

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

(Online Meeting)

23 February 2021

Present – The Vice-Chairman (Councillor Sutcliffe) and Councillors Barrett, Brockbank, Brown, Foster, Handley, Harbron, Heseltine, Hull, Ireton, Jaquin, Lis, Madeley, Mercer, Metcalfe, Moorby, Morrell, Mulligan, Myers, Noland, Place, Pringle, Rose, Shuttleworth, Solloway, Staveley, Wheeler and Whitaker.

(Councillors Harbron and Whitaker were present at the meeting, but due to technical issues were unable to participate and did not vote).

Officers – Chief Executive, Director of Services, Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer), Strategic Manager for Planning and Regeneration, Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer, Democratic Services Manager and Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer.

Start: 6.40pm

Finish: 7.55pm

Apologies for Absence – There were no apologies for absence.

Minutes –

Resolved – That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 January 2021 were confirmed as a correct record.

Public Participation – There were no members of the public in attendance.

Declarations of Interest – There were no declarations of interest.

CL.1204

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONFIRMATION

Recommendations of Policy Committee held on 2 February 2021 were submitted.

For each minute, the motion was proposed and seconded “That the recommendations in the minute are confirmed”.

- POL.1120 – Revenue Budget 2021/22 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/22 to 2024/25.

Resolved – That the recommendations at Minute POL.1120 are confirmed.

- POL.1121 – Council Plan 2021/22.

Resolved – That the recommendations at Minute POL.1121 are confirmed.

- POL.1122 – 2021/22 Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Statement and Annual Investment Strategy.

Resolved – That the recommendations at Minute POL.1122 are confirmed.

- POL.1123 – Pay Policy Statement 2021/22.

Resolved – That the recommendations at Minute POL.1123 are confirmed.

CL.1205

COUNCIL TAX LEVELS 2021-22

The Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) submitted a report in relation to the Council Tax requirement for 2021-22.

Councillor Mulligan, Lead Member for Finance thanked the Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) and his team for all their hard work in achieving a balanced budget. He also highlighted the positive work that had been undertaken administering business grants to support small businesses due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The following motions were voted on:

- 1) That the recommendations contained in Minute POL.1119 (Revenue Budget 2021-22 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2024-25) as set out below are confirmed:**
 - 1) That the revenue budget assumptions as detailed in the report submitted are noted.
 - 2) That the revenue budget for 2021/22 of £7,132,749 detailed in Appendix B to the report now submitted is approved.
 - 3) That the schedule of growth bids of £77,348 as identified in Appendix C to the report now submitted is approved.
 - 4) That the savings of £176,000 detailed in Appendix D to the report now submitted are incorporated into the budget.
 - 5) That a net contribution from earmarked reserves of £137,000 is made to support the 2021/22 budget, subject to the realisation of the amber savings identified in Appendix D to the report now submitted.
 - 6) That the assessment of the robustness of the budget and adequacy of reserves as set out in Appendix F to the report now submitted is agreed that the Section 25 report is noted.
 - 7) That the estimated sum of £995,000 as identified as the general fund balance as at 31 March 2020 in paragraph 10 and Appendix F to the report now submitted, is approved.
 - 8) That Council Tax is increased at Band D by £5 to £182.21.
 - 9) That the revenue budget incorporates the net contributions to/(from) earmarked reserves as detailed in tables 1 and 2, appendix A and annex 1 to the report now submitted.
- 10) That,
 - a) as part of the budget setting report to Council an update is provided on the estimated Craven District Council allocation of retained business rates; and
 - b) any significant variance to the figures included within the budget report, proposals are adjusted through contributions (to) / from the business rates equalisation reserve.

- 11) That the funding sources identified in the report and appendices A and B to the report now submitted, are approved.
- 12) That the attached Medium Term Financial Plan and the estimates of future years' budgets contained therein (annex 1) are noted.
- 13) That the updated Capital Strategy included with the Medium Term Financial Plan (annex 1) is noted.

2) That the recommendations contained in the report of the Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) in relation to Council Tax Levels 2021-22, as set out below are confirmed:

- 2.1 It be noted that on 20 October 2020 the Council calculated the Council Tax Base 2021/22
 - (a) for the whole Council area as 22,362.93 [Item T in the formula in Section 33 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended by the Localism Act 2011 (the "Act")]; and
 - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as in the attached Appendix A.
- 2.2 Calculates that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2020/21 (excluding Parish precepts) is £4,074,749.
- 2.3 That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2021/22 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
 - (a) **£24,968,357** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)a of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
 - (b) **£19,941,596** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)a of the Act.
 - (c) **£5,026,761** being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 32(4) of the Act).
 - (d) **£224.78** being the amount at (c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (2.1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
 - (e) **£1,439,790**, being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the attached Appendix B).
 - (f) **£182.21** being the amount at (d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (e) above by Item T (2.1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.

2.4 To note that the County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Fire and Rescue Service have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the table below.

