



NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held at County Hall, Northallerton on 11 November 2015 at 10.00 am.

Present:-

County Councillor David Jeffels in the Chair.

County Councillors Val Arnold, Margaret Atkinson, Andrew Backhouse, Robert Baker, Arthur Barker, Philip Barrett, Derek Bastiman, Bernard Bateman MBE, David Billing, John Blackburn, John Blackie, David Blades, Eric Broadbent, Liz Casling, David Chance, Jim Clark, John Clark, Richard Cooper, Sam Cross, Gareth Dadd, Margaret-Ann de Courcey-Bayley, Andrew Goss, Helen Grant, Bryn Griffiths, Michael Harrison, Roger Harrison-Topham, Michael Heseltine, Robert Heseltine, Peter Horton, Bill Houlton, David Ireton, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Anne Jones, Mike Jordan, Andrew Lee, Carl Les, Don Mackenzie, Brian Marshall, Shelagh Marshall OBE, Chris Metcalfe, Heather Moorhouse, Patrick Mulligan, Bob Packham, Stuart Parsons, Caroline Patmore, Chris Pearson, Joe Plant, Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, John Savage, Elizabeth Shields, David Simister, Andy Solloway, Peter Sowray, Tim Swales, Helen Swiers, Cliff Trotter, John Weighell, Richard Welch, Robert Windass and Clare Wood.

Minutes

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on Wednesday, 22 July 2015, the having been printed and circulated, are taken as read and confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

The vote was taken and, on a show of hands, the motion was declared carried with none against and no abstentions.

Resolved -

96. That the Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on Wednesday, 22 July 2015, having been printed and circulated, are taken as read and are confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman noted the apologies for absence received from County Councillors Jean Butterfield, John Ennis, John Fort BEM, Tony Hall, Lindsay Burr, Penny Marsden, John McCartney, Steve Shaw-Wright and Tony Randerson. He welcomed Honorary Alderman Michael Knaggs to the meeting.

The formally announced the death of Honorary Alderman John Dennis MBE who served as a County Councillor from 1981 to 2005 and Members stood in silence to his memory.

Statement by the Leader of the Council

County Councillor Carl Les 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 appear in the Minute Book (pages 7351 - 7354). County Councillor Carl Les then responded to various questions.

Public Questions or Statements

Mr Steve Howley, Brigade Secretary of the North Yorkshire Fire Brigades Union made the following statement:

“North Yorkshire fire and rescue Service (NYFRS) has undertaken a review of the Fire cover within North Yorkshire. Fire cover is the term used by the Service to refer to; the number of fire appliances and equipment, available within the Service to respond to fires and other emergencies.

The 6 stations Harrogate, Scarborough, Ripon, Tadcaster, Northallerton and Malton.

It is clear that the proposals put forward are based around delivering savings through the reduction of fully skilled professional Whole-time Firefighters and not what is a better match of resource to risk, as the current resource best matches the risk providing the most effective service to the public of North Yorkshire. This is a view which is strongly agreed across all the groups we have engaged with.

There is no analysis of how the service to the public will improve or costings of savings delivered;

- Tadcaster’s station area defined for call numbers has been wrong throughout the consultation
- Malton’s was also wrong and partially amended part way through the consultation period.

Mixed Crewing – proposed at Northallerton, Malton, Ripon and Tadcaster;

- Reduction in Whole-time staff by 50%
- Issues around RDS availability in these areas
- The inability to recruit 100% RDS Staff to make this proposal work – not managed it over the last 10 years
- Current figures - Malton 2, Tadcaster 1, Ripon 0, Northallerton 1 and 1 recruit.
- Increased response times backed up by FOI requests submitted to NYFRS
- 4 minute response time means a limited area that productive work can be carried out – i.e.; CFS – School Talks, HRA’s, and Hydrant Inspections etc.
- Training concerns due to only 2 or 3 F/f’s on duty – Core skills training requires at least 4 but ideally 5 for safety reasons.
- Specialist role greatly affected due to reduced numbers like Water Rescue and specialist line rescue.

