

Selby District Council



Minutes

Executive

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| Venue: | Committee Room, Civic Centre, Selby |
| Date: | 3 January 2013 |
| Present: | Councillor M Crane (Chair), Councillor Mrs G Ivey, C Lunn, J Mackman and C Metcalfe |
| Officers present: | Deputy Chief Executive, Executive Director (S151), Development Manager and Democratic Services Manager. |
| Also Present: | |
| Public: | 0 |
| Press: | 0 |

NOTE: Only minute numbers 80, 81, 82 are subject to call-in arrangements. The deadline for call-in is 5pm on 14 January 2013. Decisions not called in may be implemented on 15 January 2013.

77. Apologies for Absence

No apologies were received.

78. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 6 December 2012 were submitted. The Executive approved an amendment to minute 75 (Community Right to Bid). The first sentence of the second paragraph should read:

‘Councillor Crane outlined that under the Localism Act, the Council had a duty to maintain a list of assets in the District which were of community value.’

Resolved:

Subject to the above amendment, to approve the minutes for signing by the Chair.

79. Disclosure of Interest

None received.

80. Housing Rents and Misc. Charges 2013/14 – Key Decision

Councillor Lunn presented the report on the proposals for Housing Revenue Account rent levels in accordance with Central Government's Policy on rent restructuring.

Councillor Lunn outlined that an average increase of 4.6% was proposed for 2013/14, this was based on the Government's formula for rent increases. The transitional period for rent convergence remained at 2015/16. The Executive discussed the options for properties which had not achieved convergence by this time.

The Executive welcomed the fact that the proposed increase for 2013/14 was significantly lower than the increase which the Council had been compelled to apply in the previous year and noted that even after the increase, local authority housing continued to represent good value for money.

Resolved:

To approve the proposed 4.6% average rent increase for 2013/14.

Reason for decision:

To allow rent levels to be set in advance of the coming financial year in accordance with Government policy.

81. Employers Supported Volunteering (ESV) Pilot

Councillor Crane introduced the report which set out the results of a pilot ESV scheme in which staff from the Core and Access Selby had participated. It also explained the benefits and the associated costs of future involvement in ESV.

Councillor Lunn stated that the scheme was a real opportunity for the Council to improve its staff development. It would also help to deliver valued projects on the ground and in building the Council's reputation within local communities.

The Executive welcomed the scheme and felt it demonstrated the real value the organisation places in its staff. The Executive asked to receive feedback from the scheme at future meetings.

Resolved:

To adopt the ESV as a method of developing the Council's workforce.

Reason for the decision:

To provide the Council with access to an efficient and effective method of staff development that helps support local community and voluntary groups and contributes to the delivery of the Council's Five Big Things

82. Land at St Joseph's Street, Tadcaster

Councillor Metcalfe presented the report which identified the Council owned land at St Joseph's Street, Tadcaster as having the potential to provide affordable housing.

Councillor Metcalfe outlined that the report requested agreement from the Executive for the Council to apply for planning permission for the development of the site. The Executive discussed the costs associated with the scheme.

Resolved:

To apply for planning permission for the development of the site.

Reason for the decision:

The Council has prioritised work to unlock the potential of Tadcaster as part of 'Tackling the Tough Stuff', one of the Five Big Things in the Corporate Plan 2011-15. Since then, both the provision of housing and improving the environment of our town centres have been identified as major work streams in the council's Programme for Growth.

The meeting closed at 4.26 pm.