

POLICY COMMITTEE

1st November 2016

Present – The Chairman (Foster) and Councillors Dawson, Hull, Ireton, Jaquin, Madeley, Morrell, Mulligan, Place, Shuttleworth (substitute for Heseltine), Welch and Whitaker (substitute for Brockbank).

Officers – Chief Executive, Director of Services, Corporate Head of Business Support, Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer), Strategic Manager – Financial Services (S.151 Officer), Strategic Manager – Planning and Regeneration, Revenue and Benefits Manager and Committee Administrator.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Barrett, Brockbank, Heseltine, Lis and Myers.

Start: 6:30pm

Finish: 7.29pm

The minutes of the Committee's meeting held on 5th October 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Minutes for Report

POL.787 SKIPTON TOWN HALL – BAR AND CATERING PROVISION

The Director of Services submitted a report asking Members to consider options for the provision of bar and catering facilities in Skipton Town Hall.

As part of the re-development of Skipton Town Hall, Members had, following a feasibility study, previously approved the commencement of a second major phase to significantly upgrade the Main Concert Hall, backstage rooms and explore the potential to extend the rear of the building animating the rear of the Town Hall and the ginnel leading from Jerry Croft. Design work was underway and detailed proposals were expected to be submitted to the Committee in March 2017.

The feasibility study had also highlighted the limited bar and catering provision which was only provided upon request by the hirer. The current location was not ideal and the provision of permanent pre/post and intermission bar and catering facilities were considered pivotal to the future sustainability of the Hall. It was proposed that, in order to relieve pressure on the existing front of house space, the front corner unit of the Town Hall was used to create a crush bar and daytime café including space for meetings.

Members were advised that four potential delivery models for the provision of bar and catering facilities had been assessed, and based upon the information in the report now submitted, officers had recommended a partnership between the Council and a commercial provider. This option would enable the Council to seek an element of control of the service and share any surplus income from the venture.

Resolved – (1) That, the preferred option for the provision of bar and catering facilities in the Town Hall is for a partnership with a commercial provider and the Director of services is authorised to seek expressions of interest from potential partners.

(2) That, a report is submitted to the March 2017 Policy Committee detailing the outcome from the evaluation of expressions of interest and enable a decision to be made on the preferred partner.

POL.788

MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

The Chairman presented the minutes of the Community Grants Sub-Committee held on 4th October 2016 and the Craven Spatial Planning Sub-Committee held on 6th September 2016.

Resolved – (1) That, the minutes of the Community Grants Sub-Committee held on 4th October 2016, are confirmed.

(2) That, the minutes of the Craven Spatial Planning Sub-Committee held on 6th September 2016 are noted.

Minutes for Decision

POL.789

CONFIRMATION OF THE COUNCIL TAX BASE – 2017-2018

The Corporate Head – Business Support submitted a report seeking approval of the Council Tax Base for the 2017/18 financial year. The Committee were advised that the formula used to calculate the base had been updated to take account of both the technical changes to council tax discounts and exemptions and the change from council tax benefit to local council tax reduction schemes.

Recommended – (1) That, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012 the amount calculated by Craven District Council as its tax base for the whole of the area for 2017/18 financial year is set at 22,093.

(2) That, the amount calculated by Craven District Council as the tax base for each of its parishes for the 2017/18 financial year is that as set out in Appendix A to this report.

POL.790

THE ROLE OF CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL IN PUBLIC HEALTH

The Chief Executive submitted a report about the important role Craven District Council had to play in improving public health both by initiating health related projects through its current services and more widely by supporting and empowering communities and influencing relevant bodies.

Whilst, Public Health England's statistics showed that the health of Craven's population was better than the England average, local priorities included ageing well, fuel poverty, starting well and living well.

The District Councils' Network which represented all 201 district councils had commissioned an independent charity called the 'King's Fund' to evaluate and produce a report on the district councils' contribution to the understanding, assessment and development of their role in improving the health of their residents and communities.

The District Councils' Network had established a Public Health Taskforce and one of the projects to be developed was a Healthy Towns and Villages network with a number of pilot authorities, including Craven being put forward as inaugural members.

Members were advised that establishing a Craven Health and Wellbeing Leaders' Forum would give the strategic leadership needed for the area, bringing representatives from agencies across the footprint of Craven to work together strategically and operationally to develop a focused action plan for the District to target health inequalities.

Recommended – (1) That, the importance of the King's Fund report on the role and contribution made by district councils to public health is noted.

(2) That, the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive give clear leadership and are appointed as the leads for taking forward this work.

(3) That, the District Councils' Network investigation into more effective evaluation methodologies of health related projects and initiatives which should include an element of return on investment is supported.

(4) That, support is given to Craven being considered as a pilot for the Healthy Towns and Villages Network set up by the District Councils' Network Taskforce.

(5) That, support is given to the setting up of a Health and Wellbeing Leaders Forum for Craven including the CCGs and North Yorkshire County Council to both ensure the District Council can contribute to further improving public health and ensure there are no gaps in provision.

(6) That, the Action Plan is approved and that delegated authority is given to the Health and Wellbeing Leaders' Forum to set a local Action Plan and report back to Committee in twelve months' time on the progress made.

Chairman