

## SELBY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Extraordinary Council held on 4 March 2008, in the Civic Suite, the Civic Centre, Portholme Road, Selby, commencing at 6:00 pm.

753	The Budget Reserves and Balances
754	Housing Revenue Account
755	Housing Rents and Major Repair Allowances
756	Council Tax 2008 – 2009
757	Prudential Borrowing Indicators 2008 - 2009
758	Schedule of Meetings 2008 - 2009
759	Nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman
760	Private Session
761	Staffing Review and Restructuring
762	Dransfield Land and Accommodation Works
763	Sale of Land to Tesco

Present: Councillor Mrs J Dyson (Chairman) in the Chair

Councillors: Mrs E Casling, I Chilvers, M Crane, Mrs D Davies, Mrs S Duckett, K Ellis, D Fagan, Mrs M Hulme, W Inness, M Jordan, C Lunn, D N Mackay, Mrs P Mackay, B Marshall, W N Martin, J McCartney, Mrs M McCartney, Mrs K McSherry, C Metcalfe, Mrs E Metcalfe, Mrs W Nichols, I Nutt, R Packham, C Pearson, A Pound, Mrs S Ryder, R Sayner, S Shaw-Wright, R H Sweeting, A Thurlow and Mrs D White.

Officials: Chief Executive, Mr J Lund, and Mr S Martin Strategic Directors, Head of Service – Finance and Central Services, Head of Service – Human Resources, Head of Service – Policy and Performance, Head of Service – Environmental Health and Leisure Services, Head of Service - Planning and Economic Development, Head of Service – Housing, Democratic Services Officer and Committee Administrator.

Observers: Mr P Rhodes – District Valuer Services

The Reverend G Wardell offered opening prayers.

Public: 0

Press: 0

751 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Davis, J Deans, Mrs C Goodall, Mrs C Mackman, J Mackman, B Percival and Mrs A Spetch.

752 **Disclosure of Interest**

None received.

753 **The Budget Reserves and Balances**

Councillors received the report of the Head of Service - Finance and Central Services on the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of the Council's reserves and balances.

**Resolved:**

**That the report, and in particular, the statements in paragraphs 4.1 and 4.7 of the report be taken into account when setting the Council Tax (see minute 756 below).**

754 **Housing Revenue Account – Referrals from Social Board – 8 January 2008**

Councillors considered minutes 574, 575 and 576 of the Social Board meeting held on 8 January 2008, which set out recommendations for approval by the Council.

**Resolved:**

**That the recommendations set out in minutes 574,575 and 576 be approved and adopted.**

755 **Housing Rents and Major Repair Allowances – Referral from Social Board 26 February 2008**

Councillors considered minute 726 of the Social Board held on 28 February 2008 which set out recommendations regarding housing rents and major repair allowances for approval by the Council.

**Resolved:**

**That the recommendations set out in minute 726 be approved and adopted.**

**Council Tax 2008 – 2009**

Councillors received the report of the Head of Service – Finance and Central Services which set out the information necessary to enable the 2008/2009 Council Tax to be formally agreed.

**Resolved that:**

- (i) The information contained in Appendix F of the report in relation to the Council Tax for 2008/09 be noted;**
- (ii) The values contained in Appendices A to E and Schedule C of the report in relation to the Council Tax for 2008/09 be approved;**
- (iii) Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at Schedule B and Appendix F of the report, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 hereby sets the amounts shown in Schedule C of the report as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2008/2009 for each of the categories of dwellings shown at Schedule C of the report.**

**Prudential Borrowing Indicators 2008 – 2009**

Councillors received the report of the Head of Service – Finance and Central Services with information on the prudential indicators for borrowing required by the CIPFA Prudential Code as specified by the Local Government Act 2003.

