

Council

Venue: Council Chamber
Date: 10 September 2013

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Present: Councillor M Dyson in the Chair

Mrs E Casling, I Chilvers, M Crane, J Crawford, Mrs D Davies, J Deans, Mrs S Duckett, K Ellis, M Hobson, W Inness, Mrs G Ivey, M Jordan, C Lunn, D Mackay, Mrs C Mackman, J Mackman, B Marshall, Mrs K McSherry, R Musgrave, Mrs W Nichols, I Nutt, C Pearson, D Peart, R Price, I Reynolds, Mrs S Ryder, R Sayner, S Shaw-Wright, Mrs A Spetch, R Sweeting and J Thurlow.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors J Cattanach, Mrs P Mackay, Mrs M Davis, J McCartney, Mrs M McCartney, C Metcalfe, Mrs E Metcalfe, R Packham and A Pound.

Also Present: Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, Managing Director of Access Selby, Executive Director (s151), Executive Director, Business Manager, Lead Officer – Policy, Head of Legal Services and Democratic Services Manager. Peter Smith – Consultant and Mary Weastell (Chief Executive – Designate)

Press: 0
Public 4

28. Declarations of Interest

Councillor J Mackman declared that he had registered as an “other interest” his role on the Selby and District Housing Trust. As this interest was not a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest he remained in the meeting and participated during consideration of items 15 and 16 (minutes - 41 and 42 respectively).

Councillor I Reynolds stated that whilst he didn’t have a formal interest to declare, his employer had provided professional advice in respect of item 22 (minute 48) and he would leave the meeting and take no part in that item of business.

29. Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 25 June 2013 and 16 July 2013 were confirmed as a correct record.

Resolved:

To approve the minutes for signing by the Chairman.

30. Presentation from the Church Fenton Action Group on HS2

The Council received a presentation from the Church Fenton Action Group on HS2. The presentation outlined the Group’s opposition to the proposed development of HS2.

Resolved:

To note the presentation.

31. Communication

Burn Parish Council

The Chief Executive read out a letter received from the Chair of Burn Parish Council. The letter asked that the Council delay the adoption of

the Traveller Needs Assessment. The Council agreed to consider the points raised in the letter when discussing the Traveller Needs Assessment item later in the agenda.

Resolved:

To consider the letter as part of the Traveller Needs Assessment item on the agenda.

Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA)

The Chief Executive reported a letter received from CAMRA. It requested that the Council put forward a proposal to the Government under the Sustainable Communities Act to protect community pubs. The proposal requested that the Government ensure planning permission and community consultation would be required before community pubs were allowed to be converted for alternative use.

The Chief Executive outlined the legal implications of the request. He stated that the most appropriate course of action would be to write to Parish Councils and remind them of their ability to request community pubs be identified as 'Assets of Community Value' under the Localism Act.

Resolved:

To write to Parish Councils and ask them to consider if any pubs within their area may be the subject of a request to become an Asset of Community Value.

32. Announcements

The Leader of the Council announced that this was the final Council meeting of the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive was due to retire shortly. The Council received tributes to the work of the Chief Executive.

33. Petitions

No petitions were received.

34. Public Questions

No questions from members of the public were received.

35. Councillors' Questions

No questions from Councillors were received.

36. Reports from the Executive

The Leader of the Council reported on the work he had recently undertaken.

Councillor Mrs G Ivey, Deputy Leader of the Council and Lead Executive Member for External Relations and Partnerships, reported on her latest work. Councillor Mrs G Ivey stated that she had attended the recent Selby Cycle Sportive and she offered her thanks to Selby Cycle Club and the Yorkshire Cancer Research Charity for their help in making the event such a success.

Councillor Lunn, Lead Executive Member for Finance, reported on the work he had recently undertaken.

Councillor J Mackman, Lead Executive Member for Place Shaping, reported on his latest work. He provided an update on the Council's site at Bondgate, Selby.

In Councillor C Metcalfe's absence, the Council asked that he provide an update outside of the meeting.

