

# **Minutes**

# Council

Venue: Council Chamber Date: 2 September 2014

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Present: Councillor J Cattanach in the Chair

Councillors L Casling, I Chilvers, M Crane, J Crawford, Mrs D Davies, J Deans, Mrs S Duckett, M Dyson, K Ellis, W Inness, Mrs G Ivey, M Jordan, C Lunn, Mrs C Mackman, J Mackman, B Marshall, J McCartney, Mrs M McCartney, Mrs K McSherry, C Metcalfe, R Musgrave, I Nutt, B Packham, C Pearson, D Peart, R Price, I Reynolds, S Shaw-Wright, R Sweeting and J Thurlow.

Also Present: Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive (and Monitoring

Officer), Executive Director (S151), Managing Director of Access Selby, Director, Solicitor to the Council, Democratic

Services Manager.

Press: 3

Public:

## 33. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs M Davis, M Hobson, D Mackay, Mrs P Mackay, Mrs E Metcalfe, Mrs W Nichols, A Pound, Mrs S Ryder, R Sayner and Mrs A Spetch,

# 34. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 35. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 24 June 2014 were confirmed as a correct record.

### Resolved:

To approve the minutes for signing by the Chairman.

#### 36. Communications

None were received.

#### Resolved:

## 37. Announcements

None were received.

### 38. Petitions

No petitions were received.

### 39. Public Questions

No questions from members of the public were received.

## 40. Councillors' Questions

No questions from Councillors were received.

# 41. Reports from the Executive

The Leader of the Council reported on the work he had recently undertaken. He had attended the Civic Service in Cawood and offered his thanks to all those involved in organising what had been an excellent event. The Leader of the Council also referred to Councillor Roger Stone, the former Leader of Rotherham Borough Council and acknowledged his decision to stand down in light of the recent events at Rotherham. He also outlined that the Council hoped to hear

shortly whether it had been successful in purchasing Burn Airfield and provided a timeline for the review of the Council priorities.

Councillor Mrs G Ivey, Deputy Leader of the Council and Lead Executive Member for External Relations and Partnerships, reported on her recent work. She highlighted the recent success of the Selby Sportive which had been attended by over 700 riders and offered her thanks to Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust, Cancer Research UK and all those involved in creating an excellent event.

Councillor C Lunn, Lead Executive Member for Finance, reported on the work he had undertaken since the last meeting of the Council. As a member of the councillors' ICT pilot, Councillor Crawford gave a positive overview of his experiences to date.

Councillor J Mackman, Lead Executive Member for Place Shaping, reported on his latest work. The Council discussed the shortfall in housing delivery across the district and Councillor J Mackman gave an overview of recent comments made by the then Planning Minister Nick Boles at an event in Leeds. The Minister indicated that there would be continued pressure to deliver housing to meet current and future need. He then provided an update regarding the provision of Traveller Sites within the District.

Councillor C Metcalfe, Lead Executive Member for Communities, reported on his latest work. In response to a question regarding charging for parking in Tadcaster, he outlined that the Tough Stuff Board had commissioned work to more fully understand the usage of the car park. This work would be essential to any consideration of future charging

## Resolved:

To receive and note the reports from the Executive.

## 42. 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 responded to a question regarding the potential purchase of Burn Airfield and would consider the possibility of the Committee examining the operation of Section 106 agreements within the district.

Councillor J Crawford, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee, reported on work of the Committee since the last update to Council. In respect of the recent call in of the Executive's decision on representation on outside bodies, the Monitoring Officer clarified the position regarding any conflict of interest for staff members appointed to the Selby Internal Drainage Board. The Managing Director of Access Selby outlined that work was on going to resolve issues with the new phone system at Access Selby.

Councillor Pearson, the Chair of Audit Committee, reported on work of the Committee since the last update to Council. He offered his thanks to those

involved with the review of the constitution which would be received by the Council at its meeting in October.

## Resolved:

To receive and note the reports from the Committees.

