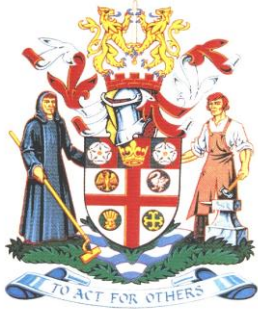


Selby District Council



Minutes

Executive

Venue:	Committee Room, Civic Centre, Selby
Date:	2 October 2014
Present:	Councillor M Crane (Chair), Mrs G Ivey, C Lunn and J Mackman.
Officers present:	Deputy Chief Executive, Executive Director (S151), Director, Solicitor to the Council, Business Manager (ES), Policy Officer, Assistant Policy Officer, Democratic Services Manager.
Also Present:	
Public:	0
Press:	0

NOTE: Only minute numbers 42, 48 and 50 are subject to call-in arrangements. The deadline for call-in is 5pm on the 14th of October 2014. Decisions not called in may be implemented on the 15th of October 2014.

39. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor C Metcalfe.

40. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 4 September 2014 were submitted and agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

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41. Disclosure 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 of, but did not vote on, item 8 on the agenda (Housing Development Strategy Phase 1 Business Case – Eggborough - site 3) and item 12 (Urgent Item) (Selby and District Housing Trust – Amendment to Articles of Association).

42. Leisure Landlord Maintenance Programme

Councillor C Lunn presented the report on the planned maintenance programme for Tadcaster Leisure Centre and Selby Park. The report set out that the Council as landlord and Wigan Leisure Culture Trust as tenant each had responsibilities as part of the programme. The new Selby Leisure Centre was not yet included as part of the programme. The Selby Leisure Centre was due to be completed and operational in early 2015 and would still be in the construction defects liability period should any issues occur.

Councillor C Lunn set out that the programme was reviewed each year as the Council refreshed its Medium Term Financial Plan and rolling Capital Programme. The proposal for Year 6 included work to the right elevation external wall at Tadcaster leisure centre and the replacement of defective timber cladding on the left elevation of the pavilion.

Resolved:

- i. To agree the Year Six Landlord Planned Maintenance Programme for Tadcaster Leisure Centre and Selby Park**
- ii. To fund the Year 6 programme from the Building Repairs Reserve within the budget proposals for 2015/16.**

Reason for the decision:

To ensure essential maintenance work required at the Council's leisure facilities is included in the Council's capital programme to enable the Council to discharge its duties as a landlord and ensure the facilities are maintained to an appropriate standard.

43. Council Tax Support

Councillor C Lunn presented the report which detailed the options for the provision of Council Tax Support for the financial year 2015/16.

Councillor C Lunn set out that that the Council's current scheme permitted the Council to award no more than 91.5% of the eligible benefit for working age people. The Executive discussed the options available to the Council for the next two year period. Option 1 was to set the maximum award for working people at 90%, Options 2 and 3 set the maximum award at 85% and 80% respectively.

The Executive discussed the assessment of self-employed income. It was agreed that, after the first year of trading had been completed and where a low or nil income was declared, the Council would apply a Minimum Income Floor based on the National Minimum Wage to the claim against the number of hours that person states they work.

The Council had consulted on the options and the results of the consultation exercise were considered.

Resolved:

To recommend Council:

- i. To reduce the maximum award for Council Tax Support for working age claimants from 91.5% to 90% (option 1) with effect from April 2015 for the 2 years April 2015 to March 2017;**
- ii. To introduce a minimum income floor for self-employed people (excluding the first year of trading) based upon the national minimum wage, with effect from April 2015.**

Reason for the decision:

To ensure an appropriate Council Tax Support scheme is adopted.

44. Housing Development Strategy – Phase 1 Business Case - Eggborough, Site 1 - Key Decision

Resolved:

To defer the item.

Reasons for the decision:

To allow further work to be undertaken

45. Housing Development Strategy – Phase 1 Business Case - Eggborough, Site 2 – Key Decision

Resolved:

To defer the item.

Reasons for the decision:

To allow further work to be undertaken

46. Housing Development Strategy – Phase 1 Business Case - Eggborough, Site 3 – Key Decision

Resolved:

To defer the item.

