

Council

Venue: Council Chamber
Date: 24 June 2014

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Present: Councillor J Cattanach in the Chair

L Casling, I Chilvers, M Crane, J Crawford, Mrs M Davis, Mrs S Duckett, K Ellis, M Hobson, W Inness, Mrs G Ivey, M Jordan, C Lunn, D Mackay, Mrs C Mackman, B Marshall, J McCartney, Mrs M McCartney, Mrs K McSherry, C Metcalfe, Mrs W Nichols, I Nutt, B Packham, C Pearson, I Reynolds, Mrs S Ryder, R Sayner, Mrs A Spetch, R Sweeting and J Thurlow.

Also Present: Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, Executive Director (S151), Managing Director of Access Selby, Director, Solicitor to the Council, Democratic Services Manager.

Press: 0

13. The Late Former Councillor Trevor Limbert

Before the commencement of the meeting, the Council stood in silence for a minute as a mark of respect to Former Councillor Trevor Limbert, who had recently passed away. Mr Limbert was an Honorary Alderman and a former Chairman of the Council. Councillor J Crawford paid tribute to Mr Limbert.

14. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs D Davies, J Deans, M Dyson, Mrs P Mackay, J Mackman, Mrs E Metcalfe, R Musgrave, D Peart, A Pound, R Price and S Shaw-Wright.

15. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

16. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13 May 2014 were confirmed as a correct record.

Resolved:

To approve the minutes for signing by the Chairman.

17. Presentation on the White Rose Carbon Capture Scheme

The Council received a presentation from Marvin Seaman on the White Rose Carbon Capture Scheme.

18. Communications

Selby Town Councillor Gavin Harding MBE

The Chief Executive reported that she had received notification that Selby Town Councillor Gavin Harding had received an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours. The Council agreed to write to Councillor Harding to pass on its congratulations.

Resolved:

To write to Selby Town Councillor Gavin Harding to pass on the Council's congratulations for his MBE.

19. Announcements

None were received.

20. Petitions

No petitions were received.

21. Public Questions

No questions from members of the public were received.

22. Councillors' Questions

Councillor J McCartney had submitted a question regarding the communication links between the out of hours emergency service and the customer contact centre. The Leader of the Council confirmed that links were in place with Ryecare, the Council's out of hours provider, and the specific Council service areas to which the emergency contact related. These links ensured that all calls to Ryecare were logged with the correct service area at the start of the next working day. The service area would then ensure the relevant details were updated onto the Council's systems which the Customer Contact Centre could then view. In some circumstances there may be a short delay in this being undertaken. The Leader of the Council stated that he was confident that system did work.

Councillor J McCartney had submitted a question regarding the management of Barlow Common and the contract with Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (YWT). Councillor C Metcalfe, the Executive Member for Communities, responded by outlining the achievements of YWT to date. He stated that Barlow Common was clean and tidy and that improvements were being made. He provided the Council with details of the contract between the Council and YWT.

Councillor J McCartney had submitted a question regarding grass maintenance on the Westfield Estate, Eggborough. Councillor C Metcalfe, the Executive Member for Communities, outlined the difficulties for the grass cutting team created by the mild wet weather experienced this year. Community Officers had been made aware of the situation and were monitoring their local areas. He provided the Council with details on the recent use of herbicide.

23. Reports from the Executive

The Leader of the Council reported on the work he had recently undertaken. He updated the Council on developments regarding the legal challenge against the Council's Core Strategy and the Olympia Park Site.

Councillor Mrs G Ivey, Deputy Leader of the Council and Lead Executive Member for External Relations and Partnerships, reported on her recent work. She responded to questions regarding the development of the new Leisure Centre and in particular the future provision of a skate park. Councillor Mrs G Ivey outlined that the Council and its partners were part way through plans to consult with young people regarding skatepark provision.

Councillor Mrs G Ivey also acknowledged concerns around the decision of the North Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner to amend the Community Safety Partnership structures in North Yorkshire and responded to questions regarding the Council's Housing Allocations Policy.

Councillor Lunn, Lead Executive Member for Finance, reported on the work he had undertaken since the last meeting of the Council.

In the absence of Councillor J Mackman, Lead Executive Member for Place Shaping, the Leader of the Council presented his report. The Leader of the Council responded to questions regarding the five year housing supply and the remedial action being taken by the Council to tackle the short fall in housing delivery. The Leader of the Council set out that the Council was continuing with its search for a suitable gypsy and traveller site. The Council discussed some of the potential sites and the Leader of the Council would respond with further details of a potential site to Councillors Mrs S Duckett and Marshall outside the meeting.

Councillor C Metcalfe, Lead Executive Member for Communities, reported on his latest work.

Resolved:

To receive and note the reports from the Executive.

24. Reports from Committees

The Chair of Policy Review Committee, Councillor M Jordan, reported on work of the Committee since the last update to Council. He offered to respond to a question on the Committee's discussion on Housing Rents outside of the meeting.

Councillor Crawford, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee, reported on work of the Committee since the last update to Council. He stated that Julia Mulligan, the North Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner, had attended a recent Scrutiny Committee and provided an overview of her views on the proposed changes to Community Safety Partnerships.

Councillor Pearson, the Chair of Audit Committee, reported on work of the Committee since the last update to Council. Councillor Person offered an opportunity for any Councillor to submit their views in respect of the changes to the Constitution which Audit Committee were currently working on.

Resolved:

To receive and note the reports from the Committees.

25. Motions

None received.

26. The State of the Area Address

Councillor Crane, Leader of the Council, submitted the State of the Area Address for 2014.

Resolved:

To receive and note the State of Area Address from the Leader of the Council.

27. Welfare Reform Update

The Leader of the Council presented the report on the six month review detailing the effect of the Welfare Reform changes in Selby District. The report focussed on the Housing Benefit Size Criteria/Spare Room Subsidy which came into force on 1 April 2013.

The Council discussed the impact of the reforms on Selby residents, particular reference was made to the issue of rent convergence which had necessitated a number of rises in rent. The Leader of the Council stated that the Council offered a range of support services to help those affected and that officers work with tenants to assist wherever possible. The Leader of Council would respond to a question from Councillor W Nichols outside of the meeting.

Resolved:

To note the report.

28. Community Governance Review

The Deputy Chief Executive presented the report which set out the requirements of the Council to undertake a Community Governance Review of its parishes and their electoral arrangements in accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

The Council discussed a number of areas which may benefit from the Community Governance Review as well as the implications of moving parish boundaries.

Resolved:

- i. To conduct a Community Governance Review in accordance with the Local Government and Public Health Involvement Act 2007 with the timetable and terms of reference set out at Appendix A.**
- ii. To authorise the Deputy Chief Executive to take all necessary steps in relation to the conduct of the review.**

29. Urgent Action

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

30. 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.

31. Private Session

The following item involves a financial negotiation with Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust. This item is proposed to be in private session on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information. The exempt information is that defined in paragraph 3 of schedule 12A being information relating to the financial or business affairs of any person including that of the authority holding the information. It is not considered to be in the public interest to hold discussions in public which could impact on the successful negotiation with the Trust.

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.

32. Abbey Leisure Centre Investment

Councillor Mrs G Ivey presented the report which proposed to pay a one-off commuted sum to Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust (WLCT) in respect of their previous investment, in the former Abbey Leisure Centre. The payment to WCLT would reduce the annual contract sum over the remaining life of the current leisure management contract.

Resolved:

To pay a commuted sum, as set out in the report, to WLCT to be funded by a drawdown from the Buildings Replacement Reserve

The meeting closed at 8.12pm.