

Council

Venue: Council Chamber
Date: 25 February 2014

72	Disclosures of Interest
73	Minutes
74	Communications
75	Announcements
76	Petitions
77	Public Questions
78	Councillors' Questions
79	Reports from the Executive
80	Reports from Committees
81	Motions
82	Budget, Reserves and Balances
83	Council Tax 2014/15
84	The Treasury Management Strategy
85	Pay Policy Statement
86	Affordable Housing SPD
87	Asset Transfer Policy
88	Schedule of Meetings
89	Nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman
90	Urgent Action
91	Sealing of Documents

Present: Councillor M Dyson in the Chair

Councillor J Cattanach, I Chilvers, M Crane, J Crawford, Mrs D Davies, Mrs M Davis, J Deans, Mrs S Duckett, K Ellis, M Hobson, Mrs G Ivey, M Jordan, C Lunn, Mrs C Mackman, J Mackman, B Marshall, J McCartney, Mrs M McCartney, C Metcalfe, Mrs E Metcalfe, R Musgrave, Mrs W Nichols, I Nutt, R Packham, C Pearson, R Price, I Reynolds, Mrs S Ryder, R Sayner, Mrs A Spetch, and R Sweeting

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Mrs E Casling, W Inness, D Mackay, Mrs P Mackay, Mrs K McSherry, D Peart, A Pound, S Shaw-Wright and J Thurlow.

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

Press: 0
Public 8

72. Declarations of Interest

Councillor J Mackman declared that he had registered as an “other interest” his role on the Selby and District Housing Trust. He stayed in the room during the consideration and voting on item 17 (The Asset Transfer Policy).

Councillor Mrs C Mackman declared that she had registered as an “other interest” due to her husband’s role on the Selby and District Housing Trust. She stayed in the room during the consideration and voting on item 17 (The Asset Transfer Policy).

Councillor R Packham declared that he had registered as an “other interest” his role on the Selby and District Housing Trust. He stayed in the room during the consideration and voting on item 17 (The Asset Transfer Policy).

73. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10 December 2013 were confirmed as a correct record.

Resolved:

To approve the minutes for signing by the Chairman.

74. Communication

None were received.

75. Announcements

None were received.

76. Petitions

No petitions were received.

77. Public Questions

No questions from members of the public were received.

78. Councillors' Questions

No questions from Councillors were received.

79. Reports from the Executive

The Leader of the Council reported on the work he had recently undertaken. The Leader provided further details of his discussions with Eggborough Power Station and the uncertain future for the site. He offered the full support of the Council to the Power Station and would seek a meeting with a senior government minister to discuss the future of the site. He also gave an update on the Council's discussions with the HCA regarding the potential purchase of Burn Airfield.

Councillor Mrs G Ivey, Deputy Leader of the Council and Lead Executive Member for External Relations and Partnerships, reported on the latest plans for the new Leisure Centre. The Council discussed the enforced temporary closure of the Skate Park at Abbey Leisure Centre and the future provision of these facilities for the young people of Selby. Councillor Mrs G Ivey stated that there were no plans to exclude a Skate Park from the Scott Road site and she welcomed the views of young people regarding its development.

Councillor Lunn, Lead Executive Member for Finance, reported that he had recently attended Policy Review Committee to discuss the Asset Transfer Policy, to be considered by the Council later in the agenda. He offered to respond to a question regarding the critical mass level of the Council's housing stock outside of the meeting.

Councillor J Mackman, Lead Executive Member for Place Shaping, reported on his latest work. He set out that the Council would robustly defend any legal challenge to the Core Strategy and that contingency funds were available to do so. He updated the councillors on the Council's search for a potential site for the travelling community.

Councillor C Metcalfe, Lead Executive Member for Communities, reported on his latest work. He stated that work had commenced on the refurbishment of Tadcaster Central Area Car Park and was expected to take 12 weeks to complete. The Council discussed the potential to charge for car parking once the refurbishment was finished.

Resolved:

To receive and note the reports from the Executive.

80. Reports from Committees

The Chair of Policy Review Committee, Councillor Jordan, reported on work of the Committee since the last Council meeting. He stated that he was working with officers to organise a member briefing session on Fracking.

Councillor Crawford, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee, reported on work of the Committee since the last Council meeting. He praised the work undertaken by the Waste and Recycling Task and Finish Group.

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.

81. Motions

None received.

82. Budget, Reserves and Balances

The Leader of the Council identified that recent government regulations required local authorities to record how each councillor voted on matters of setting the Budget and Council Tax. In accordance with the Council's Constitution six councillors requested a recorded vote on this matter.

The Executive Director (s151) presented the report for consideration by the Council. The report set out the issues affecting the Council's finances as part of the budget setting process.

The Council heard that the Executive's proposed budget was robust and reserves were considered adequate.

Resolved:

To note the report and to formally consider the Executive Director's statements in paragraphs 2.7 and 2.12 when voting on the Council Tax;

83. Council Tax 2014/15

Councillor Lunn presented the report on the Executive's recommended budget and capital programmes for 2014/15 to 2016/17.

Councillor Lunn set out that this had been a challenging budget round with further cuts to central government funding and the volatility of the new Business Rates regime.

The Council heard that central government grant had been cut by £728k in 2014/15, the equivalent of a 13.4% reduction in funding. To mitigate this it was proposed to increase Council Tax by 1.96%. This would raise the average Band D tax from £158.88 to £162.00, an increase of 6p per week.

Councillor Lunn also announced that the Executive was recommending a payment of £113,059 in Parish Grant. This was the equivalent payment received for 2013/14, less the 13.4% reduction in funding.

