

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 19TH JANUARY 2022 at 7.15 p.m.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am to inform you that a meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee will be held on Wednesday, 19th January 2022 at 7.15 p.m. in attendance at the Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6QF.

Yours faithfully,

**Dan Austin
Town Clerk**

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence.

2. MEMBERS' DISPENSATION

To consider written requests for dispensations from members who have declared interests under Disclosable or Non-Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – Section 33 of the 2011 Localism Act.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To notify of any items that appear in the agenda in which you may have an interest, including those that have previously been recorded in the Members Register of Interests.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Members of the public are permitted to make representations, ask questions, and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. Questions will not be received by the Council which are in furtherance of a person's individual circumstances, or which are about a matter where there is a right of appeal to the courts, a tribunal or government minister. A question will not be received by the Council where the issue it concerns has been the subject of a decision of the Council in the last six months.

5. MINUTES

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 1st December 2021 and the Special Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 8th December 2021 for information. (Previously Circulated)

6. ACCOUNTS CONTROL SHEETS

... To receive the account control sheets for the period 22nd November 2021 to 22nd December 2021 and the General Bank Account for November and December 2021.

7. GRANT AND DONATION REQUESTS

. . . To consider the attached report from the Town Clerk.

8. NOTICE OF MOTION

. . . To consider the following Notice of Motion from Councillor Michael Stead:-.

The previously approved draft 2022/23 Revenue Budget required a precept of £1,743,450 which represented an increase of £45,950 or 2.7% on the current Precept.

The provisional Council Tax Base had increased by 48 properties, and this meant the required increase in the Town Council Tax, provisionally agreed by the Council in October 2021 was 1.99%

Great Aycliffe has one of the highest council tax rates in England. With residents still struggling with the impact of Covid and the added pressure of tax rises and inflationary pressures, now is not the right time to increase council tax.

It is noted that the current draft budget would result in balances and reserves remaining above £1 million next year.

It is proposed that the Council therefore agrees to a 0% council tax increase for the financial year 2022/23.

The £45,950 foregone revenue (based on the draft 2023/23 Revenue Budget) to be funded by reducing the annual £50,000 contribution in the capital reserves in 2022/23.

It is further proposed that the Council further agrees to the following reviews to identify savings:-

- 1. A review of all income generation*
- 2. A review of all spending*

It is also proposed that officers liaising with councillors give consideration to and are cognisant of the issues highlighted in the attached document as part of this motion.

9. 2021/22 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET POSITION TO 31ST DECEMBER 2021 AND YEAR END OUTTURN FORECAST

. . . To consider the attached report from the Finance Manager.

10. 2022/23 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET SETTING REPORT

. . . To consider the attached report from the Finance Manager.

11. UPDATED DRAFT COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AND AWARDS SCHEME

. . . To consider the attached report and policy from the Town Clerk.

12. PERSONNEL SUB COMMITTEE VACANCY

To consider the appointment of one member to fill the vacancy on the Personnel Sub Committee.

13. AUDIT, RISK AND G.D.P.R SUB COMMITTEE VACANCY

To consider the appointment of one member to fill the vacancy on the Audit, Risk and G.D.P.R Sub Committee.

14. ASSET MANAGEMENT MEMBER WORKING GROUP VACANCY

To consider the appointment of one member to fill the vacancy on the Asset Management Member Working Group.

15. SERVICE REVIEW WORKING GROUP VACANCY

To consider the appointment of one member to fill the vacancy on the Service Review Working Group.

Any questions or queries on agenda items or reports should be raised with officers before meetings by telephone or email.

Please note that this does not preclude members from asking the question at the meeting if this is important to the debate or decision.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Councillors: Eddy Adam, Tony Armstrong, Martin Ashcroft, Jim Atkinson, Peter Bergg, Dorothy Bowman, Arun M. Chandran, Barbara A. Clare, John Clark, Neil Collinson, Bob Fleming, George Gray, Ian Gray, Brian Haigh, Mrs. Sandra Haigh, Phillip Hawkins, Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary, Kate Hopper, Andrea Miller, John Moore, Carl Robinson, Ken Robson, and Michael Stead.