

COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne on Wednesday 17th January 2018 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor T. Munro in the Chair

Councillors T. Alexander, A. Anderson, P. Barnes, J.E. Bennett, R.J. Bowler, P.M. Bowmer, G. Buxton, J.A. Clifton, C.P. Cooper, P.A. Cooper, M. Dixey, S.W. Fritchley, R.A. Heffer, A. Joesbury, D. McGregor, C.R. Moesby, B.R. Murray-Carr, K. Reid, M.J. Ritchie, J.E. Smith, P. Smith, E. Stevenson, A.M. Syrett, R. Turner, K.F. Walker, B. Watson, D.S. Watson and J. Wilson.

Officers:-

D. Swaine (Chief Executive Officer), L. Hickin (Strategic Director), K. Hanson (Strategic Director), S. Sternberg (Assistant Director – Governance, Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer), D. Clarke (Assistant Director – Finance and Revenues & Benefits), S. Chambers (Communications, Marketing and Design Manager) and D. Cairns (Governance Officer - Acting)

0533. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T. Cannon, T.J. Connerton, M.G. Crane, M.J. Dooley, H.J. Gilmour, S. Peake, and S.J. Statter.

0534. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made at the meeting.

0535. QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC OR FROM MEMBERS

There were no questions from the public or members at this meeting.

0536. REPORTS ON URGENCY DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE

It was noted that a meeting of the Executive held on 4th December 2017 had made decisions in relation to a report on Economic Development Staffing. This was considered a matter of urgency as a waiting period before implementation would have led to a delay in the service review and the savings that resulted from the decision.

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Moved by Councillor T. Munro and seconded by Councillor R. Turner.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

0537. MINUTES – 6th DECEMBER 2017

Moved by Councillor R. Turner and seconded by Councillor A.M. Syrett.

RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting of Council held on 6th December 2017 be approved as a true and correct record.

0538. MINUTE BOOK

Moved by Councillor T. Munro and seconded by Councillor R. Turner.

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed in the Minute Book dated 17th January 2018 be noted.

0539. RECOMMENDED ITEMS

There were no recommended items.

0540. LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME

The Assistant Director – Finance and Revenues & Benefits presented a report which recommended that Council agree to continue the current Local Council Tax Support Scheme in to the 2018/19 financial year.

Bolsover District Council implemented a Local Council Tax Support Scheme in 2013 in response to a Central Government initiative to replace the National Council Tax Benefit Scheme with a localised system. Members were advised that the current arrangements for the scheme were the same as those operated by other authorities across the county.

The report detailed the main features of the Scheme and proposed to continue the existing arrangements for the forthcoming financial year.

Moved by Councillor T. Munro and seconded by Councillor R. Turner.

RESOLVED that Council:

- (1) agrees to continue to operate a local Council Tax Support scheme for 2018/19 based on The Council Tax Reduction Scheme England Regulations 2012 amended to reflect the following local decisions concerning the key principles of the scheme:

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- For those of working age the maximum amount of Council Tax that will be eligible for reduction is 91.5% of their full Council Tax Liability (approx. £95 for a Band A property).
- The Council continues its policy of disregarding war pensions for the purposes of calculating income in respect of Council Tax reduction scheme at a total estimated cost of £20k.

(2) notes that in line with the position set out in the report that the Chief Financial Officer will utilise previously granted delegated powers to update the Local Council Tax scheme to reflect such upratings of premiums, allowances and non-dependent deductions as may be determined by the Department of Work and Pensions, and for other minor technical changes which may be required.

(Assistant Director – Finance and Revenues & Benefits)

0541. COMMUNICATIONS TEAM PRESENTATION

The Communications, Marketing and Design Manager gave a presentation on the work of the Communications Team.

The presentation included a video which introduced the members of the team and their different roles, and outlined the elements of the team's work in promoting and selling the Council and its services. Services provided by the Communications team included news releases/media liaison, website design and management, photography, graphic design, publications such as InTouch, social media and marketing campaigns.

The Communications, Marketing and Design Manager also advised Members of the areas of development the team were focused on, such as improving media relationships, increasing editions of the InTouch publication and developing new marketing videos. Members were requested to inform the Communications Team, as soon as possible, of any events occurring within their local area in the next few months that could be filmed as part of the suite of marketing videos.

Members discussed that the services offered by the Communications Team could be offered to parish councils for a fee and the Communications, Marketing and Design Manager was invited to the next Parish Liaison meeting to give a presentation.

Moved by Councillor T. Munro and seconded by Councillor R. Turner.

RESOLVED that Council note the presentation.

(Communications, Marketing and Design Manager)

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0542. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair thanked the Acting Governance Manager for her support with Council meetings and informed Members that this was her last meeting at this Council before she would be returning to her role at North East Derbyshire District Council.

The Chair also wished Councillor B. Watson a happy birthday.

The meeting concluded at 1030 hours.
