

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.

CA.25

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 which ever 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