Tactical Response Vehicles - NYFRS proposal is to introduce Tactical Response Vehicles (TRV’s) as a replacement to a standard pumping appliance, to be crewed by 2 Firefighters at the 6 stations already mentioned.

- Will only be crewed with 2 F/f's
- NYFRS claim that not all incidents require 4 or 5 F/f's yet no detail as to what these incidents are.
- No list of specific Incident types produced that TRV's would attend – very misleading for members of the public.
- Information in NYFRS Standard Operating Procedure regarding Fire-fighting actions is conflicting compared to the information contained within the Phase 2 document.
- A delay in response times of fully equipped Fire Engines of an average of 8mins in the TRV areas and not the 3min 15secs quoted by NYFRS this will lead to an increased moral pressure on F/f's.
- Previous concepts have failed and the money spent never been questioned, 2009 – Malton and the CSV's in 2010 which cost the service £900k
- This is not about a culture change, it is a genuine concern about public and fire-fighter safety for England's' largest county.

District Watch Managers

- The FBU supports the need to provide vital support to the RDS Stations and agrees with this in principal However further work and negotiation is required.
- Some stations with RDS units already have experienced Watch Manager's with Station Manager support, yet they still experience the same problems as standalone RDS stations."

Report of the Executive

Proposals for Revision to County Council guidance on Transport Issues including Standards for Parking for Developer Funded works within North Yorkshire

The recommendations in paragraph 1 of the report (page 7362) were moved and seconded.

The vote was taken and, on a show of hands, the motion was declared carried, with none against and no abstentions.

Resolved –

97.

That County Council approves:-

- (a) The withdrawal of 'Transport Issues and Development - A Guide' save for Appendices B, C, D and F (as amended);
- (b) The adoption as an interim measure a revised Appendix A which will detail the revised minimum parking standards as set out in the report;
- (c) That the Corporate Director - Business and Environmental Services take all necessary steps for a full review of parking standards; a full review of the requirements for Transport Assessments and a full review of the requirements for Travel Plans in conjunction with the local planning authorities within North Yorkshire.
- (d) That a further report is to be brought to Members following the conclusion of the review, is noted.

Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

The recommendations in paragraph 3 of the report (page 7369) were moved and seconded.

The vote was taken and, on a show of hands, the motion was declared carried, with none against and one abstention.

Resolved –

98. That County Council approves the following appointments:

Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee

County Councillor Tim Swales to replace County Councillor Liz Casling

Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

County Councillor Liz Casling to replace County Councillor Tim Swales

Health & Wellbeing Board

Shaun Jones to replace Julie Warren as the NHS England representative.

Julie Warren to replace Gillian Laurence as the named substitute.

Janet Probert to replace Vicky Pleydell as the representative for Hambleton

Richmondshire and Whitby CCG from 1 December 2015, with Debbie Newton as the named substitute.

Scrutiny of Health Committee

Scarborough Borough Council representative Councillor Mrs J Mortimer replaces Substitute Member – Councillor A Jenkinson

At 10.45 am the Chairman temporarily adjourned the meeting to enable Members to participate in the Act of Remembrance – the meeting resumed at approximately 11.15 am.

Household Waste Recycling Centre policy amendments

The recommendations in paragraph 2 of the report (page 7367) were moved and seconded.

The vote was taken and, on a show of hands, the motion was declared carried, with none against and no abstentions.

Resolved –

99. That County Council approves the following changes to the HWRC policy framework:

Existing policies 2,4,14,and 16 are replaced by:

Policy 2 (New) - North Yorkshire County Council will locate Household Waste Recycling Centres across the county on the basis that no single HWRC, or an average of two where they serve the same community, serves a population greater than 69,000 people.

Policy 4 (New) - North Yorkshire County Council aims to provide an accessible HWRC service at all sites during reasonable daylight hours throughout the week, as resources and operating restrictions allow. Where it is not possible to provide a full service at all sites during reasonable daylight hours availability may be adjusted at all or some HWRCs in such a way as to minimise the impact on the largest number of residents. Changes to HWRC opening hours will not be made without appropriate consultation.

Policy 14 (New) - North Yorkshire County Council will seek to provide facilities at all sites to enable the collection and disposal of other waste streams including commercial waste, and will make an appropriate charge for the receipt of these wastes.