That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2021/22 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

Valuation bands

Craven District Council

<u>BAND A</u>	<u>BAND B</u>	<u>BAND C</u>	<u>BAND D</u>	<u>BAND E</u>	<u>BAND F</u>	<u>BAND G</u>	<u>BAND H</u>
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
121.47	141.72	161.96	182.21	222.70	263.19	303.68	364.42

North Yorkshire County Council

<u>BAND A</u>	<u>BAND B</u>	<u>BAND C</u>	<u>BAND D</u>	<u>BAND E</u>	<u>BAND F</u>	<u>BAND G</u>	<u>BAND H</u>
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
940.70	1,097.47	1,254.27	1,411.05	1,724.63	2,038.18	2,351.75	2,822.10

Police and Crime Commissioner North Yorkshire

<u>BAND A</u>	<u>BAND B</u>	<u>BAND C</u>	<u>BAND D</u>	<u>BAND E</u>	<u>BAND F</u>	<u>BAND G</u>	<u>BAND H</u>
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
180.71	210.82	240.94	271.06	331.30	391.53	451.77	542.12

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service

<u>BAND A</u>	<u>BAND B</u>	<u>BAND C</u>	<u>BAND D</u>	<u>BAND E</u>	<u>BAND F</u>	<u>BAND G</u>	<u>BAND H</u>
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
49.43	57.66	65.90	74.14	90.62	107.09	123.57	148.28

Aggregate of the Council tax Requirements

<u>BAND A</u>	<u>BAND B</u>	<u>BAND C</u>	<u>BAND D</u>	<u>BAND E</u>	<u>BAND F</u>	<u>BAND G</u>	<u>BAND H</u>
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1,335.18	1,557.69	1,780.23	2,002.77	2,447.85	2,892.88	3,337.95	4,005.54

2.5 The Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2021/22 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.

2.6 If the formal Council Tax Resolution is approved, the total Band D Council Tax will be as follows:

	2021/22 £
Craven DC	182.21
North Yorkshire County Council	1,411.05
Police and Crime Commissioner North Yorkshire	271.06
North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	74.14
Sub-Total	1,938.46
Town & Parish Council (average)	64.38
Total	2,002.84

- 2.7 To note the Council's Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2021/22 remains unchanged as detailed in paragraph 7.9 of the Revenue Budget 2021/22, reported to Policy Committee on 2 February 2021.

Resolved –

1. That in respect of Motion 1, Minute POL.1119 (Revenue Budget 2021-22 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2024-25) as set out above is confirmed and adopted.

For the Motion: Councillors Barrett, Brockbank, Foster, Handley, Heseltine, Hull, Ireton, Jaquin, Lis, Madeley, Mercer, Metcalfe, Moorby, Morrell, Mulligan, Myers, Place, Pringle, Rose, Shuttleworth, Solloway, Staveley, Sutcliffe and Wheeler. (24)

Against the Motion: None (0)

Abstain: Councillors Brown and Noland (2)

2. That in respect of Motion 2, the recommendations contained in the report of the Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) in relation to Council Tax Levels 2021-22, as set out above, are adopted.

For the Motion: Councillors Barrett, Brockbank, Brown, Foster, Handley, Heseltine, Hull, Ireton, Jaquin, Lis, Madeley, Mercer, Metcalfe, Moorby, Morrell, Mulligan, Myers, Noland, Place, Pringle, Rose, Shuttleworth, Solloway, Staveley, Sutcliffe and Wheeler. (26)

Against the Motion: None (0)

Abstain: None (0)

CL.1206

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2021/22

The Democratic Services Manager submitted a report which presented the draft Calendar of Meetings for 2021/22 for Members' approval.

Resolved –

- a) That the Council's Calendar of Meetings for 2021/22, is approved.

- b) That a report be submitted to Planning Committee to present options contained in the Calendar of Meetings to continue meeting on a Monday at 1.30pm or alternatively on a Wednesday at 4.00pm.
- c) That at the first meeting of the new municipal year, Committees and Sub-Committees agree the start time for their meetings for the 2021/22 municipal year.

CL.1207

STATEMENT FROM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

The Leader of the Council reported that a letter had been received from Robert Jenrick, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, about local government reorganisation. As a result, the District and North Yorkshire County Council Elections had been postponed. The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner elections, by-elections and Parish elections were still going ahead.

It was advised that Councils were unable to campaign for or against the proposals for local government reorganisation during the period of consultation, which lasted for eight weeks and closed on 19 April 2021. The Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer was issuing a separate note to Elected Members and staff about the pre-election period (known as purdah) and the publicity restrictions in place.

Members emphasised the importance that the public responded to the consultation. A link to the consultation could be accessed on the Council's website as follows:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposals-for-locally-led-reorganisation-of-local-government-in-cumbria-north-yorkshire-and-somerset/consultation-on-proposals-for-locally-led-reorganisation-of-local-government-in-cumbria-north-yorkshire-and-somerset>

(Councillor Harbron left the meeting at 7.20pm during the consideration of this item.)

CL.1208

STATEMENT FROM LEAD MEMBERS, CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES AND COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Metcalfe, Lead Member for Internal Services, thanked Members for their feedback in relation to training requirements. A training programme had been agreed which covered key areas including, equalities, local government finance, planning and enforcement and climate change. Guy Close, Democratic Services Manager and Jacquie Hodgson, Human Resources Manager were thanked for their hard work in arranging the programme of events for Elected Members.

Councillor Staveley, Chair of Select Committee, provided an update on recent work undertaken by the Committee. It was advised that at its most recent meeting the Committee had received presentations on absence management and customer services. Members were also informed about the benefits of the Council's Oasis Counselling Service.

Councillor Myers, Chair of Licensing Committee, responded to a query about the installation of CCTV in all Council licensed taxi vehicles from 1 April 2021. It was advised that a petition had been submitted from the Craven Taxi Association which had expressed concerns about the cost and timing implications of installing CCTV. This issue was to be considered by the Licensing Committee at its next scheduled meeting on Tuesday, 6 April

2021. No enforcement action was to be undertaken until the Licensing Committee had reviewed the petition submitted by the Craven Taxi Association.

CL.1209 **GENERAL QUESTION / STATEMENT TIME**

Councillor Brown had submitted a question in relation to Local Government Reorganisation. The question was withdrawn on the basis that a response had already been provided under Minute CL.1207, Statement from the Leader of the Council.

CL.1210 **ANY OTHER ITEMS**

There were no late items of business to consider.

CL.1211 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, 27 April 2021 at 6.30pm.

Chairman