

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 JUNE 2019 at 7.15 p.m.**

PRESENT **Councillor R.S. Fleming (Chairman) and**
Councillors Eddy Adam, M. Ashcroft, Jim Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, 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, Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, Mrs. V.M. Raw, Ken Robson and Paul Symons.

OFFICERS Mr. A. Bailey (Town Clerk)
Mr. D. Austin (Finance Manager)
Miss C. Ryder (Senior Admin Officer)

7. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors P.J. Bergg, Kate Hopper and Sally Symons.

8. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

No applications for dispensations had been received.

9. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

10. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from the public.

11. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp, seconded by Councillor J. Clark and

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 17th April 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

12. **PRE-SCHOOL SUB-COMMITTEE**

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

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Review Sub-Committee held on the 8th May 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

13. **ACCOUNTS CONTROL SHEETS**

Account control sheets for the period 12th April 2019 to the 24th May 2019 and the General Bank Accounts for April 2019 were submitted.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the accounts control sheets for the period 12th April 2019 to the 24th May 2019 and the General Bank Accounts for April 2019 be received.

14. **GRANTS / DONATIONS**

The Town Clerk had submitted a report which gave the current donation budget for this financial year as £4,815.

The following applications for grants had been received for consideration:-

- (a) Open Spaces Society
- (b) Ally Cadence Trust for Spinal Muscular Atrophy

Aycliffe Youth Council

The current donation budget for the Aycliffe Youth Council Financial Year is £1,800.

The following grants were recommended for consideration by the Policy and Resources Committee at a meeting of the Aycliffe Youth Council:-

- £100 Prize voucher for the Skate Board Competition
- £ 40 Purchase of a Trophy for the Skate Board Event.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended:-

- (i) That the current donation budget of the Council be noted.
- (ii) That the following donations be agreed:-
 - (a) Open Spaces Society
No donation given.
 - (b) Ally Cadence Trust for Spinal Muscular Atrophy
No donation given.
- (iii) That the current donation budget for the Youth Council be noted.
- (iv) That the amount of £100, as recommended by Aycliffe Youth Council, for a prize at the Skate Board Competition be agreed along with the purchase of a Trophy at a cost of £40.

15. **2018/19 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET YEAR-END OUTTURN POSITION**

The Finance Manager had submitted a report to provide member's with information of the year-end outturn position on the Council's approved Revenue and Capital Budgets for the 2018/19 financial year.

The report also outlined the year-end position on the Council's balances and reserves, loans, investments and outstanding debtors.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the year-end financial position on the Council's 2018/19 Revenue Budgets be approved.
- (iii) That the year-end financial position on the Council's 2018/19 Capital Programme Budgets be approved.
- (iv) That the year-end position on the Council's Balances and Reserves be received and the proposed allocation of those balances be approved.
- (v) That the Revenue Budget and Capital Programme carry forward requests referred to in paragraphs 5.2 and 6.13 be approved.
- (vi) That members continue to receive quarterly budgetary control reports during 2019/20 financial year, detailing the financial position and expected outturn on the Council's 2019/20 Revenue and Capital Budgets.
- (vii) That the Town Clerk and his staff be congratulated for their work in producing an excellent outturn position of the Councils finances.

16. **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2019/20 TO 2023/24**

The Finance Manager submitted a report for Members consideration and approval of the 2019/20 to 2023/24 Medium Term Financial Plan.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2019/20 to 2023/24 be approved.
- (iii) That the Council wished to record their appreciation to the Finance Manager and staff for the production of such effective and easy to understand reports.

17. **COUNCIL INSURANCE POLICY LONG-TERM AGREEMENT RENEWAL**

The Finance Manager submitted a report for consideration of a new three-year long-term agreement for the Council's Insurance Policy.

A previous report had been considered by Members on the 6th March 2019 when a new one-year short term agreement insurance policy was agreed with the new Council Guard Scheme provider Royal Sun Alliance.

It is now being requested that Members considered the agreement of a new three-year long-term agreement insurance policy with Royal Sun Alliance as opposed to the previously agreed one-year short-term agreement. The option is now available following a recent amendment of the Council's Standing Orders for Contracts and Procurement.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the Council's insurance management arrangement with WPS Insurance Brokers and the agreement of a new three-year long-term agreement insurance policy with the new Council Guard Scheme provider, Royal Sun Alliance be approved at a saving of £10,694 per year.

18. **REPLACEMENT TIPPER VEHICLE – TOWN PRIDE**

The Works and Environment Manager and Grounds Maintenance Services Co-ordinator had submitted a report giving options for the replacement of the Ford Transit 'Town Pride' tipper vehicle within the Works Section.

As part of the rolling programme for the replacement of vehicles within the Works Section a capital sum of £27,500 has been allocated for the replacement of this vehicle in the 2019/20 Capital Budget.

Six suppliers had been approached for the supply of a suitable vehicle and the following three quotations had been received for the purchase of a vehicle:

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|---------------------------------------|------------|
| • Bristol Street Motors – Ford Bolton | £25,136.67 |
| • Thompson Commercials Ltd. | £22,500.00 |
| • North East Truck and Van Ltd. | £27,552.60 |

A further £260 Road Fund Licence would also need to be added together with a £55 First Registration Fee.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the quotation from Thompson Commercials Ltd. for the Isuzu N35.125 at a cost of £22,815 which includes the Road Fund Licence and First Registration fees.
- (iii) That the addition of Chapter 8 rear tail board safety markings at a cost of £100 together with seat covers and floor mats at a further cost of £150 be also agreed.
- (iv) That when renewing smaller Council vehicles, electrically operated vehicles should be considered.

CHAIRMAN