Policy 16 (New) - North Yorkshire County Council will provide HWRCs for the use of North Yorkshire residents for disposal of their household waste free of charge at the point of use. Where appropriate HWRCs will also accept wastes from non-residents as well as other non-household waste subject to the costs of dealing with these wastes being recovered through charging, unless in the case of waste delivered by non-residents reciprocal arrangements are in place with neighbouring Councils

The following policies are removed:

Policy 18 North Yorkshire County Council will, provide a commercial waste service at strategic sites to serve the needs of each district and the business community

- where no other suitable commercial waste services serve the area and
 - where it does not detract from the service provided to householders
 - no hazardous commercial waste will be accepted, other than bonded asbestos by prior arrangement
- and charge accordingly.

Policy 19 North Yorkshire County Council may provide a service for soil, rubble and plasterboard disposal provided that HWRC operating contractors agree to receive these wastes at no costs to the County Council.

Policy 20 North Yorkshire County Council will allow its HWRC contractors to recover costs for the disposal of soil, rubble and plasterboard by making a charge.

The Annual Report of the Audit Committee

The recommendations in paragraph 4 of the report (page 7493) were moved and seconded.

The vote was taken and, on a show of hands, the motion was declared carried with none against and no abstentions.

Resolved –

100. That County Council notes the Annual Report of the Audit Committee, as set out in Appendix 1.

Statements of Executive Members and Chairmen of Overview and Scrutiny Committees

County Councillor Arthur Barker, the Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services responsibilities for schools and early years made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 7413 - 7415) and responded to questions.

County Councillor David Chance, the Executive Member for Stronger Communities, public health, Legal and Democratic Services and the role of area committees made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 7417 – 7420) and responded to questions.

County Councillor Don Mackenzie, the Executive Member for Highways, road safety, access to the countryside (including Broadband, mobile phone coverage) public transport made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 7421 - 7422) and responded to questions.

County Councillor Chris Metcalfe, the Executive Member for Waste Services, Library and Information Services, economic development, rail strategy, 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 7423 - 7426) and responded to questions.

County Councillor Janet Sanderson, the Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services with responsibility for fostering and adoption, children's social care and prevention made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 7427 - 7430) and responded to questions.

County Councillor Clare Wood, the Executive Member for adult social care and health integration made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 7431 - 7434) and responded to a question.

County Councillor Gareth Dadd, the Executive Member for Central Services specifically Finance and HR issues made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 7435 - 7436) and responded to questions.

The written statements of the Chairmen of the Scrutiny Board and the Overview and Scrutiny Committees (pages 7437 - 7452) having previously been circulated, were noted.

Council Procedure Rule 10 Questions

County Councillor John Clark had submitted a question for the Chairman of North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority as follows:

“To Councillor John Fort BEM, Chairman North Yorks Fire and Rescue Authority
3rd Nov.2015

John,

Sorry this is late. My basic concern is with Malton:

- I. The number of fire appliances
- II. The full-time skill levels.

If I understand it correctly, the main fire appliance at Malton is going to be replaced by a smaller vehicle. The skilled full-time employees are going to be dispersed. We were told the number of uses in the Malton area. These figures showed a decline in use. One of the brilliant ways that the Fire Service works is that when there is a fire in one area that needs several appliances (or several simultaneous fires), then the appliances from further afield are moved to where the shortfall occurs. However to measure the need level, it appears necessary to know not just the call-outs in one area but also the number of times each unit is used.

I asked how many times the Malton appliances had been used and where. What was happening to these figures on the same timescale as the consultation figures? I have been told (twice) that these figures were unavailable. It follows that Malton could cope with a reduction if they were not being used in York, Scarborough or Pickering. So that you can make a safe decision, I would like these figures but you need them.

If Wednesday is too tight a timescale then I would be happy for you to answer my questions at the Fire Authority meeting — even if I am not there.

Once again, sorry for being so late

Kind regards

John”

In the absence of County Councillor John Fort BEM the Chairman advised that a written response would be forwarded to County Councillor John Clark.

Meeting closed at 12.30.