. Tewkesbury Borough Council was requesting support from other councils to lobby the Government to reinstate this service.

Resolved:

That the Council support Tewkesbury Borough Council in their efforts to reinstate free parcel delivery to Armed Forces' personnel stationed overseas.

(c) Letter from Age Concern

The Chief Executive informed councillors that Councillor Ruth Sayner, the Council's current representative at Age Concern Selby District, had recently taken up the position of trustee of Age Concern. As a result, Age Concern had written to the Chief Executive requesting that a new representative be elected.

Resolved:

That the matter be deferred until after the district elections in May 2007.

1590 **Public Questions**

None received.

1591 **Councillors' Questions**

None received.

1592 **Committee and Board Minutes**

Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 8 February 2007

Resolved:

That the minutes be noted.

Economy Board – 13 February 2007

Councillors noted that in minute 1506, the first recommendation should read: *“The draft CEDS, subject to the amendments to the skills element provided to the LSP Economy Sub-Group, be adopted”*.

Resolved that:

- (i) The Economy Board Work Programme 2007/2008 at minute 1503 be approved**
- (ii) The recommendation at minute 1512 regarding the asset management review be discussed at agenda item 14; and**
- (iii) The minutes, subject to the amendment above, be noted.**

Social Board – 20 February 2007

Resolved that:

- (i) The resolution at minute 1527 regarding the asset management review be discussed at agenda item 14; and**
- (ii) The minutes be noted.**

Environment Board – 22 February 2007

Resolved that:

- (i) The Environment Board Work Programme 2007/2008 at minute 1532 be approved**
- (ii) The resolution at minute 1538 regarding the asset management review be discussed at agenda item 14; and**
- (iii) The minutes be noted.**

Planning Committee – 28 February 2007

Resolved:

That the minutes be noted.

Grants Allocations Sub-Group – 6 March 2007

Resolved:

That the minutes be noted.

Policy and Resources Committee – 6 March 2007

Resolved that:

- (i) The minutes be noted; and**
- (ii) The following minutes be approved:**
 - a. 1555 – Corporate Plan 2007- 2010**
 - b. 1557 – Protocol for the Management of Organisational Change (under Customer Services – Revised Staffing Structure)**
 - c. 1558 - Policy and Resources Committee Work Programme 2007/2008**
 - d. 1562 - Treasury Management – Strategy Statement 2007/08 and Annual Investment Strategy 2007/08**
 - e. 1563 - Prudential Borrowing Indicators 2007/08; and**
 - f. 1564 (b) Draft Community Economic Developments Strategy 2007 – 2012, subject to the amendment at minute 1592 above.**

Licensing Committee – 12 February 2007

Councillor R Sayner informed councillors that she had sent her apologies to the meeting, but these had not been recorded.

Resolved:

That the minutes, subject to the amendment above, be noted.

Licensing Committee – 12 March 2007

Resolved:

That the minutes be noted.

1593

Nominations for Chairman and Vice-Chairman 2007/2008

The Leader of the Council informed the Council that the Vice-Chairman, Councillor D McSherry, did not wish to stand in the forthcoming district elections. He gave thanks to Councillor D McSherry for all his hard work throughout the current municipal year in his position as Vice-Chairman.

Councillors discussed nominations for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2007/2008.

Resolved:

That Councillors Mrs J Dyson and J Crawford be nominated to the offices of Chairman and Vice-Chairman Elect respectively for the 2007/2008 municipal year.

1594

Management of Housing Land Release

The Head of Service – Legal and Democratic Services informed councillors that a letter had been received earlier that day from Cunnane Town Planning, with regard to the report before Council on the Management of Housing Land Release.

Councillors were informed by the Head of Service – Legal and Democratic Services that the issues raised in the previous letters sent by Cunnane had been addressed by the report before Council. This report explored fully the Council's current position and options available. It was his opinion that the Planning Policy Manager could deal with the issues raised in this most recent Cunnane letter verbally, during his presentation to councillors and that councillors could come to a decision on the proposals in the report.