**Resolved: That**

- (i) the prudential borrowing indicators which reflect the capital expenditure plans and treasury management policy decisions and confirm that they are affordable, prudent and sustainable be approved;**
- (ii) the authorised borrowing limit at £16,000,000 and the operational borrowing limit at £12,000,000 for 2008/09 be approved;**
- (iii) delegated authority be given to the Head of Finance and Central Services to effect movement within the agreed authorised boundary limits for long-term borrowing for 2008/09 onwards; and**

- (iv) **delegated authority be given to the Head of Finance and Central Services to effect movement within the agreed operational boundary limits for long-term borrowing for 2008/09 onwards**

758 **Schedule of Meetings 2008 – 2009**

The Chief Executive submitted the proposed Schedule of Meetings for 2008/09 for Councillors' approval.

**Resolved:**

**That the Schedule of Meetings 2008/2009 be approved.**

759 **Nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman**

**Resolved:**

**That Councillor J Thurlow and Councillor I Chilvers be nominated to the offices of Chairman and Vice Chairman Elect respectively for the 2008/2009 Municipal Year.**

760 **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 paragraphs 1 and 3 of Section 12(A) of the Act, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.**

761 **Staffing Review and Restructuring**

Councillors received the report of the Strategic Director, J Lund with proposals for a restructuring of staffing arrangements within the Planning and Economic Development Service Area to ensure that the best arrangements were in place to:

- Deliver and sustain consistently improved levels of performance, quality and customer satisfaction.
- Increase the focus on delivering the Local Development Framework.

- Assist the Council to recruit, retain and reward staff committed to delivering an improved service.
- Strengthen management capacity within the service to lead change, deliver improved performance and maintain a clear focus on corporate objectives.

The report had been considered by the Policy and Resources Committee immediately prior to this meeting and they had recommended:-

- a) to approve the revised structures set out in this report and illustrated at Appendix B;
- b) to approve the budgetary implications set out at Part 5 of this report including a supplementary estimate of up to £45,350 from base budget savings and £30,000 for training from the Planning Delivery Grant in 2007/08;
- c) to begin the process of implementing the new structures with immediate effect;
- d) to continue to report on performance improvement within the new Development Service as part of the regular performance monitoring process.

Moved by Councillor Crane and seconded by Councillor C Metcalfe that the recommendations be approved and adopted.

Moved by Councillor Packham and seconded by Councillor Shaw-Wright as an amendment the motion with the addition of

- e) to report to Policy and Resources Committee on the restructure in 12 months time, in particular the roles and skills of appointees, the level of expenditure on consultants and the level of training provided and planned.

Amendment carried.

Substantive motion carried.

**Resolved:**

- (i) to approve the revised structures set out in this report and illustrated at Appendix B;**

- (ii) **approve the budgetary implications set out at Part 5 of this report including a supplementary estimate of up to £45,350 from base budget savings and £30,000 for training from the Planning Delivery Grant in 2007/08;**
- (iii) **to begin the process of implementing the new structures with immediate effect;**
- (iv) **to continue to report on performance improvement within the new Development Service as part of the regular performance monitoring process; and**
- (v) **to report to Policy and Resources Committee on the restructure in 12 months time, in particular the roles and skills of appointees, the level of expenditure on consultants and the level of training provided and planned.**

762

### **Dransfield Land and Accommodation Works**

The Chief Executive updated councillors on the report of the Head of Service – Legal and Democratic Services seeking agreement from the Council for the terms negotiated by the District Valuer with Dransfield Properties Limited in relation to land acquisition and accommodation works.

Mr P Rhodes of the District Valuer Services was in attendance at the meeting and gave councillors details of the terms suggested for the disposal of land to the company.

#### **Resolved:**

**That the terms set out in Appendix 2 to the report be approved and adopted.**

763

### **Sale of Land to Tesco**

Councillors received an oral report from Mr S Martin, Strategic Director concerning the sale of land to Tesco. Only minor issues remained to be dealt with and the Solicitor acting on behalf of the Council had been instructed to complete on 14 March 2008.

#### **Resolved:**

**That the report be noted.**

The meeting closed at 6.53pm.  
Extraordinary Council  
4 March 2008