

Minutes of a Meeting of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 5th DECEMBER 2018 at 7.15 p.m.**

PRESENT **Councillor R.S. Fleming (Chairman) and**
Councillors Eddy Adam, M. Ashcroft, Jim Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, P.J. Bergg, Bill Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, Arun M. Chandran, B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, J. Clark, Mrs. M. Dalton, George C. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, Dave Hardaker, Mrs. I. Hewitson, Kate Hopper, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, Mrs. V.M. Raw and Paul Symons.

OFFICERS Mr. A. Bailey (Town Clerk)
Miss C. Ryder (Senior Admin Officer)

59. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary, Ken Robson and Sally Symons.

60. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

No applications for dispensations had been received.

61. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest had been submitted.

62. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from the public.

63. **MINUTES**

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

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 24th October 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

64. **CHARGES WORKING GROUP**

The notes and following recommendations from the meeting of the Charges Working Group held on the 24th October 2018 were submitted for consideration:-

(i) **Cemeteries**

It was recommended that all charges would be increased by 5% for 2019/20 (rounded to the closest usable figure) with the exception of resident's interment fees for half plots and children under 16 years of age, the purchase fee for still born interments and the fees for searching the register, which have all been reduced to zero.

(ii) Football Pitches

It was recommended that the fees for football pitch hire in 2019/20 be increased by 5% for adult teams, with no increase for junior teams.

(iii) St. Oswald's Pre-School Learning Centre

The recommended changes to the Pre-School charges proposed by the Pre-School Sub-Committee were agreed for the financial year 2019/20:-

- The £4.00 sessional day care fee for children who are not eligible for funding from the County Council should be removed;
- All non-funded hours, at both pre-schools should be charged at a flat rate of £4.50 per hour;
- The absence charge of £2.50 per day should be removed and all additional hours booked but not attended charged at 50%;
- a small discount (equivalent to £1.40 per week) should be put in place for parents wishing to book a full day at either setting; and
- a holiday allowance of one week should be put in place, whereby parents can book up to one week of holiday during term time, when the 50% absence charge would not be applied.

(iv) Allotments

It was recommended that the Allotment rents for the financial year 2020/21 be frozen.

It was further recommended that the charges for pigeon lofts and poultry sites would also be frozen.

It was agreed that a refundable £50 bond for new allotment tenants would not be implemented.

(v) Sports Complex

That it be recommended that the following be agreed for facilities at the Sports Complex for 2019/20 pending the Service Review which will be carried out:-

- Membership prices increased by £1 to £19 for adults and £13 for concessions;
- Bowls locker prices be increased from £5.50 to £6.00;
- All other fees and charges for five-a-side football, squash, bowls, badminton, table tennis, coaching and function room hire to be frozen in 2019/20.

It be recommended that the Leisure Manager continues to be authorised to implement promotional pricing offers.

In light of the increased number of large events in the sports hall on weekends it be agreed that weekend block bookings for the sports hall by five-a-side football hire is reduced to £20 (£25 for non-members) in recognition of the fact that they would not be able to book every week.

(vi) Golf Course and Driving Range Charges

That it be recommended that the Adult and Over 60 Golf Membership fees be increased by £10 for each category of seniors and adults for the 2019/20 season.

That it be recommended that all Junior membership fees remain at current prices.

That it be recommended as follows:-

- Green fees be frozen for 2019/20.
- Buggy hire fees be frozen for 2019/20.
- Driving Range fees be increased by 50p. for 2019/20.

(vii) Caravan Fees

That it be recommended that the casual caravan and camping site fees be increased to £11.50 per night and the charge for weekend rallies of up to 10 vans be frozen at £9.50 per night per van. Prices for weekend rallies of more than 10 vans will continue to be subject to negotiation with the Leisure Manager.

It was proposed by Councillor M. Iveson, seconded by Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp and

RESOLVED – that the notes and recommendations from the Charges Working Group held on the 24th October 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

65. **AUDIT, RISK AND G.D.P.R. SUB-COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Iveson, seconded by Councillor P.J. Bergg and

RESOLVED – that the minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Audit, Risk and G.D.P.R. Sub-Committee held on the 7th November 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

66. **REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Iveson, seconded by Councillor M. Ashcroft and

RESOLVED – that the minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Review Sub-Committee held on the 21st November 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

67. **ACCOUNTS CONTROL SHEETS**

Accounts control sheets for the period 19th October 2018 to the 26th November 2018 and the General Bank Accounts for October 2018 were submitted.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the accounts control sheets for the period 19th October 2018 to the 26th November 2018 and the General Bank Accounts for October 2018 be received.

68. **GRANTS / DONATIONS**

The Town Clerk had submitted a report which gave the current donation budget for this financial year as £2,066.

The following applications had been received for consideration:-

- (a) Voyage Care
- (b) Open Spaces Society

Letter of Thanks

A letter of thanks had been received from the Great North Air Ambulance for the Council's donation of £250.

Aycliffe Youth Council

The current donation budget for the Aycliffe Youth Council Financial Year is £540.

There had been no grant requests since the last meeting.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended:-

- (i) Voyage Care
That the following prizes be donated for the Christmas Fair raffle.
 - 2 x £12.50 Meal Vouchers at the Oakleaf Sports Complex
 - 1 x Bowling Session for up to 4 people.
- (ii) Open Spaces Society
That no donation be given on this occasion.
- (iii) That the letter of thanks be received.
- (iv) That the information in respect of the Youth Council be received.

CHAIRMAN