

Decisions of the meeting of the CABINET held
at 9.30am on Tuesday 3 September 2013 at
the Civic Centre, Stone Cross, Northallerton

Present

Councillor M S Robson (In the Chair)

Councillor N Knapton
B Phillips

Councillor Mrs S Shepherd
P R Wilkinson

Also in Attendance

Councillor P Bardon
K Billings
D Blades
Mrs B S Fortune
B Griffiths
Mrs J Griffiths
D Hugill

Councillor J Noone
Mrs C Patmore
M J Prest
M Rigby
Mrs I Sanderson
Mrs M Skilbeck
D A Webster

CA.24

2013/14 QUARTER 1 REVENUE MONITORING REPORT

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report provided an update on the revenue budget position of the Council (revenue and reserve funds) at the end of June 2013.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To comply with S25 of the Local Government Act 2003 regarding setting a balanced budget and monitoring the financial position throughout the year.

THE DECISION:

That Council be recommended to:-

- (1) approve the budget adjustments at Paragraph 3.2 of the report which total a budget reduction of £37,850 to £7,676,930 in 2013/14;
- (2) approve the further budget reduction of £244,110, detailed at paragraph 3.4 of the report, to £7,432,820; and
- (3) use the £6,276 Individual electoral registration grants as detailed in paragraph 6.4 of the report from the One-Off Fund.

2013/14 Q1 CAPITAL MONITORING AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report provided the Quarter 1 update at 30 June 2013 on the progress of the capital programme 2013/14 and the treasury management position. A full schedule of the capital programme 2013/14 schemes was attached at Annex A of the report, together with the relevant update on progress of each scheme.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To comply with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003 and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Prudential Code and the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice.

THE DECISION:

That Council be recommended to:-

- (1) approve the net increase of £16,775 in the capital programme to £2,711,639 and the detailed capital programme attached at Annex A of the report;
- (2) approve the increase of capital expenditure of £27,965, funded from capital reserves;
- (3) approve the change in the Leeming Bar Management Suite scheme to Leeming Bar Food Enterprise Centre Improvement Works;
- (4) approve the decrease of capital expenditure of £89,907 and return the funding to the capital reserve;
- (5) approve the use of the additional disabled facility grant £58,717 for the housing disabled facility grant works;
- (6) note the Capital Funding position and available reserve to support further capital schemes at £1,082,431;
- (7) agree the treasury management position and prudential indicators at Annex E of the report;
- (8) approve the change in Individual Limit for Government backed institutions to 50% of total investments or £12m per counterparty whichever is the higher;
- (9) approve the change in Group limits for Government backed institutions to a group limit of 80% of fund value; and

- (10) approve the inclusion of Enhanced Money Market Funds as an alternative investment for the Council's surplus funds – noting that the value of the investment could fall or rise with market fluctuations but that this risk is mitigated to some extent if treated as a long term investment.

CA.26

BUSINESS RATE POOLING

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought consideration of a proposal regarding pooling arrangements for business rates within North Yorkshire.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To take account of the finance settlement for 2013/14 which introduced the new Business Rate Retention Funding Mechanism for Local Government.

THE DECISION:

That Council be recommended to give Delegated Authority to the Director of Resources in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Support Services and Economic Development to enter into a pooling arrangement for business rates within North Yorkshire, if it is considered financially beneficial.

CA.27

HOWARDIAN HILLS AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY: DESIGN GUIDANCE FOR NEW AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

White Horse and Stillington Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report considered the Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty: Design Guidance for New Agricultural Buildings and Infrastructure (Copy at Annex A). This was approved by the Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) on 4 April 2013 for use by the AONB Officer in responding to relevant planning application consultations from Hambleton and Ryedale District Councils.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To enable the document to be used as Planning Guidance for use in Development Management.

THE DECISION:

That Council be recommended to adopt the Design Guidance as Planning guidance to be used as a material consideration in Development Management within the Hambleton part of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

CA.28

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

THE DECISION:

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items of business at minute nos CA.29 and CA.30 on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as the Cabinet was satisfied that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

CA.29

SUPPORTING HOUSING DELIVERY

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought consideration of a request regarding financial assistance.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To enable a due-diligence exercise to be undertaken before taking a final decision on the request.

THE DECISION:

That Council be recommended to:-

- (1) undertake an investigation and due-diligence exercise on a potential loan to a local Housing Association;
- (2) set aside £15,000 from the One-Off Fund to fund this exercise; and
- (3) provide a further report to Council on the decision to enter into such an arrangement after a due-diligence exercise.

CA.30

STAFF LIAISON

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

At the last meeting in June, Cabinet supported a number of measures relating to the pay award for 2013/14, the grading structure, training and car leasing which were intended to confirm the Council's commitment to positive staff relations. These were implemented using the Chief Executive's delegated powers. This report asked for support for other related matters connected with staff liaison and made recommendations to Council accordingly.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To ensure that positive staff relations are maintained and supported.

