

Council

Venue: Council Chamber
Date: 11 December 2012

55	Disclosures of Interest
56	Minutes
57	Communications
58	Announcements
59	Petitions
60	Public Questions
61	Councillors' Questions
62	Reports from the Executive
63	Reports from Committees
64	The Medium Term Financial Strategy
65	The HRA Business Plan
66	Localisation of Council Tax Support
67	Review of the Asset Management Strategy
68	CCTV Procurement
69	Gypsy and Traveller Update
70	Urgent Action
71	Sealing of Documents
72	Private Session
73	Senior Management Structure

Present: Councillor J Crawford in the Chair

Mrs E Casling, J Cattnach, I Chilvers, M Crane,
Mrs D Davies, J Deans, M Dyson, K Ellis, M
Hobson, W Inness, Mrs G Ivey, M Jordan, C Lunn,
D Mackay, Mrs P Mackay, Mrs C Mackman, J
Mackman, B Marshall, Mrs K McSherry, J
McCartney, Mrs M McCartney, C Metcalfe, R
Musgrave, Mrs W Nichols, R Packham, C Pearson,
D Peart, A Pound, I Reynolds, Mrs S Ryder, S
Shaw-Wright and R Sweeting

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Mrs M Davis, Mrs S Duckett, Mrs E
Metcalfe, I Nutt, R Price, R Sayner, Mrs A Spetch
and J Thurlow

Also Present: Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, Managing Director of Access Selby, Executive Director (s151), Director of Community Services, Solicitor to the Council and Democratic Services Manager.

Press: 0
Public 3

55. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Lunn, having registered a disclosable pecuniary interest arising from the fact that he owns a number of properties which would be, from time to time, affected by the proposals set out in the report, left the meeting during discussion and voting on agenda item 11 (minute 66 - Council Tax Localisation).

Councillor Packham, having registered a disclosable pecuniary interest arising from the fact that he has a second home for which he was in receipt of Council Tax exemption, left the meeting during discussion and voting on agenda item 11 (minute 66 - Council Tax Localisation).

Councillor Shaw-Wright declared a non pecuniary interest in item 13 (minute 69 – Gypsy and Traveller Update) through his employment with Selby AVS. He remained in the meeting during consideration of that item.

56. Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 11 September 2012 and 6 November 2012 were confirmed as a correct record.

Resolved:

To approve the minutes for signing by the Chairman.

57. Communication

Burn Parish Council

The Chief Executive reported a letter received from Burn Parish Council setting out its opposition to the proposed second Gypsy and Traveller Site at Burn Airfield.

The Leader of the Council responded to the issues raised and defended the steps taken by both the Executive and the Council to solve this difficult issue.

Resolved:

To note the correspondence.

58. Announcements

The Chairman of the Council invited all councillors to attend his drinks reception after the meeting and advised that he would be making a donation to charity in lieu of Christmas cards.

Resolved:

To note the announcement.

59. Petitions

None received.

60. Public Questions

Mr Brian Percival had submitted the question below to the Council.

“The development of the core strategy has taken a very long time and there appears to be little certainty as to when it will be fully adopted and more importantly, taken up. I cannot see it having any significance in Tadcaster because it takes the combination of strategy and implementer.

Please explain the added value to the charge payer that will be delivered in the context of the costs to date and to conclusion, the alternative usages that could have been made of the financial and human resources consumed and to be consumed and whether what is hoped will be delivered could have been obtained by other methods. “

Councillor J Mackman responded. He briefly set out the reasons for the delays in the Core Strategy and explained its significance to the region in future years.

In response to a supplementary question, Councillor J Mackman provided information regarding the calculation of costs of the Core Strategy and advised that the development of the District's town centres was a key element of the programme for growth.

61. Councillors' Questions

None received.

62. Reports from the Executive

The Leader of the Council reported on the work he had recently undertaken. His report outlined on going discussions to create job opportunities in Selby District.

Councillor Mrs G Ivey, Deputy Leader of the Council and Lead Executive Member for External Relations and Partnerships, reported on her latest work. She updated the Council on the ongoing work towards a new Leisure Centre and responded to questions regarding the North Yorkshire Police Commissioner. Councillor Mrs G Ivey would respond to a question regarding the recent announcement regarding the relocation of patients with mental health issues outside of the meeting.

Councillor Lunn, Lead Executive Member for Finance, reported on the work he had undertaken within his portfolio, he provided further detail on the Treasury Management report received by the Executive on 1 November 2012.

Councillor J Mackman, Lead Member for Place Shaping, reported on his latest work. He responded to questions on the joint commissioning, with Harrogate Borough Council, of a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) report. The GTAA report would determine each district's traveller accommodation needs to the end of the Local Plan period.

Councillor C Metcalfe, Lead Member for Communities, gave an update on his work. He provided a brief update on the current situation at Brayton Barff and offered to respond to a question on the site's management outside of the meeting.

Resolved:

To receive and note the reports from the Executive.

63. Reports from Committees

The Chair of Policy Review Committee, Councillor Jordan, reported on work of the Committee since the last Council meeting. He highlighted the Committee's ongoing work regarding the collection of green waste. The Council also discussed the use of its garages.

Councillor Mrs W Nicholls, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee, outlined the recent work of the Committee. The report covered the Committee's work in scrutinising performance reports and the New Selby War Memorial Hospital Minor Injuries Unit.