An amended set of appendices A to D was circulated which included updates to a number of parish council precepts. The Council was still awaiting some parish precepts and, as a consequence, would need to convene a Parish Precept Committee to meet on Saturday 1st March 2014 at 9am. The Council discussed the process used for engaging with parish and town councils as part of setting the budget.

Councillor Lunn stated that despite the financial pressures the Executive was able to present a balanced revenue budget and proposals for capital investment to help support the Programme for Growth.

A recorded vote was then taken on the Budget Proposals and Council Tax Setting, having regard to the Executive Director's statements in the previous report.

For the proposal:

Councillors: J Cattanach, I Chilvers, M Crane, J Crawford, Mrs D Davies, Mrs M Davis, J Deans, Mrs S Duckett, M Dyson, K Ellis, M Hobson, Mrs G Ivey, M Jordan, C Lunn, Mrs C Mackman, J Mackman, B Marshall, J McCartney, Mrs M McCartney, C Metcalfe, Mrs E Metcalfe, Mrs W Nichols, I Nutt, R Packham, C Pearson, Mrs S Ryder, R Sayner, Mrs A Spetch and R Sweeting.

Against the proposal:

Councillors: R Musgrave and I Reynolds.

Abstentions:

Councillor R Price

Resolved:

Having regard to the Executive Director's statements on the robustness of the budget and adequacy of reserves:

- i) To approve the revenue budgets and capital programmes for 2014/15 at appendices E, F and G in the report;
- ii) To increase Council Tax to £162.00 per Band D property for 2014/15;
- iii) To approve the payment of a total grant of £113,059 to parish and town councils towards their losses in Council Tax income arising from the Council Tax Support Scheme;
- iv) To approve the formal Council Tax resolution set out in Appendix B to the report;
- v) To establish a special committee (The Parish Precept Committee) in accordance with the details set out at appendix H to the report and should any parish not submit its precept by 28th of February 2014 their precept be anticipated at the same level as it was in 2013/14;
- vi) To nominate Councillors I Chilvers, J Crawford, M Dyson, I Nutt and R Saynor to the Parish Precept Committee.

At this point Councillors Musgrave and Mrs W Nichols left the meeting.

84. The Treasury Management Strategy

Councillor Lunn presented the report on the proposed Treasury Management Strategy together with the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy, Annual Investment Strategy for 2014/15 and Prudential Indicators 2014/15.

Councillor C Lunn set out that the Strategy increased the borrowing limit to allow for the Housing Development Programme.

Resolved:

- i) To approve the Operational Borrowing Limit for 2014/15 to be set at £79m;
- ii) To approve the Authorised Borrowing Limit for 2014/15 to be set at £83m;
- iii) To delegate authority to the Executive Director (s151) to effect movement within the agreed authorised boundary limits for long-term borrowing for 2014/15 onwards;
- iv) To delegate authority to the Executive Director (s151) to effect movement within the agreed operational boundary limits for long-term borrowing for 2014/15 onwards;
- v) To approve the treasury management strategy statement 2014/15;
- vi) To approve the minimum revenue provision policy statement for 2014/15;
- vii) To approve the treasury management investment strategy for 2014/15;

- viii) **To approve the prudential indicators for 2014/15 which reflect capital expenditure plans which are affordable, prudent and sustainable.**

85. Pay Policy Statement

The Leader of the Council presented the report on the implementation of the Council's Pay Policy Statement for 2014/15.

The Leader of the Council set out that the Pay Policy Statement was a requirement under the Localism Act 2011. As part of the collaborative arrangement between Selby District Council and North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) and the joint appointment of a dual part time role of Chief Executive of Selby and Assistant Chief Executive of NYCC (3/2days) Selby Council was reimbursed 40% of this salary cost by North Yorkshire County Council.

Resolved:

- i) To approve the Pay Policy Statement for 2014/15 at appendix 1 to the report;**
- ii) To approve the Terms & Conditions relating to the Pay (Appendix 2) subject to an amendment to the Appendix 2 table on page 95 in the report, in relation to the Chief Executive post as stated above.**

86. Affordable Housing SPD

Councillor Mrs G Ivey presented the report on the Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document.

Councillor Mrs G Ivey set out that the Affordable Housing SPD would assist the implementation of the Council's Affordable Homes policies in the Core Strategy which was adopted on 22nd October 2013. It sets out the Council's approach to delivering affordable housing, providing clear advice on our expectations and setting out the methods used to calculate commuted sums where these are agreed.

Resolved:

To adopt the Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document.

87. Asset Transfer Policy

Councillor C Lunn presented the report on the Asset Transfer Policy which allows for consideration of the Transfer of Assets from Selby District Council to Selby and District Housing Trust.

The Council discussed the process of transferring assets, in particular void properties, to the Housing Trust. Councillor Lunn outlined that the policy was sufficiently flexible to allow each case to be looked at on its own merits.

Resolved:

To approve the policy.

88. Schedule of Meetings 2014/15

Councillors considered the Schedule of Meetings for 2014/15.

Resolved:

To approve the schedule of meetings for 2014/15.

89. Nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman

Resolved:

- i) To nominate Councillor John Cattanach to the office of Chairman Elect for the 2014/2015 Municipal Year;**
- ii) To nominate Councillor Richard Sweeting to the office of Vice Chairman Elect for the 2014/2015 Municipal Year.**

90. Urgent Action

The Chief Executive reported that she had not taken any urgent action since the last meeting of Council.

91. 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.

The meeting closed at 7.41