THE DECISION:

That Council be recommended to:-

- (1) agree in principle to the new local agreement arrangements set out in the report;
- (2) authorise the Chief Executive to determine the local employment contract terms and conditions (including salary) of staff (excluding himself and Directors) based on the current National terms and conditions following negotiation with UNISON and to enter into a Local Agreement with UNISON and make any necessary changes to staff contracts;
- (3) authorise the Leader of the Council to negotiate the terms and conditions and the salary of the Chief Executive and Directors subject to the Pay Policy Statement being approved by Council each year.

The meeting closed at 10.40 am.

Leader of the Council

AGENDA ITEM NO:

**(CA.31 to CA.40)
Decisions taken under Cabinet
authority to take effect on 16 September 2013)**

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Present

Councillor M S Robson (In the Chair)

Councillor N Knapton
B Phillips

Councillor Mrs S Shepherd
P R Wilkinson

Also in Attendance

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CA.31 **MINUTES**

THE DECISION:

That the decisions of the meeting held on 16 July 2013 (CA.13 – CA.23), previously circulated, be signed as a correct record.

CA.32 **COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE 2012/13**

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report provided an overview of the Council's performance for 2012/13 against the Council Plan 2011 to 2015 using a selected set of corporate key performance indicators.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To review the Council's performance against the Council Plan Key Priorities for the year and establish how well Hambleton District Council had performed towards delivering local outcomes.

THE DECISION:

That the report for performance against the Council Plan for 2011 to 2015 be accepted.

CA.33

COUNCIL PERFORMANCE 2013-14 (QUARTER 1)

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

The Council Plan set out the direction for the Council for the next two years and had been updated to reflect changes to community needs. It showed the Council's goals and gave measurable outcomes to assess us against. The Council's approach to performance management was designed to ensure that priorities were effectively implemented, monitored and managed to achieve real improvements in the quality of life in the local community.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To review the Council's performance against the refreshed Council Plan key priorities to ascertain whether performance was on target and being managed.

THE DECISION:

That progress made against the Council Plan as detailed in Annex 'A' of the report be endorsed.

CA.34

SALARY SACRIFICE CAR LEASING SCHEME

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought approval for the introduction of a salary sacrifice car leasing scheme for all Council employees. This report followed approval by Cabinet in May 2013 for an investigation into the viability of such a scheme.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

This scheme provided benefits to employees and generated budget savings for the Council.

THE DECISION:

That the implementation of a salary sacrifice car leasing scheme for all employees be approved.

CA.35 **DRAFT LOCAL PLANNING ENFORCEMENT PLAN**

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought approval of a revised policy on planning enforcement for public consultation and formed the basis of public guidance.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To enable a review to be undertaken of the Council's adopted Enforcement and Compliance Policy.

THE DECISION:

That:-

- (1) the Draft Plan be published for consultation with service users, partner organisations including Town and Parish Councils and the general public; and
- (2) the results of consultation be reported to a future meeting of Cabinet.

CA.36 **PUBLIC OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION PLANS**

Swainby, Bedale and Topcliffe Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought endorsement of the Public Open Space, Sport and Recreation Action Plan for Ingleby Arncliffe and Sessay and a refreshed plan for Bedale.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To comply with the Council's legal responsibility to ensure funding is used in a way consistent with the individual S106 Agreements.

THE DECISION:

That the Public Open Space, Sport and Recreation Action Plans attached at Annex B of the report be endorsed.

CA.37 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT**

THE DECISION:

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items of business at minute nos CA.38 to CA.40 on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as the Cabinet was satisfied that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

CA.38 **BEDALE GATEWAY CAR PARK**

Bedale Ward

The subject of the decision:

This report sought approval for project work in connection with the possible creation of a Gateway Car Park in Bedale and potential redevelopment of the existing Auction Mart and Bridge Street Car Parks in Bedale.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To enable work on the feasibility of the developments to be undertaken.

THE DECISION:

That:-

- (1) the feasibility work on the proposal for a Gateway Car Park be agreed; and
- (2) the expenditure of £20,000 for feasibility work from the One-Off Fund be approved.

CA.39 **THIRSK TOURIST INFORMATION**

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report provided information on the intention to renew the lease on 93A Market Place, the location of Thirsk Tourist Information.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

Retention of the Thirsk Tourist Information Centre will help deliver Council priorities to support local businesses and the promotion of Hambleton as a tourist area.

THE DECISION:

That Thirsk Tourist Information be offered a 5 year lease at a peppercorn rent.

CA.40

DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS LAND AND BUILDINGS

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought agreement to the disposal of surplus non-operational land owned by the Council. Consideration was deferred at the last meeting to allow individual Members to comment. Where comments have been received these are included in the report.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To enable the Council to take appropriate action in relation to assets which were now considered to be surplus.

THE DECISION:

That:-

- (1) the disposals programme outlined in paragraph 2.3 of the report be approved;
- (2) a decision on 103 and 105 High Street, Great Ayton and the Tyre & Service Centre, East Road, Northallerton be delegated to the Director of Corporate Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Support Services and Economic Development;
- (3) the Director of Corporate Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder be authorised to agree payments to community groups in connection with the transfer of assets up to a total of £20,000.

The meeting closed at 10.40 am.

Leader of the Council