

Decisions of the meeting of the CABINET held
at 9.30am on Tuesday 3 December 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
D M Blades
Mrs C S Cookman
J Coulson
Mrs B S Fortune
Mrs J Griffiths
K G Hardisty

Councillor J Noone
Mrs C Patmore
M J Prest
M Rigby
T Swales
Mrs J Watson

CA.59

DRAFT REVENUE BUDGET 2014/15

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report presented at a strategic level the draft Revenue Budget proposals for the next financial year 2014/15.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

Cabinet was satisfied with the draft budget proposals.

THE DECISION:

That:

- (1) Cabinet endorse the draft Revenue Budget for 2014/15; and
- (2) Council be asked to approve the draft Revenue Budget for 2014/15.

CA.60

2013/14 QUARTER 2 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 September 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 Cabinet accept the budget monitoring report and that Council be recommended to:-

- (1) approve the budget adjustments at Paragraph 3.2 of the report which total a budget increase of £59,570 to £7,492,390 in 2013/14;
- (2) return £12,100 to the one-off as detailed in paragraph 6.2 of the report;
- (3) allocate £125,297 from the one off fund as detailed in paragraph 6.2 of the report;
- (4) merge the Hambleton Strategic Partnership Reserve and Strategic Forum Reserve together and the balance of £5,430 be transferred to the One Off fund, as detailed in paragraph 6.6 of the report; and
- (5) note all movements in the other reserves as detailed in paragraphs 6.3 to 6.6 of the report.

CA.61

10 YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2014/15 TO 2023/24

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought consideration of the 10 year Capital Programme covering the financial years 2014/15 to 2023/24. It was noted that this was just an estimate and no expenditure would be incurred on any of these schemes until a Value for Money appraisal for each scheme was approved by Cabinet.

The Leader suggested that consideration of a backup generator for the Civic Centre should be brought forward in-light of the disruption caused following a recent power failure.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To ensure that only necessary expenditure would be incurred and that the programme could be financed from within the resources available.

THE DECISION:

That Cabinet support the 10 year Capital Programme and that Council be asked to approve the 10 year Capital Programme 2014/15 to 2023/24 attached at Annexes A1 – A3 of the report and the installation of a backup generator at the Civic Centre be considered as a priority.

CA.62

2013/14 Q2 CAPITAL MONITORING AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID YEAR REVIEW REPORT

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report provided the quarter 2 update at 30 September 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 the monitoring report be accepted and Council be recommended to:-

- (1) approve the net decrease of £94,740 in the capital programme to £2,616,899 and the detailed capital programme attached at Annex A of the report;
- (2) approve all movements in the capital programme +/- £20,000, in accordance with financial regulations, as detailed in Annex B of the report and below:
 - (a) the increase in expenditure from re-profiling of £25,000 from 2014/15 to 2013/14 for Car Parks - Thirsk Cobbles;
 - (b) the decrease in expenditure from re-profiling of £120,000 from this year to 2014/15 for Stokesley Leisure Centre Floodlit Pitch.
- (3) note the further movements in the capital programme below £20,000 as detailed in Annex B of the report and below:
 - (a) an increase in capital expenditure of £807.

- (4) note the Capital Funding position and available reserve to support further capital schemes at £1,756,422;
- (5) note the treasury management activity at Annex C of the report and that there were no changes to the investment criteria at quarter 2 the mid-year review; and
- (6) note the prudential and treasury indicators at Annex E of the report and that there were no changes at quarter 2 the mid year review.

CA.63

WELFARE REFORM – IMPACT ON REVENUES AND BENEFITS (FROM APRIL 2014)

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report advised Members of the current situation regarding the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (Local Scheme replacing National Scheme from April 2013) and provided feedback on results of the consultation exercise (attached at Appendix 1 of the report).

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To take account of changes to the Welfare Reform from 1 April 2013.

THE DECISION:

That Council be recommended to:-

- (1) adopt the proposed scheme as detailed in paragraph 1.6 of the report; and
- (2) adopt the levying of £70.00 as a civil penalty as proposed in paragraph 1.3 of the report.

CA.64

HOUSING STANDARDS ENFORCEMENT POLICY

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

The Environmental Health Service had an overall Enforcement Policy in relation to all its activities. This set out how the Council would meet the requirements of the Regulators' Compliance Code and others. The Government had replaced the Regulatory Compliance Code with a mandatory code which would come into force on 1 April 2014. This underlined the need for the Council to be clearer about enforcement in this service area. This report sought approval of a Housing Standards Enforcement Policy.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To comply with Mandatory Compliance Code.

THE DECISION:

That Council be recommended to adopt the Housing Standards Enforcement Policy.

CA.65

SOWERBY SPORTS VILLAGE

Sowerby Ward

The subject of the decision:

Through a long history of negotiations the Council had signed a S106 Agreement in relation to the South West Thirsk housing area. This report related purely to the off-site recreational scheme and set out progress with the delivery of this element which covered the transfer of 9.745 acres of land and £1.5 million.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To take account of the Section 106 agreement regarding the South West Thirsk housing area.

THE DECISION:

That Council be recommended to approve the concept plan for the Sowerby Sports Village.

The meeting closed at 10.20am

Leader of the Council

AGENDA ITEM NO:

**(CA.66 to CA.72)
Decisions taken under Cabinet
authority to take effect on 16 December 2013)**

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CA.66

MINUTES

THE DECISION:

That the decisions of the meeting held on 5 November 2013 (CA.48 – CA.58),
previously circulated, be signed as a correct record.

CA.67

COUNCIL PERFORMANCE 2013-14 (QUARTER 2)

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.68

REGIONAL MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE LOAN SCHEME

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought approval for the Council's participation in the Regional Mortgage Assistance Loans Scheme, known as "Breathing Space".

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

Participation in this scheme would aim to reduce homelessness by providing direct support to District residents in need.

THE DECISION:

That the Council participates in "Breathing Space", the Regional Mortgage Assistance Loan Scheme, operated by Wakefield Metropolitan District Council.

CA.69

BUSINESS APPRENTICESHIP FUNDING

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought approval to extend the 'Changing Lives Building Business Scheme' by committing a further £100,000 through the One Off Fund.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

This scheme provided supported local economic growth.

THE DECISION:

That £100,000 be allocated from the One Off Fund to extend the apprenticeship scheme for small businesses.

CA.70

CENTRAL NORTHALLERTON MASTERPLAN

Northallerton Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report provided information on the intention to engage consultancy input to develop an overall Masterplan for a series of sites in the centre of Northallerton and to sought approval for funding.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

A Masterplanning exercise would ensure that uses for the sites were brought forward in a co-ordinated fashion, rather than developed piecemeal. This would ensure that they provided maximum benefit to the town and its economy, for a site that was strategically important to the County Town.

THE DECISION:

That the investment of £30,000 be made available from the One-Off Fund to conduct a masterplan of the Central Northallerton area.

CA.71

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING NON-DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought agreement of the criteria for assessing Non-Designated Heritage Assets and for these to be published on the website and be used for Development Management purposes in considering future planning applications.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To take account of National Planning Policy Framework.

THE DECISION:

That the criteria for assessing Non-Designated Heritage Assets be approved for Development Management Purposes and published on the Council's website.

CA.72

PUBLIC OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION PLANS

Stillington and Thirsk Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought endorsement of the Public Open Space, Sport and Recreation Action Plan for Stillington and revised Plans for Thirsk and Carlton Miniott.

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.

The meeting closed at 10.20am

Leader of the Council