



## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held at County Hall, Northallerton on 13 October 2010

### PRESENT:-

County Councillor Caroline Seymour in the Chair.

County Councillors Val Arnold, Karl Arthur, Andrew Backhouse, Arthur Barker, Keith Barnes, Bernard Bateman, MBE, John Batt, John Blackburn, John Blackie, David Blades, Liz Casling, Bill Chatt, Jim Clark, John Clark, Michael Cockerill, Gareth Dadd, Margaret-Ann de Courcey-Bayley, Polly English, John Fort BEM, John Fox, Heather Garnett, Andrew Goss, Ron Haigh, Tony Hall, Roger Harrison-Topham, Michael Heseltine, Robert Heseltine, Bill Hout, Margaret Hulme, Neville Huxtable, David Ireton, David Jeffels, Mike Jordan, Jane Kenyon, Michael Knaggs, Carl Les, Don Mackenzie, John McCartney, Patricia Marsburg, Penny Marsden, Brian Marshall, J W Marshall, Shelagh Marshall, Chris Metcalfe, Patrick Mulligan, Stuart Parsons, Caroline Patmore, Chris Pearson, Dave Peart, Joe Plant, Paul Richardson, John Savage, Stephen Shaw, Brian Simpson, Peter Sowray, Melva Steckles, Tim Swales, Helen Swiers, Herbert Tindall, Cliff Trotter, John Watson OBE, Geoff Webber, John Weighell, Richard Welch and Clare Wood,

The Chairman's Chaplain, the Reverend Derek Turnham, offered prayers.

### MINUTES

#### RESOLVED -

**67.** That the minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on Wednesday, 21 July, 2010, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced the death of Marie Lahteela, who was County Councillor for the Falsgrave electoral division, in Scarborough, from 1981 to 1985. The Council stood in silence in her memory.

## STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

County Councillor John Weighell made a statement under Council Procedure Rule 2.3, as Leader of the Council, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (page 1574). He responded to questions and agreed to write, together with the Chief Executive, to the North Yorkshire and York Primary Care Trust about consultation arrangements for hospital ward closures.

## PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR STATEMENTS

Notice had been received of a question or statement from Mr Wright, a member of the public, which related to Waste PFI proposals.

County Councillor Clare Wood responded.

## REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE

### Prudential Indicators

The recommendations in paragraph 1 of the report (pages 1576-1577) having been moved and seconded, it was

### RESOLVED -

- |  |
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| <p><b>68.</b> That the revised Prudential Indicators for the period 2010/11 to 2012/13, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.</p> |
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### Appointments to Committees and outside bodies

The recommendations in paragraph 2 of the report (pages 1577-1579) were moved and seconded, together with a paper setting out nominations for the allocation of seats between groups and for appointments to Committees.

It was moved and seconded as an amendment that the following be added:

“(e) In reference to the ‘cuts’ in Local Government, Eric Pickles the Local Government Minister has given three pieces of advice to Local Authorities.

1. Don't start at the bottom with Services and Voluntary Organisations. Start at the top.
2. These decisions must not be made by Officers and small Executives.
3. All Councillors should be involved in these decisions.

This is not what is happening in NYCC.

Council therefore resolves to create an all party working group to:

1. Look at all proposals for cuts. Those that are not supported unanimously by the working group to be sent to Full Council for debate and decision.
2. Make other suggestions for areas where savings can be made. These to be forwarded to the Executive for consideration.

The working group to consist of:

- 7 Conservatives
- 2 Liberal Democrats
- 2 North Yorkshire Independents
- 1 Liberal
- 1 Independent

**County Councillor Bill Hoult declared an interest as a trustee of Age Concern, Knaresborough and left the meeting and took no part in the debate. County Councillor Brian Marshall declared an interest as a member of Age Concern and indicated that he would neither speak nor vote on the item.**

After some debate it was moved and seconded "that the question be now put".

**The Council RESOLVED -**

**The Council divided on the amendment and on a show of hands there were:**

- |   |                              |   |             |
|---|------------------------------|---|-------------|
| - | <b>for the amendment</b>     | - | <b>11</b>   |
| - | <b>against the amendment</b> | - | <b>more</b> |

**and the amendment was declared lost.**

**The Council RESOLVED -**

**69(a)** That the question be now put.

**69(b)** That the date of the Council meeting in December, 2011, be 14<sup>th</sup>, not 21<sup>st</sup> of the month.

**69(b)** That two Members represent the County Council on the North Eastern Sea Fisheries Committee, in future, and that County Councillor Herbert Tindall and Peter Pople are appointed.

**69(d)** That the following appointments to Committees are made:

Scrutiny of Health Committee - Councillor John Harris as substitute Member for Richmondshire District, Councillor Elizabeth Shields as substitute Member for Ryedale District, Councillor S Rodgers as substitute Member for Scarborough Borough Council, County Councillors Mrs Margaret-Ann de Courcey-Bayley and Keith Barnes as first and second named substitute Members, respectively, for the Liberal Democrat Group.

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee – County Councillors Bill Hoult and Geoff Webber as first and second named substitutes, respectively, for the Liberal Democrat Group.

Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee – County Councillors J W Marshall and Caroline Seymour as first and second named substitutes for the Liberal Democrat Group.

Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee – County Councillors Stuart Parsons and Keith Barnes as first and second named substitutes, respectively, for the Liberal Democrat Group.

Audit Committee – County Councillors Keith Barnes and Bill Hoult as first and second named substitutes, respectively, for the Liberal Democrat Group.

Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee – County Councillors Andrew Goss and Geoff Webber as the first and second named substitutes, respectively, for the Liberal Democrat Group.

That, in order to achieve proportional allocation of Committee seats, now that County Councillor Savage has left the Conservative Group, that Group relinquishes one seat on the Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee and one seat on the Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee, formerly held by County Councillor Savage, to the Liberal Group on the Council, which Group is entitled to three Committee seats and the Independent Members to five Committee seats, in addition to individual Members' rights to seats on the relevant Area Committee, and the following appointments are made:

Scrutiny of Health Committee – Liberal – County Councillor John Clark

Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Liberal  
– County Councillor John Savage  
–

Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Liberal  
- County Councillor John Savage

Audit Committee – Independent Member – to be appointed in place of John Clark

Pension Fund Committee, County Councillors John Watson OBE, Carl Les, Peter Sowray and Ron Haigh be appointed as first, second, third and fourth named substitutes, respectively for the Conservative Group.

Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee, County Councillors Arthur Barker, John Fort BEM, Chris Pearson and David Jeffels be appointed as first, second, third and fourth named substitutes, respectively for the Conservative Group.

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority, County Councillor Stephen Shaw be appointed in place of County Councillor Ron Haigh and County Councillors Cliff Trotter, David Jeffels, David Blades, Joe Plant and Heather Garnett be appointed as first, second, third, fourth and fifth named substitutes respectively for the Conservative Group.

Planning and Regulatory Functions Committee, County Councillors Geoff Webber and Mrs Margaret-Ann de Courcey-Bayley be appointed as first and second named substitutes, respectively, for the Liberal Democrat Group.

## **STATEMENTS OF EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AND CHAIRMEN OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

County Councillor Gareth Dadd, the Executive Member for Highways and Planning Services, made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 1594-1596) and responded to questions, including a written question from County Councillor Keith Barnes relating to officer attendance at meetings relating to highways matters.

County Councillor Clare Wood, the Executive Member for Rural Services, Waste Disposal, Public Passenger Transport and Trading Standards made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 1598-1599) and responded to questions, including a written question from County Councillor Bill Hoult relating to Waste PFI.

**In respect to comments about the alcohol respect campaign, County Councillor Melva Steckles declared an interest arising from the involvement with a company which sells alcohol.**

County Councillor Carl Les, the Executive Member for Corporate Services, Finance, Performance Management and Procurement, made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 1600-1602) and responded to questions, including a written question from County Councillor Keith Barnes relating to video conferencing.

County Councillor Caroline Patmore, the Lead Executive Member for Children's Services (Childrens Act 2004), Special Educational Needs and Youth Justice, made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 1604-1606) and responded to questions.

County Councillor John Watson OBE, the Executive Member for Partnerships and Economic Development, made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 1608-1610) and responded to questions, including a written question from County Councillor Keith Barnes relating to supply costs in schools and levels of teacher stress.

County Councillor Chris Metcalfe, the Executive Member for Adult and Library Services, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 1612-1613) and responded to questions.

The written statements of the Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees (pages 1614-1631) having previously been circulated, the Chairman of the Scrutiny of Health Committee made an additional statement relating to Malton and Whitby hospitals and responded to questions.

### **COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10 QUESTIONS**

There were no questions under Council Procedure Rule 10.

### MOTION – THE NORTH YORKSHIRE TIMES

The Chairman agreed that it would be conducive to the despatch of business for the motion to be debated on the day.

County Councillor Bill Hoult moved and County Councillor Geoff Webber seconded:-  
“That in view of:-

- 1) The dire economic circumstances facing the North Yorkshire County Council, and;
- 2) The recent criticism by the Coalition Governments Communities Secretary of Council Funded newspapers.

That the North Yorkshire County Council ceases production and distribution of its monthly newspaper The North Yorkshire Times as soon as practically possible.”

It was moved and seconded as an amendment: that

the words “dire economic” be deleted and “difficult financial “ be inserted in their place;  
the words “facing the North Yorkshire County Council” be deleted;  
the words “recent criticism by the Coalition” be deleted;  
the words “Communities Secretary of Council funded newspapers” be deleted and “consultation document on Local Authority Publicity” be inserted in their place;  
the word “ceases” be deleted and “reviews the” be inserted in its place;  
the words “its monthly newspaper The” and the word “practically” be deleted;  
the words “and; That the progress of the review by reported to the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee prior to a recommendation being made to the Executive” be added at the end of the motion.

**The Council divided and, on a show of hands, there were:**

-	<b>for the amendment</b>	-	<b>32</b>
-	<b>against the amendment</b>	-	<b>11</b>

**and the amended was declared carried.**

**The Council divided on the motion, as amended and it was**

#### RESOLVED:

**70.** That in view of;

- 1) the difficult financial circumstances and;
- 2) the Government’s consultation document on Local Authority Publicity;

That the North Yorkshire County Council reviews the production and distribution of North Yorkshire Times as soon as possible; and

That the progress of the review by reported to the Corporate and partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee prior to a recommendation being made to the Executive.