The meeting of Council was then adjourned for 10 minutes, in order for councillors to read the Cunnane letter.

The Planning Policy Officer went through the letter in detail with councillors, outlining and addressing the issues raised. He then updated councillors on recent progress in the implementation of the Council's current policy on housing land release and possible interim management action prior to the adoption of the core strategy.

Resolved that:

- (i) No "Phase 2" housing sites be released until the broad distribution of future new development has been established through the core strategy, unless future monitoring indicates a need for earlier release**

- (ii) The case for producing an interim policy statement, in conjunction with the core strategy preferred options report, be reviewed when this year's monitoring results become available, and in the light of final RSS housing figures; and**
- (iii) Proposals for development on windfall sites continue to be carefully scrutinised to determine whether they are genuinely previously developed land, in accordance with national guidance, and that where development on previously developed land is proposed, including garden curtilages, particular regard be given to protecting the form and character of settlements, in accordance with SDLP policies ENV1, H2B, H6 and H7.**

1595

Revised Local Development Scheme

Councillors considered the programme of local development documents to be included in the revised Local Development Scheme (LDS) and examined the draft LDS with a view to its submission to the Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber (GOYH).

Councillors discussed at length the current position of the Council with regard to Parish Plans and considered ways in which the Council could offer greater support with their design and development.

Resolved that:

- (i) The revised LDS for 2007/2008 be approved for submission to GOYH**
- (ii) The Planning Policy Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Policy and Resources Committee, be authorised to make any necessary amendments to the LDS to reflect GOYH requirements; and**
- (iii) The issue of Parish Plans be further considered by Council following the elections in May 2007**

1596

Urgent Action

The Chief Executive reported on the action he had taken as a matter of urgency on the following item:

- Compromise agreement with an employee at Selby District Council.

1597

Sealing of Documents

To authorise the sealing of any documents necessary to action decisions of this Council Meeting, or any of its Committees and Boards for which delegated authority is not already in existence.

Resolved:

That authority be granted for the signing of, or the Common Seal of the Council being affixed to, any documents necessary to give effect to any resolutions hereby approved.

1598

PRIVATE SESSION

Resolved:

That in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, as there will be a disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Section 12(A) of the Act, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

1599

Asset Management Review

The Principal Economic Development Officer presented a report on a number of Council-owned properties that a Task and Finish Group had identified as potentially surplus to requirements. The report gave a description of each of the premises, the Board which had responsibility for them, their original purpose, current market value, potential developable value, the contribution or cost to the general fund budget and the implications for the budget if the asset was sold.

The Economy Board (minute 1512 – 13 February 2007), Social Board (minute 1527 – 20 February 2007) and Environment Board (minute 1538 – 22 February 2007) had already considered the report insofar as it related to properties under their control and the relevant minutes were attached to the report. These minutes, together with the report had been before Policy and Resources Committee on 6 March 2007 which then made the decision to refer the matter to Council (minute 1566 – 6 March 2007).

Thanks were offered to Councillors Wilson and D McSherry for all their hard work over the last few months.

Resolved that:

- (i) Minute 1512 – Economy Board 13 February 2007 be approved**
- (ii) Minute 1527 – Social Board 20 February 2007 be approved; and**
- (iii) Minute 1538 – Environment Board 22 February 2007 be approved.**

1600

Town Centre Development Working Group

The Chief Executive updated councillors on the meeting of the Town Centre Development Working Group held on 15 March 2007. The outline concept plans would be available shortly for the Town Centre Development Working Group to view.

Resolved:

That the update be noted.

1601

Tesco

Councillors were asked to consider extending the longstop date in the agreement between Tesco and Selby District Council.

Resolved that:

The longstop date in the agreement between Tesco and Selby District Council be extended to 29 June 2007.

The meeting closed at 8:05pm.