### 43. Motions

None received.

# 44. Access Selby Annual Report

As Chair of Access Selby Board, Councillor W Inness gave a presentation to the Council introducing Access Selby's Annual Report for 2013/14. The presentation gave an overview of the key successes, issues and challenges faced by Access Selby in 2013/14.

The Council discussed the interpretation of the public perception data collated by the Access Selby.

## Resolved:

To note the report and accompanying presentation.

# 45. Treasury Management Sweeping Arrangements

Councillor C Lunn, Lead Member for Finance and Resources presented the report which set out the proposed arrangements for the future investments of the Council in line with the Selby District Council and North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) Better Together partnership.

Councillor C Lunn set out the proposal for the future investments of the Council to be managed as part of an overall investment pool operated by NYCC. He set out that the pooling of the Council's funds would be achieved through a 'daily sweeping' arrangement. The arrangement would ensure the Council had instant access to required funds for its cash flow purposes whilst surplus cash was invested appropriately.

# Resolved:

- i. To approve the proposed treasury management sweeping arrangement.
- ii. To approve and adopt the North Yorkshire County Council 2014/15 Annual Investment Strategy and Lending List.

## 46. Standards Annual Report 2013/14

The Monitoring Officer presented the Standards Annual Report which covered the period from July 2012 to March 2014. It covered the first part year and the past full year of activity under the new arrangements for dealing with standards, conduct and ethics.

The Monitoring Officer provided a brief overview of the current arrangements at the Council and highlighted that the Audit Committee's review of the Constitution did not propose any changes in this area. The Council was informed that more standards training would be offered following the 2015 election.

The Council discussed the case of a Selby District Councillor not fully complying with the sanctions imposed by the Council in respect of a conduct matter from April 2013. The Council asked the Monitoring Officer to report back to a future Council meeting with a report outlining what further action could be considered in such circumstances.

#### Resolved:

- i. To receive and note the Standards Annual Report 2013/14 attached at Appendix 1.
- ii. To ask the Monitoring Officer to report further on any options available where a Councillor found in breach of the Code of Conduct does not comply fully with the resolutions of Council.

## 47. Report of the Local Government Ombudsman

The Leader of the Council presented a further report from the Ombudsman. This followed a decision in December 2013 from the Council not to implement the Ombudsman's original recommended remedy arising from the way in which it dealt with a planning application.

The Leader of the Council set out the background to the case and reminded Council of the previous Ombudsman's report. The Ombudsman had now given the matter further consideration and submitted another report reaffirming her view that the original conclusions were sound and that the remedy proposed was appropriate.

At the conclusion of the debate six councillors requested a recorded vote in accordance with the Council's constitution. The vote was recorded as below:

For the Proposal (22)

Councillors; Mrs E Casling, J Cattanach, I Chilvers, M Crane, J Deans, M Dyson, K Ellis, W Inness, Mrs G Ivey, M Jordan, C Lunn, Mrs C Mackman, J McCartney, Mrs K McSherry, C Metcalfe, R Musgrave, I Nutt, C Pearson, D Peart, I Reynolds and R Sweeting.

Against the Proposal (9)

Councillors; J Crawford, Mrs D Davies, Mrs S Duckett, B Marshall, Mrs M McCartney, R Packham, R Price, S Shaw-Wright and J Thurlow

None.

Abstentions (0)

The proposal was carried and it was.

#### Resolved:

- i. To receive and note the report to Council and the conclusion and recommendations set out in the Local Government Ombudsman's Further Report.
- ii. To welcome the Ombudsman's recognition that "in this case we have no reason to criticise the decision" reached by the Planning Officer.
- iii. To inform the LGO that whilst the Council continues to offer to apologise to the complainants and pay £250 in compensation for time and trouble in making the complaint, it cannot agree to the full proposed remedy because it holds to the view that it is unreasonable for the reasons set out in the Report.

# 48. Urgent Action

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

## 49. 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 7.25pm.