

Minutes of a Meeting of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 22<sup>nd</sup> JANUARY 2014 at 7.15pm.**

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

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

66.    **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors E. Adam, W.M. Blenkinsopp, R. Bowman, Mrs. B.A. Clare, J. Clare, M.A. Dalton, Mrs. A. Palmer and D. Summers.

67.    **MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

No applications for dispensations had been received.

68.    **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

69.    **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from the public.

70.    **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Iveson, seconded by Councillor A.M. Chandran and

**RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

71.    **AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE**

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

**RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the meeting of the Audit Sub-Committee held on the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

72.    **PERSONNEL SUB-COMMITTEE**

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

**RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the meeting of the Personnel Sub-Committee held on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

73. **ACCOUNTS CONTROL SHEETS**

Accounts control sheets for the period 29<sup>th</sup> November 2013 to the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and the General Bank Accounts for November and December 2013 were submitted.

**RESOLVED** – that it be recommended that the accounts control sheets for the period 29<sup>th</sup> November 2013 to the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and the General Bank Accounts for November and December 2013 be received.

74. **GRANTS / DONATIONS**

The Town Clerk had submitted a report which gave the current donation budget for this financial year as £2,694.

The following requests had been received:

- (a) 'County Durham School Benevolent Fund'.
- (b) 'New Age Kurling Club'.

**Letters of Thanks**

Letters of thanks had been received from:-

Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre - £200 donation  
Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe – Vouchers for raffle prizes.

**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) **'County Durham School Benevolent Fund'**
  - That a donation of £200 be made to the Benevolent Fund.
  - That the Town Clerk make tentative enquiries to the fund to give an indication of how many children from the Great Aycliffe area were being assisted by this fund.
- (iii) **'New Age Kurling Club'**

That a donation of £200 be made to the Kurling Club.
- (iv) That the letters of thanks be noted.
- (v) That the information in connection with the Youth Council be noted.

75. **PRE-SCHOOL LEARNING CENTRES**

The Early Years Officer submitted her report in connection with attendance figures, waiting lists and voluntary contributions.

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

76. **2013/14 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET POSITION**

The Finance Manager had submitted a report setting out details of the financial position on the Council's approved 2013/14 Revenue and Capital programme Budget for the nine months to the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013 as well as an assessment of the expected year end outturn position.

**RESOLVED** – that it be recommended:-

- (i) That the financial position on the Council's 2013/14 Revenue and Capital Budgets and projection on expected outturn be received.
- (ii) That a final Revenue and Capital Budget position report be submitted to the June Policy and Resources Committee meeting giving details of the year-end financial position of the Council as at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014.

77. **APPROVAL OF THE 2014/15 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET**

The Finance Manager had submitted a report for Members to consider and approve in principle the 2014/15 Revenue and Capital Budget in order that the Council's 2014/15 Precept and Town Council Tax could be set at a future meeting of Full Council.

The Finance Manager informed members that as no confirmation had yet been received from Central Government as to whether there may be a limit as to how much we can increase the Council Tax. Confirmation was expected to be given in a Local Government Finance Settlement in February. This means that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council would need to be called to finalise the Revenue and Capital Budget for 2014/15.

**RESOLVED** – that it be recommended that:-

- (i) The report be received.
- (ii) The Council's 2014/15 Revenue and Capital Budget as set out in the report and draft appendices be accepted.
- (iii) It be agreed that in the absence of a Government limit the level of Council Tax be increased by 2.49%.
- (iv) That should a limit be imposed by the Government that the required savings be taken from the Revenue Budget Contingency sum.
- (v) The Council's Precept and Town Council Tax be set at an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council to be held in February 2014.

**CHAIRMAN.**