

Local Government North Yorkshire and York

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting
held on Friday 12 July 2012 at 9.00 am at Ryedale House**

Present:-

<u>Constituent Authority</u>	<u>Representatives</u>
City of York Council	Councillor James Alexander
Craven District Council	Councillor Chris Knowles-Fitton Paul Shevlin (Chief Executive)
Hambleton District Council	Councillor Ron Kirk (as Substitute for Neville Huxtable) Phil Morton (Chief Executive)
Harrogate Borough Council	John Sowden (Deputy Chief Executive) (as Substitute for Wallace Sampson)
North York Moors National Park Authority	Mr Jim Bailey
North Yorkshire County Council	County Councillor John Weighell Richard Flinton (Chief Executive of the County Council and Honorary Secretary to LGNYY)
Richmondshire District Council	Councillor John Blackie Tony Clark (Executive Director and Deputy Chief Executive)
Ryedale District Council	Janet Waggott (Chief Executive)
Scarborough Borough Council	Councillor Tom Fox Jim Dillon (Chief Executive)
Selby District Council	Councillor Mark Crane Martin Connor (Chief Executive)
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	Mr Carl Lis OBE Gary Smith (Director of Conservation and Community/Deputy Chief Executive) (as Substitute for David Butterworth)

In Attendance:-

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Representatives</u>
City of York Council	Ian Floyd (Director of Customer and Business Support Services)

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Representatives</u>
North Yorkshire County Council	County Councillor Carl Les (Deputy Leader) David Bowe (Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services) Gary Fielding (Assistant Chief Executive - Policy, Performance and Partnerships)
North Yorkshire Credit Union	Ian Cuthbertson (Treasurer) Nick Marshall (Chief Executive)
Ryedale District Council	Debbie Armitage (Benefits Manager)
Scarborough Borough Council	David Ponton-Brown (Benefits Manager)
LGNYY Secretariat	Ruth Gladstone (Principal Democratic Services Officer, North Yorkshire County Council)

Apologies for Absence:-

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Anthony Alton (Harrogate Borough Council), Councillor Keith Knaggs (Ryedale District Council), Kersten England (Chief Executive, City of York Council) and Andy Wilson (Chief Executive, North York Moors National Park Authority).

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

Councillor Tom Fox in the Chair

125. LGNYY Membership 2012/13

Considered –

The report of the Honorary Secretary listing the names of representatives appointed to serve on LGNYY for 2012/13.

It was highlighted that two Councils had not appointed named Substitutes to attend LGNYY meetings in the absence of their Leaders. It was suggested that it would be helpful if those two Councils could each consider the appointment of a Substitute.

Resolved –

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That Ryedale District Council and Selby District Council each be requested to consider appointing a named Substitute to attend LGNYY meetings in the absence of their Leaders.

126. Appointment of Chair

Resolved –

That County Councillor John Weighell be appointed Chair, to serve until the Annual Meeting of LGNYY to be held in 2013.

County Councillor John Weighell in the Chair

127. Appointment of Vice-Chairs

Resolved –

That Councillor James Alexander (City of York Council) and Councillor Tom Fox (Scarborough Borough Council) be appointed Vice-Chairs, to serve until the Annual Meeting of LGNYY to be held in 2013.

128. Minutes

Resolved –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2012, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

129. Appointment of Representatives to serve on Outside Bodies

Considered –

The report of the Honorary Secretary inviting LGNYY to appoint Members to serve on outside bodies for 2012/13.

Resolved –

- (a) That Councillor Jim Clark (Harrogate Borough Council) be re-appointed as the District Councils' representative on North Yorkshire Pension Fund Committee, to serve until LGNYY's Annual Meeting to be held in 2013, and that Councillor Brian Phillips (Hambleton District Council) be re-appointed as Councillor Jim Clark's Substitute to serve for the same period.
- (b) That Councillor Derek Bastiman (Scarborough Borough Council) and Councillor Tracey Simpson-Laing (City of York Council) be appointed to Yorkshire and Humber Member Improvement and European Board, to serve until LGNYY's Annual Meeting to be held in 2013.
- (c) That no appointment be made to Yorkshire and Humber Strategic Migration Group for 2012/13.

130. Proposed Amendments to LGNYY's Constitution

Considered –

The report of the Honorary Secretary recommending amendments to LGNYY's Constitution concerning the month when LGNYY's Annual Meeting should be held, amendments arising from the recent reviews of LGNYY Thematic Boards and other partnership structures, and arrangements for approving future amendments to LGNYY's Constitution.

Resolved –

That the draft amendments to LGNYY's Constitution, as set out in the Appendix to the report, be approved.

131. Sub-Regional Collaboration on Infrastructure Mapping and Planning

Considered –

The report and presentation of North Yorkshire County Council's Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services advising of the nature of the infrastructure mapping work being undertaken, the infrastructure delivery challenges associated with delivering the sub-region's planned strategic development sites, and further collaborative working being undertaken to help unlock economic growth.