Councillor Mrs E Casling, the Chair of Audit Committee, gave an update to Council regarding the matters covered at the last meeting. The Committee had recently considered the Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement.

Resolved:

To receive and note the reports from the Committees.

64. The Medium Term Financial Strategy

Councillor Lunn presented the report on the Executive's proposals for the updated Medium Term Financial Strategy, following scrutiny by the Policy Review Committee. It supported the delivery of the Council's objectives and priorities over the next four years.

Councillor Lunn briefly outlined the impact of the projected cuts in Central Government grant as outlined in the Autumn Statement.

Resolved:

To approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy Update.

65. The HRA Business Plan

Councillor Lunn presented the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan for approval following consultation with tenants and the Policy Review Committee. The HRA Business Plan was the strategic document setting out the Council's vision of housing services over the next five years.

The Council discussed the importance of completing both the planned Stock Condition Survey and working closely with tenants to establish their needs.

Resolved:

To approve the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan.

Having registered a disclosable pecuniary interest which related to the item set out below, Councillors Lunn and Packham left the meeting.

66. Localisation of Council Tax Support

Councillor Crane presented the report on the Executive's proposal for the provision of Localised Support for Council Tax.

Councillor Crane outlined that the Welfare Reform Act 2012 would bring an end to the current Council Tax Benefit Scheme on 31 March 2013. Under the reforms, the amount of subsidy local government receives would be reduced by 15% and pensioners must be protected from any benefit reductions. The Council received a low response to its consultation exercise.

The Council approved the proposed scheme as submitted.

Resolved:

- i) To adopt the proposed version of the Council Tax Support scheme set out in the report;**
- ii) To approve the proposed changes to Council Tax discounts and exemptions from 1 April 2013;**
- iii) To approve the implementation of a Council Tax Support Hardship Scheme;**
- iv) To approve the Council Tax Support Scheme Vulnerability Policy.**

Councillors Lunn and Packham rejoined the meeting

67. Review of the Asset Management Strategy

Councillor Crane presented the Asset Management Strategy which was proposed for approval by Executive.

At this point, Councillor Mrs C Mackman declared a non pecuniary interest in this item through her work with a charity.

The Council heard that the Asset Management Strategy provided the overarching objectives for the Council's use of assets for 2012-2015. The Council discussed the accuracy of the list and a correction was made regarding the ownership of the Civic Centre.

Resolved:

To approve the Asset Management Strategy.

68. CCTV Procurement

Councillor C Metcalfe presented the report on the re-location of the CCTV fibre termination point and the decommissioning of the redundant CCTV infrastructure. The re-location of the hub was fundamental to ensuring an EU compliant procurement exercise.

Councillor C Metcalfe outlined that the re-location of the hub and decommissioning of the redundant CCTV infrastructure required capital funding of £85,000 in 2012/13 and £13,600 in 2013/14.

Resolved:

To release £98,600 from the Spend to Save Reserve for the provision of a CCTV fibre network termination hub and decommission the redundant CCTV infrastructure.

69. Gypsy and traveller Update

Councillor J Mackman provided an update following the Executive's decision to authorise Access Selby to submit applications to facilitate the delivery of a traveller's site.

Councillor J Mackman set out a brief history of the selection of a second gypsy and traveller site at Burn. Following the Executive's decision on 1 November 2012, Access Selby had commenced formal negotiations to purchase the site.

The Council debated the potential second site at Burn Airfield and the opposition from residents.

Councillor J Mackman outlined that Access Selby had applied for a grant from the Homes and Communities Agency for 80% of the costs of developing the site. However, the Council was yet to hear if the bid had been successful. As a result, Councillor J Mackman proposed an additional recommendation as set out below:

- iii) To endorse that in the event that the bid is unsuccessful to develop the site by an alternative route in association with our partners.

The Council accepted the additional recommendation and

Resolved:

- i) **To note the action to date and current position with regard to delivery of a suitable Gypsy & Traveller site;**
- ii) **To endorse the allocation of £188,000 from the approved Programme for Growth;**
- iii) **To endorse, that in the event that the bid is unsuccessful, to develop the site by an alternative route in association with our partners.**

70. Urgent Action

The Chief Executive informed the Council that he had not taken any urgent action in the time since the last Council meeting.

71. 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:

To grant authority 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.

72. Private Session

Resolved:

In accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, the meeting be not open to the Press and public during discussion of the following item as there will be disclosure of exempt information as defined in Section 100(1) of the Act as described in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act.

73. Senior Management Structure

Councillor Crane presented the report which asked Council to consider an appointment process for a replacement Chief Executive as a consequence of Mr Connor's retirement in July 2013.

The Council approved an additional recommendation which delegated authority to Councillor Crane to examine wider opportunities for the senior management structure.

Resolved:

- i) To accept the proposed recruitment timetable;**
- ii) To appoint a Member Panel charged with making a recommendation to Council on a preferred candidate;**
- iii) To agree to the appointment of an external facilitator to assist with the recruitment process, such facilitator to be appointed by the Member Panel;**
- iv) To approve the recommendation within the report regarding the Core structure and the retention of a £10k budget for short term appointments;**
- v) To delegate authority to the Leader of the Council to examine wider opportunities for the senior management structure.**

The meeting closed at 7.47pm