

Minutes of a Meeting of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 11th SEPTEMBER 2013 at 7.15pm.**

PRESENT **Councillor R.S. Fleming (Chairman) and**
Councillors E.M. Adam, D.G. Atkinson, J. Atkinson, B. Blenkinsopp, R. Bowman, A.M. Chandran, Mrs. B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, J. Clark, N. Collinson, Mrs. M. Dalton, M.A. Dalton, I. Gray, G.C. Gray, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, K. Henderson, Mrs. I. Hewitson, J.P. Hillary, Mrs. W.P. Hillary, W. Iveson, Mrs. V.M. Raw and D. Summers.

IN ATTENDANCE Mr. Ron Davison (St. Clare's Foodbank)

OFFICERS Mr. A. Bailey (Town Clerk)
Mr. D. Austin (Finance Manager)
Miss C. Ryder (Senior Admin. Officer)

26. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, Mrs. A. Palmer and C. Wheeler.

27. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

No applications for dispensations had been received.

28. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

29. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

Mr. Ron Davison from St. Clare's Foodbank was in attendance to give a statement in support of a grant to the St. Clare's Foodbank. He supplied members with detailed information on how the Foodbank was organised. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions prior to a decision being made under Grants and Donations.

30. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor W. Iveson, seconded by Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton and

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 10th July 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

31. **AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by Councillor W. Iveson, seconded by Councillor B. Hall and

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Audit Sub-Committee held on the 10th July 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

32. **PERSONNEL SUB-COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by Councillor B. Hall, seconded by Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton and

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Personnel Sub-Committee held on the 4th September 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

33. **ACCOUNTS CONTROL SHEETS**

Accounts control sheets for the period 5th July to the 2nd September 2013 and the General Bank Account for June and July 2013 were submitted.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the accounts control sheets for the period 5th July to the 2nd September 2013 and the General Bank Account for June and July 2013 be received.

34. **GRANTS / DONATIONS**

The Town Clerk had submitted a report which gave the current donation budget for this financial year as £4,398.

The following requests had been received:

- (a) 'Vitalise'.
- (b) 'Greenfield Tennis Club'.
- (c) 'Bishop Auckland Rugby Club'
- (d) 'St. Clare's Foodbank'.

Letters of Thanks

Letters of thanks had been received from:-

- (a) Newton Aycliffe Library – Childrens Activities - £200
- (b) 129th Durham Miners' Gala - £45 for Message of Support.

Aycliffe Youth Council

The Youth Council donation budget was currently £1,700.

There had been no further applications considered by the Youth Council.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended:

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) 'Vitalise'
That no donation be made.
- (iii) 'Greenfield Tennis Club'
That no donation be made.

(iv) St. Clare's Food Bank

That a donation of £1,000 be made to the Foodbank which would be made to the "Durham Christian Partnership Foodbank, Newton Aycliffe".

Members recorded their appreciation to the volunteers who did such an excellent job in the organisation of this scheme.

(v) That the letters of thanks be noted.

(vi) That the information in connection with the Youth Council be noted.

35. **PRE-SCHOOL LEARNING CENTRES**

The Early Years Officer submitted her report in connection with attendance figures following the start of the new term.

The report also gave information on the party in the park which had been held on the 19th July together with information on voluntary contributions, future changes: i.e teacher status, adult child ratios, funded places for two year olds and new tax free childcare.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the information be received.

36. **2014/15 BUDGET SETTING FRAMEWORK AND TIMETABLE**

The Finance Manager had submitted a report giving details of the proposed framework and timetable for the setting of the Council's Revenue and Capital Programme Budgets for 2014/15.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the Budget Framework and Timetable for the setting of the Council's 2014/15 Revenue and Capital Budgets be approved.
- (iii) That the Council's appreciation be recorded to the Finance Manager on the clarity of how the budget timetable was set.

37. **INVESTMENT OF COUNCIL BALANCES**

The Finance Manager had submitted a report providing Members with information on the Public Sector Deposit Fund with a view to considering the future use of the fund for the investment for the Council's surplus balances.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended:

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the Public Sector Deposit Fund be used as a future method of investment for the Council's surplus balances and reserves subject to the Finance Manager's discretion.

- (iii) That Barclays be continued to be used for a percentage of the investment of the Council's surplus balances.

38. **SPORTS COMPLEX FIELD – DRAINAGE SYSTEM**

The Town Clerk submitted a report advising members of the emergency works and capital spend which had been necessary to the foul drains crossing the car park field which serviced the Oakleaf Sports Complex and Works Depot.

In order to maintain a service to the Sports Complex users it was necessary for delegated authority to be used by the Town Clerk to have works carried out immediately. The total cost of the works amounted to £12,757.25.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended:

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the action and resultant expenditure undertaken by the Town Clerk under delegated authority be endorsed.

CHAIRMAN.