

Council

Venue: Council Chamber
Date: 13 October 2015
Time: 6pm

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Present: Councillor R Sweeting in the Chair

Councillors K Arthur, D Buckle, Mrs E Casling, I Chilvers, Mrs J Chilvers, M Crane, J Crawford, J Deans, K Ellis, M Hobson, D Hutchinson, M Jordan, D Mackay, J Mackman, B Marshall, Mrs M McCartney, R Musgrave, B Packham, C Pearson, D Peart, I Reynolds, Mrs J Shaw-Wright, J Thurlow, P Welch and Mrs D White.

Also Present: Chief Executive, Managing Director - Access Selby, Executive Director (s151), Executive Director – Communities, Solicitor to the Council, and Democratic Services Manager.

Press: 1
Public: 5

44. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Cattanach, Mrs S Duckett, C Lunn, C Metcalfe and Mrs W Nichols.

45. Disclosures of Interest

Councillor K Arthur declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item 9, Reports from the Executive as he had entered into new employment for Network Rail on the Barlby Olympia Level Crossing. He informed Council had he had been granted a dispensation from the Deputy Monitoring Officer to stay in the room, participate in any discussion and vote.

46. Minutes

The Council considered the minutes of the Council meeting held on 8 September 2015.

RESOLVED:

To approve the minutes of the Council meeting on 8 September 2015 for signing by the Chairman.

47. Communications

The Chairman reported that the launch event of Selby District Council becoming a dementia friendly council would take place this Thursday 15 October 2015 at 6pm and invited all Councillors to attend.

The Chairman reminded Council of his Remembrance Service event which would be taking place on Saturday 7 November 2015 at Riley Smith Hall, Tadcaster.

The Chief Executive reported that the floating day for staff had been confirmed as Thursday 24 December 2015 and confirmed the Council offices would be closed on this day.

48. Announcements

There were no announcements.

49. Petitions

No petitions were received.

50. Public Questions

No questions from members of the public were received.

51. Councillors' Questions

No questions from Councillors were received.

52. Reports from the Executive

The Leader of the Council reported on the work he had recently undertaken as outlined in his report. A query was raised regarding what would the extra funding in business rates, which was received as a result of the Drax Power Station conversion to biomass, be spent on. The Leader of the Council confirmed that no decision had been taken on the funding.

In response to a query concerning the fire at Great Heck, the Leader of the Council explained that the site of the fire had been licenced by the Environment Agency and discussions were taking place with the Environment Agency on this issue.

A further query was raised concerning the Fire Cover review especially the closure of Tadcaster Fire Station and how this would impact on Selby. The Leader of the Council informed Council that he and the Chief Executive had met with the Chief Fire Officer and had been reassured that there was enough fire cover in the west of the district.

Councillor J Mackman, Deputy Leader of the Council and Executive Lead Member for Place Shaping, provided an update on the work he had recently undertaken as outlined in his report.

Queries were raised regarding the five year housing land supply. The Deputy Leader of the Council explained that work was still on-going on this and when the five year housing land supply was complete, it needed to be ensured that it was robust. Council were informed that it was hoped that information on the five year housing land supply would be presented at the December Council meeting.

Council were informed that the appeal hearing on the Core Strategy would take place on Thursday 22 October 2015.

In the absence of Councillor C Lunn, Executive Lead Member for Finance and Resources, the Leader of the Council presented his update on the work he had recently undertaken as outlined in his report.

Discussion took place on the relocation of the police to the Civic Centre. It was explained that issues would be discussed relating to the relocation and there were several steps which needed to take place before any move was possible.

In the absence of Councillor C Metcalfe, Lead Executive Member for Communities and Economic Development, the Leader of the Council provided an update on the work he had recently undertaken as outlined in his report.

Councillor D Peart, Lead Executive Member for Housing, Leisure, Health and Culture provided an update on the work he had recently undertaken as outlined in his report. Council were informed that Selby had been awarded a start or a finish for the 2017 Tour de Yorkshire.

Councillor D Buckle provided an update on the funds raised from the recent Three Swans Sportive bike ride and informed Council that £15,000 had been raised with 950 people participating this year. Councillor Buckle issued his thanks to the Railway Club which hosted the sign in for the event.

RESOLVED:

To receive and note the reports from the Executive.

53. Reports from Committees

Councillor J Crawford, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee provided an update on the work of the Committee as outlined in his report.

Councillor J Deans, Chair of the Policy Review Committee provided an update on the work of the Committee as outlined in his report.

Councillor M Jordan, Chair of the Audit Committee provided an update on the work of the Committee as outlined in his report.

RESOLVED:

To receive and note the reports from Committees.

54. Motions

No motions were received.

55. Report to Council by Representatives on Outside Bodies

The Leader of the Council presented the report on the proposed set of guidelines to allow Councillors who had been appointed to outside bodies to report back to Council.

It was felt that sufficient updates on key outside bodies were already provided as part of the Executive updates and therefore Council was of the opinion that a standing item on updates from outside bodies was no longer required.

RESOLVED:

To confirm that a specific item on updates from the Council's appointed representatives on outside bodies is no longer required.

56. Byram Park Roads Flats Demolition

The Lead Executive Member for Housing, Leisure, Health and Culture presented the report which asked Council to allocate the necessary funds from the HRA balance for the cost of demolition and the tenants' compensation on the maisonettes, flats and bedsits on Byram Park Road, Byram.

RESOLVED:

To allocate from HRA Balances the budget of £140,000 for

demolition and relocation.

57. Phase 2 Housing Development Strategy – Delivery of HRA Funded Development

The Lead Executive Member for Housing, Leisure, Health and Culture presented the report which requested the authority to identify additional resources to bridge the funding gap between the original budget for the 18 units across seven sites and the revised costs.

RESOLVED:

To approve an additional £277k to be funded from capital receipts.

58. Localism Rate Relief

In the absence of the Lead Executive Member for Finance, the Leader of the Council presented the report which sought approval on the provision of National Non-Domestic Rate Relief (NNDR) under the Localism Act 2011 and to draw down the necessary funding.

Council was of the opinion that the decision making process with regard to awarding relief needed to be more transparent. It was agreed that if there was any award of relief then all Councillors would be written to and notified.

RESOLVED:

To approve that £100k be drawn down from the Business Rate Relief Reserve to cover the costs of the relief in 2015/16 and to notify all Councillors in the event of any relief being awarded.

59. Community Engagement Forums Annual Report

In the absence of the Lead Executive Member for Communities and Economic Development, the Leader of the Council presented the report on the five community engagement forums (CEFs) annual reports for the year 2014-15, which set out the key achievements and impacts on delivering the community development plan as well as details of community initiatives and projects the CEF have supported through grants.

RESOLVED:

To note the contents of the report and the five annual reports.

60. Urgent Action

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

61. 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 7:13pm.