Resolved –

That the report and presentation be noted.

132. Universal Credit Pilot

Considered –

The report of Ryedale District Council's Corporate Director providing an update on the Universal Credit Pilot bid submitted by North Yorkshire District Councils. In the absence of the Corporate Director, the report was introduced by the Benefits Officers from Scarborough Borough Council and Ryedale District Council.

Resolved –

That the report be noted.

133. Localisation of Council Tax Support

Considered –

The report of Ryedale District Council's Corporate Director advising of the current position with regard to the localisation of Council Tax Support, the three basic options for managing the cut in funding, and the likely proposals of each of the seven District Councils which would be included in a joint consultation to be carried out between 24 July and 4 September 2012 with the major preceptors. In the absence of the Corporate Director, the report was introduced by the Benefits Officers from Scarborough Borough Council and Ryedale District Council.

Members highlighted various aspects of the options and, in particular, the District Councils' wish for the other precepting authorities for their areas to share the costs which would arise if freedoms over exceptions and discounts were applied for a period other than that set out in existing legislation.

Resolved –

That the Chief Executive of Craven District Council write to local MPs, on behalf of the Leaders of the District Councils and the County Council and, subject to further discussion, also on behalf of the Leader of the City of York Council, to:-

- (a) highlight the unfairness of transferring responsibility, for funding the national cut in providing financial support for Council Tax, to local areas when each area has different demographics (especially pensioner/working age caseload split); and
- (b) expressing concern that the use of the single person discount has been ruled out.

134. North Yorkshire Credit Union

(a) Exclusion of the Public

Resolved –

That, in pursuance of Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of part (b) of this item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) Order 2006.

(b) Request for Financial Support

Considered –

The request from North Yorkshire Credit Union for the County and District Councils and the City of York Council to provide financial support. The request was presented by the Credit Union's Treasurer and Chief Executive who subsequently left the meeting whilst LGNYY discussed the matter.

Resolved –

That Councils be requested to approve a subordinated loan to North Yorkshire Credit Union totalling £300,000 (one-third to be funded by the County Council, one-third to be funded by the City of York Council, and one-third to be funded jointly by the District Councils), subject to:-

- (i) the production of a viable Business Plan and sustainable business model;
- (ii) the loan being converted into a grant on the takeover/merger of North Yorkshire Credit Union; and

- (iii) approval, by the County Council's Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance and Partnerships) and the City of York Council's Director of Customer and Business Support Services, of appropriate monitoring and other arrangements identified during Members' private discussion at this meeting.

Note: Councillor Chris Knowles-Fitton voted against the proposal that Craven District Council should provide support on the grounds that, if a merger or takeover of North Yorkshire Credit Union could not be brokered, Councils would be facing an open-ended funding issue in which they might be locked with no obvious exit.

135. Future Collaboration Update

Considered –

The report of the Honorary Secretary advising of progress concerning four collaborative initiatives initiated through Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership funding.

Resolved –

That the report be noted.

136. York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership

Resolved –

That the Minutes of the Partnership's meeting held on 1 June 2012 be noted.

137. General Updates

Considered –

The report of the Honorary Secretary advising of recent discussions at meetings of the Sub-Regional Housing Board, the Sub-Regional Spatial Planning and Transport Board, and various regional bodies to which LGNYY had appointed representatives.

Resolved –

That the report be noted.

138. Arrangements for Future Meetings

Resolved -

That LGNYY meetings be held on the dates and times set out below:-

- Friday 28 September 2012 at 10.00 am at Innovate!, Catterick Garrison (hosted by Richmondshire District Council).
- Friday 7 December 2012 at 10.00 am at Selby District Council offices.
- Friday 8 March 2013 at 10.00 am (venue to be advised).
- Friday 12 July 2013 at 10.00 am (venue to be advised).
- Friday 4 October 2013 at 10.00 am (venue to be advised).
- Friday 6 December 2013 at 10.00 am (venue to be advised).

139. Business for Next Meeting

Resolved –

- (a) That any business for the meeting on Friday 28 September 2012, to supplement the following, be notified to the Honorary Secretary:-
- Oral report from Rosie Seymour concerning her role as the Deputy Director, Local Public Service Reform, DCLG.
 - Police and Crime Commissioner:- update on Election Process (Kersten England); update on the Police and Crime Panel (Neil Irving); and discussion about how local authorities will relate to/work with the Commissioner (Neil Irving).
- (b) That the Honorary Secretary seek, by email, Leaders' and Chief Executives' responses to Rosie Seymour's suggestion of issues to be discussed with her at the meeting on 28 September 2012.

The meeting concluded at 11.55 am.

RAG/ALJ