Reasons for the decision:

To allow further work to be undertaken

47. Leeds City Region (LCR) Business Rates Pooling – Key Decision

Councillor C Lunn presented the report on the potential for the Council to join the LCR Business Rates Pool. The report set out that the existing LCR pool was established from April 2013 and that joining would mean that any levy payable by Selby as a result of business rate gains would be retained within the LCR rather than being paid over to the DCLG. Selby would then be eligible to apply for funds from the pool

The Executive discussed the possibility of the Council joining the LCR Pool. She also indicated that she had made a further approach to the North Yorkshire Business Rates Pool but had not yet received a response. The Executive Director (S151) outlined the main risks to the Council and also clarified the necessary process to be followed should the Council wish to join a Pool. The Executive Director (S151) stated that confirmation of Selby's acceptance to either Pool by the existing contributors had yet to be received.

Resolved:

To recommend Council:

To delegate the decision to join a Business Rates pool to the Chief Executive, after consultation with the Leader, Lead Member for Resources and the s151 Officer, should it be considered to be in the financial interests of Selby District Council.

Reasons for the decision

To allow the Council to meet the Government deadline for pool applications of 31 October should it be considered beneficial for the Council to join a Business Rates Pool.

48. Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing Policy

Councillor M Crane presented the report on the draft Taxi Licensing Policy. The Policy consolidated a number of separate policies, guidance notes and conditions relating to hackney carriage and private hire licensed vehicles to provide one comprehensive policy.

In presenting the report Councillor M Crane highlighted proposed amendments to the policy which had been made since publication of the agenda. The amendments related to vehicle accessibility and were noted by the Executive.

Resolved:

- i. To approve the draft policy.**
- ii. To carry out a six week public consultation process on the draft policy, to include the duration of driver and operator licences and taxi vehicle accessibility.**

Reason for the decision:

- i. To have a comprehensive policy in place will help to ensure that the Council is in a position to act and respond to any future changes in taxi and private hire legislation.
- ii. To seek and consider the views of the taxi trade and public, prior to preparing a final draft of the policy.

49. Constitutional Amendments

Councillor M Crane presented the report which set out the findings of the Audit Committee Review of the Constitution. The report also incorporated a further recommendation in relation to Article 13 of the Constitution caused by the Openness in Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 coming into force.

The Executive considered the report and thanked the Audit Committee and the Solicitor to the Council for their work on the Constitution. It was agreed that the Executive Procedure Rules would be amended to formalise current practice in respect of non-Executive councillors speaking at the Executive and to bring together all elements of the Executive Procedure Rules into one comprehensive set of procedures. The Executive also agreed to remove the

constitutional requirement for a State of Area address to be received by the Council.

The Executive considered the recommendation regarding the Council's Planning Committee and felt that a 9 councillor committee would be the most appropriate size.

Resolved:

To recommend to Council:

- i. To approve recommendations 1 to 3, 6 to 9 and 11 to 15 contained within the Audit Committee Report into the Constitution and that they take effect from 1 November 2014.**
- ii. To approve, subject to considering the Executive's proposal that the number of Councillors appointed to Planning Committee be set at 9 rather than 10, recommendations 1, 4, 5 and 6 and that they take effect from the Annual Meeting of the Council in the 2015/16 municipal year.**
- iii. To note that the revised Executive Procedure Rules set out at Appendix 8 to the Audit Committee Report have been considered and agreed by the Executive and that they take effect from 1 November 2014.**

Reason for the decision:

To complete the work on the review of the Constitution requested by Council on 29 April 2014.

50. Urgent Item - Selby and District Housing Trust – Amendment to Articles of Association

Councillor M Crane presented the report which requested minor amendment to the Selby and District Housing Trust's (the Trust) Articles of Association following the submission of the Trust's Registered Provider application to the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA). The HCA had proposed the change as part of a process to approve the Trust's application to become a Registered Provider. The matter was urgent because the request had been received since the dispatch of the agenda and the change needed to be considered before the next scheduled meeting in order to meet the HCA timetable for considering the application.

Resolved:

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- i. To approve in principle the change, at paragraph 1.2 in the report, to Selby and District Housing Trust's Articles of Association to allow a proposed amended version of the articles to be submitted to the HCA.**
- ii. Following approval by the HCA and subject to no further changes, to delegate sign-off of the amendment to the Chief Executive.**

Reason for the decision:

To assist Selby and District Housing Trust with its application to become a Registered Provider of Housing.

The meeting closed at 5.41pm