

SELBY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Council held on 10 February 2009, in the Civic Suite, the Civic Centre, Portholme Road, Selby, commencing at 6:00 pm.

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Present: Councillor J Thurlow (Chairman) in the Chair

Councillors: Mrs E Casling, I Chilvers, M Crane, Mrs D Davies, J Deans, Mrs S Duckett, Mrs J Dyson, K Ellis, D Fagan, Mrs C Goodall, Mrs M Hulme, Mrs G Ivey, 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, Mrs C Mackman, J Mackman, C Metcalfe, Mrs E Metcalfe, Mrs W Nichols, I Nutt, C Pearson, B Percival, A Pound, Mrs S Ryder, R Sayner, S Shaw-Wright, Mrs A Spetch, R H Sweeting and Mrs D White.

Officials: Chief Executive, Mr J Lund - Strategic Director, Mr S Martin - Strategic Director, Head of Service – Finance and Central Services, Head of Service – Development Services, Head of Service – Housing, Accountancy Services Manager, Media and Corporate Communications Manager and Democratic Services Officer.

The Monsignor B Bickers offered opening prayers.

Public: 3
Press: 0

626 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Cattanach, M Davis, C Metcalfe and R Packham.

627 **Disclosure of Interest**

None.

628 **Minutes**

Resolved:

That the minutes of the proceedings of the Council held on 9 December 2008 be confirmed as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

629 **Communications**

None.

630 **Public Questions**

None.

631 **Councillors' Questions**

Councillor Crane responded to a question raised by Councillor McCartney with regard to duties previously undertaken by the then Council's Tree and Landscape Officer and indicated that appropriate information on trees continued to be made available.

632 **Committee and Board Minutes**

Licensing Committee – 1 December 2008

Resolved:

That the minutes be noted.

Licensing Committee – 15 December 2008

Resolved:

That the minutes be noted.

Licensing Committee – 12 January 2009

Resolved:

That the minutes be noted.

Planning Committee – 10 December 2008

Resolved:

That the minutes be noted.

Planning Committee – 15 December 2008

Councillor Mackman reported that with regard to the third line of Minute 415 the word 'country' be substituted for 'county'.

Resolved:

That the minutes be noted.

Planning Committee – 7 January 2009

Councillor Mackman reported that with regard to Minute 542 the words 'reason for refusal' be substituted for 'condition' in the second line of the resolution.

Resolved:

- (i) That the minutes be noted; and**
- (ii) That the recommendation set out in Minute 539 be considered later in the meeting (Minute 634 refers).**

Social Board – 6 January 2009

Resolved:

- (i) That the minutes be noted; and**
- (ii) That the recommendations set out in Minutes 527, 528 and 529 be considered later in the meeting (Minute 634 refers).**

Environment Board – 8 January 2009

Resolved:

- (i) That the minutes be noted; and**
- (ii) That the recommendation set out in Minute 550 be considered later in the meeting (Minute 634 refers).**

Economy Board – 13 January 2009

Resolved:

- (i) That the minutes be noted;**
- (ii) That the recommendation set out in Minute 564 be considered later in the meeting (Minute 634 refers).**

Audit Panel – 14 January 2009

Resolved:

That the minutes be noted.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 15 January 2009

Resolved:

- (i) That the minutes be noted; and**
- (ii) That the recommendation set out in Minute 584 be not approved.**

Policy and Resources Committee – 20 January 2009

Resolved that:

- (i) The minutes be noted; and**
- (ii) The recommendation set out in minute 598 containing Anti-Money Laundering be approved; and**
- (iii) The recommendation set out in Minute 599 be considered later in the meeting (Minute 634 refers).**

Discretionary Rate Relief Panel – 20 January 2009

Resolved:

- (i) **That the minutes be noted; and**
- (ii) **That the recommendation set out in Minute 5 relating to warehouses premises in Selby be approved.**

Selby Community Project – Internal Project Board – 22 January 2009

Councillor Mrs W Nichols reported that she was unable to attend meetings of the Board and therefore Councillor N Martin would be taking her place.

Resolved: That the minutes be noted.

Selby Community Project – Internal Project Board – 5 February 2009

Resolved:

- (i) **That the minutes be noted;**
- (ii) **That with regard to minute 6.2 the Internal Project Board be given delegated authority to agree project designs and the submission of the planning application.**

633

Building Control

The Head of Service – Finance and Central Services reported on the current situation regarding the Building Control Partnership which consisted of Selby, Ryedale, Hambleton and Scarborough Councils.

The Partnership was facing difficulties as a result of the economic downturn and had put together a recovery plan to safeguard its future.

The plan would involve staff redundancies and early retirement packages. The costs of which would be shared equally between the four constituent Councils.

Selby Council's share of the cost would be £20,000 in 2008/09 and £29,000 in 2009/10.

Resolved:

That approval be given to the equal sharing of redundancy and/or early retirement costs to effect the Building Control Partnership recovery plan.

Budget

The Leader of the Conservative Group outlined his main objectives for the next financial year and distributed papers showing his proposals, including a list of bids recommended for approval.

In view of the economic downturn, he emphasised the need to seek best possible value for money for services provided by the Council.

If approved the proposals would mean an increase of 3.4% in council tax which was broadly in line with inflation generally.

A discussion ensued, including a response from the Leader of the Labour Group to the budget proposals.

Resolved that:

- (i) **A net revenue budget of £11,176,020 be set for 2009/2010 which equals a gross band D council tax of £155;**
- (ii) **£421,966 of bids as presented be approved for 2009/10;**
- (iii) **the proposals for the Housing Revenue Account and the Housing Revenue Account Fees and Charges as recommended by the Social Board be approved;**
- (iv) **the re-prioritisation of reserves as set out in the appendix be approved.**
- (v) **the use of balances and reserves be accepted**
- (vi) **the Head of Service – Finance and Central Services be authorised to determine the final level of contribution to or from reserves upon the closure of accounts;**
- (vii) **an extraordinary meeting of Council be held on Tuesday 3 March 2009 at 6:00 pm to formally set the council tax for 2009/10, inclusive of all precepts from North Yorkshire County Council, the Police Authority, the Fire Service and Parish/Town Councils.**

Schedule of Meetings 2009/10

The Chief Executive submitted the proposed Schedule of Meetings for 2009/10 for Councillors' approval.

Resolved:

That the schedule of meeting now submitted be approved.

636

Nominations for Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Resolved:

That Councillor I Chilvers and Councillor K Ellis be nominated to the offices of Chairman and Vice Chairman Elect respectively for the 2009/2010 Municipal Year.

637

Local Strategic Partnership Update

The Chief Executive submitted a report updating councillors on the work of the Local Strategic Partnership.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

638

Urgent Action

The Chief Executive reported that in consultation with the Chair of the Renaissance Panel he had authorised the inclusion of Tadcaster and Sheburn in Elmet within the Council's Urban Renaissance Phase II Project submission to Yorkshire Forward.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

639

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.

640

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

641

Management Structure Review

Councillors received the report of the Chief Executive to consider recommendations for a review of the senior management structure of the organisation and consequential changes.

With the current vacancies, changing circumstances and financial pressure the report considered the potential for changes to the senior management structure of the authority together with consequential changes within the body of the organisation to meet new statutory requirements.

Resolved: That

- (i) approval in principle be given to the proposed changes to the senior management structure;**
- (ii) the Policy and Resources Committee be given delegated authority to deal with issues arising from the proposed changes; and**
- (iii) the Chief Executive be authorised to implement the changes in accordance with the change management policies of the Council.**

The meeting closed at 7:32 pm.