Resolved:

To receive and note the reports from the Executive.

37. Reports from Committees

The Chair of Policy Review Committee, Councillor Jordan, reported on work of the Committee since the last Council meeting. Councillor Jordan stated that an additional meeting of the Committee was to be held on Thursday 12 September 2013 to consider the Affordable Housing SPD.

Councillor Crawford, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee, reported on work of the Committee since the last Council meeting.

Councillor Pearson, the Chair of Audit Committee, reported on work of the Committee since the last Council meeting.

Resolved:

To receive and note the reports from the Committees.

38. Motions

None received.

39. Access Selby Annual Report

Councillor W Inness provided a presentation on the Access Selby Annual Report. The presentation detailed the work undertaken by Access Selby during 2012/13.

Resolved:

To note the presentation.

40. Traveller Needs Assessment

Councillor J Mackman presented the report on the Traveller Needs Assessment. He outlined that the Council had a statutory duty to undertake a Traveller Needs Assessment to inform planning and policy decisions. The Council commissioned Opinion Research Services (ORS) to look at Traveller need over the period to 2028. Their report found a total need for 33 Traveller pitches split in to five year blocks of 19, 7 and 7 pitches respectively.

Councillor J Mackman then referred to the letter received from Burn Parish Council. He outlined the Council's sympathies for the ICT issues experienced by the Parish Clerk. However he stated that all parish councils had been given ample opportunity to contact either the Council or ORS on this issue. Councillor J Mackman outlined the implications of the delay suggested by Burn Parish Council and concluded that there was no tangible benefit in delaying the endorsement of the Traveller Needs Assessment.

The Leader of the Council added that the report was robust and offered a strong evidence base for future decisions.

Resolved:

To endorse the Traveller Needs Assessment 2013.

41. Selby District Council Housing Development Strategy

Councillor C Lunn presented the report on the proposed framework for developing more affordable housing in Selby District using Council owned assets and funding as part of the Council's 'Programme for Growth'.

Councillor C Lunn set out that the strategy proposed a programme of 106 houses over a five year period with resources of £5m borrowing up to the HRA debt cap and £5m General Fund borrowing to support delivery by the Selby and District Housing Trust.

Resolved:

To adopt the Housing Development Strategy.

42. Selby District Council Housing Development Sites

Councillor C Lunn presented a review of potential affordable housing development sites in Council ownership as part of the Council's Programme for Growth. Peter Smith gave a presentation to the Council on the selected Sites.

The Council discussed both the five selected sites and those which may be suitable for development in the future. Peter Smith responded to questions regarding the potential site on Portholme Road, Selby.

Resolved:

To endorse the approach to prioritise development sites.

43. National Non Domestic Rates – Discretionary Rate Relief Policy

Councillor C Lunn presented the report on the proposed changes to the Council's Discretionary Rate Relief Policy. The Policy had been developed by the Council's Scrutiny Committee and approved by the Executive.

Resolved:

To approve the policy.

44. Scrap Metal Dealers Act

Councillor M Crane presented the report which, in accordance with the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013, sets out how the Council would ensure effective and proportionate regulation of the sector.

Resolved:

- i. To give delegated powers to Access Selby Directors and to the Licensing and Appeals Committee to allow the implementation and subsequent operation of the provisions contained within the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013;**
- ii. To note that the proposed fees to be charged under that process will be considered and set by the Executive.**

45. Urgent Action

The Chief Executive informed the Council that he had taken urgent action in respect of the purchase of a piece of land at 57-59 Bondgate.

Resolved:

To approve the action taken by the Chief Executive.

46. 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.

47. 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.

48. Sale of Land at Selby Town

Councillor M Crane presented the report which considered whether to sell an area of land within Selby Town.

Councillor M Crane updated the Council with details from the valuation report which had recently been received. Having considered the latest information, the Council agreed to the sale of the land for the maximum developer offer.

Resolved:

To agree to the sale of land for the maximum developer offer.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm