

COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of a Meeting of the Scarborough Borough Council held in the Town Hall, Scarborough on Monday, 7th September, 2015 pursuant to Summons.

Present:-

The Mayor (Councillor Thomas W Fox) in the Chair;
Councillors A Abbott, G W Allanson, R Barnett, D J Bastiman, Mrs L Bastiman, D L Billing, E Broadbent, D A Chance, W Chatt, Mrs D V Cluer, E Colling, G Coulson, P Cross, G Dennett, J Dodds, Ms M Donohue-Moncrieff, S B Green, C Haddington, Ms V Inman, D C Jeffels, Mrs J Jefferson, Mrs H Lynskey, Mrs H F Mallory, C D Maw, R Moody, Mrs J E Mortimer, J Nock, C Pearson, Mrs H Phillips, J Plant, N Price, Mr T Randerson, J Ritchie, S Siddons, M Smith, P H Trumper, Mrs S Turner, M T Vesey, C Walsh and J Warburton

Apologies

Councillors G A Backhouse, L Backhouse, M J Cockerill, S Cross, Mrs M Harland, A Jenkinson, Miss R K Murphy, N K Murphy and Ms R Swiers

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

The following Members each declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in agenda item 11(i), Scarborough Leisure Village and Operation of the Council's Existing Indoor Leisure Facilities:

The Chairman in his capacity as Chair of Pindar School Governing Body
Councillor Mrs Cluer since her son was a member of Scarborough Athletic
Councillor Maw since his son was a member of Scarborough Athletic
Councillor Mrs Jefferson in her capacity as a Council representative on Scarborough and District Sports Council
Councillor Randerson in his capacity as a governor of Pindar School.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

See above.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 6 JULY 2015 TO BE READ OR TAKEN AS READ AS THE CASE MAY BE.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2015 be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. TO CONSIDER ANY COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE.

The Chief Executive advised that no communications had been received.

5. QUESTIONS (IF ANY) OF WHICH NOTICE SHALL HAVE BEEN GIVEN.

The Chief Executive advised that no questions had been received.

6. TO CONSIDER AND PASS RESOLUTIONS ON THE FOLLOWING 'A' ITEMS:-

(i) Finance & Treasury Outturn Report 2014/15 (15/191)

The recommendations in the extract minutes from the Cabinet were proposed by Councillor Derek Bastiman and duly seconded. There was comment on the disappointing below target level of capital receipts for 2014/15, the overcommitted Capital Development Reserves over the next ten years (which was being addressed as a priority), and 0.44% rate of return on the Council's investment activity in 2014/15. In response to a question on the financial performance of the Open Air Theatre, the Leader explained that this was a long term project, subject to critical review at the end of each season.

RESOLVED that the Council:

- (i) note the report, and in particular:
 - the £63k underspend on the revenue budget for 2014/15;
 - the outturn position for capital schemes completed in the period and capital receipts for the 2014/15 year; and
 - the outturn position of the Council's Treasury Management function for the 2014/2015 year.
- (ii) note the Cabinet's decision to approve that the revenue budget underspend be transferred to the Capital Development Reserve and note that projections show an overcommitted balance on the reserve of £755k over the ten year period.
- (iii) approve the revised Prudential Indicators for Capital Expenditure and the Capital Financing Requirement.

Reasons

- (i) To utilise the year end surplus to ensure that priority projects are progressed whilst maintaining financial stability for the Authority.
- (ii) To comply with the CIPFA Code of Practice of Treasury Management in Local Authorities by informing Cabinet of the Council's treasury management activities before 30 September following the end of the financial year that the report relates.
- (iii) To keep Members informed of Treasury Management activities and performance.

7. TO RECEIVE A STATEMENT BY THE LEADER AND DEAL WITH ANY QUESTIONS ARISING FROM THAT STATEMENT.

The Leader presented his statement and was asked questions about progress with the Council's bid to Government to create a Local Enterprise Zone in the Borough, and the Council's response to the current refugee crisis. In reply, the Leader confirmed that the Council would be submitting an expression of interest to create a Yorkshire Coast Enterprise Zone in the Borough, hopefully to include Scarborough and Whitby, but not Hunmanby industrial estate which was deemed too small. The Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Housing reported that he would shortly be attending a meeting at County Hall with the

Home Office and other Yorkshire authorities to agree a response to the refugee crisis. Members would be kept informed of progress.

8. TO RECEIVE STATEMENTS FROM EACH OF THE CABINET MEMBERS AND DEAL WITH ANY QUESTIONS ARISING FROM THOSE STATEMENTS.

Councillor Chatt presented his statement as Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Housing. He was then asked a question about the current cost to the Council of fulfilling its homelessness obligations, the proportion of that cost which could be attributed to victims of domestic violence made homeless, and the type and geographical spread of provision for victims of domestic violence. In reply, Councillor Chatt explained that the total actual cost to the Council of fulfilling its homeless obligations was £615K per annum. This included staffing costs, the cost of providing temporary accommodation, grants paid to voluntary organisations and the cost of some prevention initiatives including the payment bonds. In addition the Council benefited from a range of key services commissioned through the Supporting People Partnership, including Changing Lives, the Young Peoples Pathway, the Stonham Support Service for homeless people as well as specific services for victims of domestic violence. Although the precise amount spent on domestic violence within the Council's overall spend could not be identified, domestic violence remained the main cause of homelessness within the Borough. Over the last five years the Council accepted a full rehousing duty to 114 households made homeless as a result of domestic violence, equating to just over 19% of all homelessness acceptances during that period. Therefore it would be reasonable to estimate that around 19% of the Council's total cost (in terms of the provision of temporary accommodation, staff time etc.) could be attributed to dealing with victims of domestic violence. Through Supporting People, two key services were specifically commissioned to tackle domestic violence in the Borough: the preventative service, Making Safe and the Independent Domestic Abuse Service which included the provision of accommodation based support to ten victims of domestic violence living in 'dispersed' accommodation within the urban area of Scarborough. The Council's adopted Housing Strategy however recognised that this 'dispersed' model for providing sanctuary to victims of domestic violence was inadequate, preferring a single place of refuge. Incidents of domestic violence occurred throughout the Borough in both deprived and more affluent areas. In reply to further questions, Councillor Chatt referred to the Local Lettings Agreement for the Helredale development in Whitby which would prioritise local applicants, and commented that a report considering the introduction of the selective licensing of private accommodation would be considered by the Cabinet in November.

In the absence of the Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Tourism and Culture, Councillor Bastiman introduced Councillor Backhouse's statement. Councillor Bastiman undertook to respond to Councillor Inman's twelve previously submitted questions to the Portfolio Holder in writing. There were no other questions.

In the absence of the Portfolio Holder for Harbours, Assets, Coast and Flood Protection, Councillor Bastiman introduced Councillor Cockerill's statement. There were no questions.

Councillor Donohue-Moncrieff presented her statement as Portfolio Holder for Democracy, Neighbourhoods, Stronger and Safer Communities. There were no questions.

In the absence of the Portfolio Holder for Human Resources and Performance, Councillor Bastiman introduced Councillor Jenkinson's statement. There were no questions.

Councillor Mallory presented her statement as Portfolio Holder for Finance, Procurement and Legal. There were no questions.

Councillor Plant presented his statement as Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning and Transformation. There were no questions.

9. TO RECEIVE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL'S EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEES PUBLISHED SINCE COUNCIL LAST MET AND APPENDED HERETO.

RESOLVED that the minutes be received.

10. ANY REPORTS GOING DIRECT TO COUNCIL

(i) Freedom of the Borough and Proposal of Aldermen

The Council considered a report by the Chief Executive which proposed several candidates for the position of Honorary Freeman and Honorary Aldermen. In moving the report's recommendations, the Leader commended the two candidates for the Honorary Freedom of the Borough who had both in their different spheres of activity worked tirelessly and attracted much positive publicity for the Borough. Further, the five candidates for Honorary Aldermen all met the Council's qualifying criteria set out in paragraph 3.3 of the report through their dedicated service to the Borough. Members then discussed the recommendations. One view was that it was time to review the Council's honours system, whilst another was that the grant of Honorary Alderman was a practice that cost very little for recognising these individuals' long years of service. One suggestion, that was not formally proposed, was that a vote be taken on each candidate individually.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the Council invite Mr Samuel Greetham and Mr Jim Roy Ward to accept admittance as Honorary Freeman of the Borough; and invite Mrs Dorothy Clegg, Mrs Jane Margaret Kenyon-Miller, Mr Peter George Popple, Mr W Herbert Tindall and Mr Brian Francis Watson to accept admittance as Honorary Aldermen of the Borough;
- (ii) the honours be bestowed at a special meeting of the Council convened for that purpose on Friday 23 October 2015 in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.

Reasons

To honour these distinguished citizens of the Borough.

(ii) Tour de Yorkshire

The Council considered a report by the Director (TW) (Reference 15/245) which sought the Council's decision on whether to put forward an expression of interest to host the Tour de Yorkshire Cycle Race in 2016. Members discussed the proposal: the huge national and international media coverage and publicity the event had attracted to the area in 2015, both the direct and induced economic impact of the event on Scarborough town, the legacy initiatives which had benefitted local communities, the positive impact on the whole of the Borough's visitor economy, but also the financial cost of hosting the event and the disappointment that the 2015 event had not included Filey in the route of the race. Option A was moved by the Leader, duly seconded and then put to the vote.

RESOLVED that the Council:

- (i) Note the benefits of the 2015 Tour De Yorkshire event to the region and local economy;
- (ii) Note that in order for Scarborough to be included within the proposed Tour De Yorkshire as a "host city/town" in 2016, the Council must notify the organisers of its expression of interest by the middle of September 2015; and
- (iii) Option A: give approval for the Council to put forward an expression of interest to host the Tour de Yorkshire Cycle Race at a cost of £140,000, subject to receipt of full Local Area Office allocation from Welcome to Yorkshire in year 2015-16 (£100,000 to be funded from existing one-off service specific reserve balances, subject to receipt of the aforementioned funding, with the remaining £40,000 being funded from the Council's General Fund Balance).

11. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (and subject to consideration of the public interest under Paragraph 10 of Part 2 of Schedule 12A of the Act) the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information (as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act), namely information;

- (a) relating to any individual;
- (b) which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual; and/or
- (c) relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

(i) Scarborough Leisure Village and Operation of the Council's Existing Indoor Leisure Facilities

(ii) Leisure Village - Executive Summary

The Council considered a joint report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director (TW) (Reference 15/246) seeking a decision from the Council on whether to proceed or not with the Leisure Village Development, and the related matter of whether to approve entry into an Interim Leisure Operating Contract with Sports and Leisure Management Ltd to operate the Council's

existing Indoor Sports Facilities in advance of the completion of Leisure Village. The report provided a comprehensive update on the many elements of this complex project, and the different approvals that were now required to enable the construction of the Leisure Village to commence, subject to the viability test being satisfied. Members discussed the report commending officers' work in bringing a very ambitious project to this stage, the risks involved which were diminishing as the project progressed, local residents' concerns about the site which had been considered by the Planning and Development Committee, the engineering challenges, but also the bigger picture, and how the project would not only contribute to the Borough's regeneration, but also help address the Borough's poor health profile compared with the rest of North Yorkshire.

RESOLVED that Option A be approved, to proceed with the Leisure Village Development. Full details of Option A and related decisions including to approve entry into an Interim Leisure Operating Contract with Sports and Leisure Management Ltd to operate the Council's existing Indoor Sports Facilities in advance of the completion of Leisure Village, are recorded in the Council's Restricted Minute Book.

Reasons

- For Members to consider the options available to the Council in regards to the Leisure Village Development.
- To fulfil the Council's obligations in respect of agreed land sales at Weaponness to the University of Coventry and UTC Trust.
- To outsource the operation of the Council's existing Indoor Leisure facilities to achieve revenue budget savings against current operating costs.
- To earmark monies for the upgrade or refurbishment of the Pindar all-weather pitch, which is a Council obligation under the terms of the Leisure Operator Contract.

Chairman