

COUNCIL MEETING

27 February 2018

Present – The Chairman (Councillor Place) and Councillors Barrett, Baxandall, Brown, Dawson, Graham, Harbron, Heseltine, Hull, Ireton, Lis, Madeley, Mason, Moorby, Morell, Mulligan, Shuttleworth, Solloway, Staveley, Sutcliffe, Thompson, Welch and Whitaker.

Officers – Chief Executive, Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer, Director of Services, Chief Finance Officer and Democratic Services Manager.

Apologies: Councillors Brockbank, Foster, Jaquin, Mercer, Myers, Pighills and Rose.

Start: 7.00pm

Finish: 8.05pm

CL.1014

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

Resolved – That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 30 January 2018 are confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

CL.1015

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no questions received.

CL.1016

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that Standards Committee had granted a dispensation to all Members to allow them to participate and vote in relation to setting the Council Tax or a precept under the Local Government Act 1992 (or subsequent legislation) (STN.317).

CL.1017

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A list of engagements attended by the Chairman since the last meeting of Council was included within the agenda.

CL.1018

BUDGET RELATED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONFIRMATION

The following recommendations were submitted from the Policy Committee meeting held on 16 January 2018:

(Note: For each minute the motion was proposed and seconded "That the recommendations in the minutes are confirmed.")

(a) POL.908 Pay Policy Statement 2018-2019

Whilst acknowledging the funding pressures faced by local authorities, Councillor Brown expressed concern that the proposed pay increase for Council employees was not in line with the current rate of inflation and this was not a sustainable policy for the future. The Chief Executive advised that the proposed pay increase was part of a national negotiation and was subject to agreement by Unions.

Resolved – That the recommendations at Minute POL.908 are confirmed.

(b) POL.909 Council Plan 2018-2021

Resolved – That the recommendations at Minute POL.909 are confirmed.

(c) POL.910 Capital Programme 2018/19

Resolved – That the recommendations at Minute POL.910 are confirmed.

(d) POL.911 Revenue Budget 2018/19 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2018/19 to 2020/21

The recommendations at Minute POL.911 (Revenue Budget 2017/18) were considered alongside the item on Revenue Budget / Council Tax 2018/19 (Minute CL.1019 below refers).

(e) POL.912 2018/19 Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Statement and Annual Investment Strategy

Resolved – That the recommendations at Minute POL.912 are confirmed.

CL.1019 **REVENUE BUDGET/ COUNCIL TAX 2018/19**

In accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended by the Localism Act 2011, the Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) submitted a report to enable the Council to calculate and approve the Council Tax requirement for 2018/19.

The Deputy Leader presented a budget speech in which he advised that a balanced budget had been delivered. He advised that the Council continued to face significant financial challenges, however, with its track record for making savings and innovative ideas for income generation, he was confident that the Council would be able to respond positively to the challenges faced.

Members were advised that the Rural Services Delivery Grant had increased to £280,000, which was an increase of £55,000 from the December provisional announcement. This additional grant was being used to reduce the support to the budget from the New Homes Bonus reserve in 2018/19. The Deputy Leader also thanked the Rural Services Network and SPARSE for the work and lobbying that they had done.

The Deputy Leader confirmed that the Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) had assessed the robustness of the budget and confirmed the adequacy of reserves. It was proposed that the Council increased Council Tax by £5 at Band D or just under 10p per week to £167.21, which was just under £3.22 per week.

Councillor Barrett thanked the Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) and her team for their hard work in delivering the budget. He also acknowledged the significant financial challenges faced by the Council.

Councillor Madeley expressed support for the budget and acknowledged the challenges delivering a balanced budget.

Councillor Heseltine commented that it was not sustainable to keep expecting council tax payers to pay more. There was also an inequitable divide between rural and urban authorities.

Councillor Mulligan thanked the Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) and her staff for delivering a balanced budget. Income generation schemes would be important in supporting future budgets.

Councillor Brown expressed concern that disproportionate cuts had been imposed on local government. He also felt that the budget was too reliant on the New Homes Bonus grant.

Councillor Solloway raised concern that financial challenges had resulted in a lack of flexibility with budget setting. He also highlighted the impact of cuts on rural communities.

The Deputy Leader concluded by adding his thanks to officers and to opposition members for their support.

The following motions were then voted on:

1. That the recommendations contained in Minute POL.911 (Revenue Budget 2018/19 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2018-19 to 2020-21) as set out below are confirmed:

- (a) That the revenue budget assumptions, as detailed within the Chief Finance Officer's report are noted.
- (b) That the revenue budget for 2018/19 of £6,788,689 is approved.
- (c) That the schedule of growth bids of £128,980 as identified in Appendix C to the report now submitted are approved.
- (d) That the savings of £185,010 as identified in Appendix D to the report now submitted, are incorporated into the budget.
- (e) That a contribution from the New Homes Bonus Reserve of £100,000 is made to support the 2018/19 budget, in addition to £317,160 for approved projects, giving a total of £417,160.
- (f) That the assessment of the robustness of the budget and adequacy of reserves in Paragraph 10 and Appendix F of the report now submitted are approved.
- (g) That, the estimated sum of £995,000 as identified as the General Fund Balance as at 31st March 2017 in Paragraph 10 and Appendix F of the report now submitted is approved.
- (h) That the Council Tax is increased at Band D by £5 to £167.21.
- (i) That the revenue budget incorporates the net contributions to/(from) earmarked reserves as detailed in tables 1 and 2, Paragraph 4.8, Appendix A and Appendix F (annex 1).
- (j) That should additional resources be available through the retained business rates scheme, a matching contribution to the business rates contingency reserve is made to mitigate against future uncertainties.
- (k) That the Section 25 report on the robustness of the budget contained at section 10 of the report and Appendix F is noted.
- (l) That the funding sources identified in the report and Appendix A now submitted are approved:

		£'000
a)	Revenue Support Grant	141
b)	Rural Services Grant	225
c)	Housing Grant	46
d)	New Homes Bonus	513
e)	Retained Business Rates	1,600
f)	Business Rates Collection Fund (Deficit)	(20)
g)	Council Tax Collection Fund Surplus	98
h)	Council Tax	3,755
i)	Contribution from General Fund Balance	0
j)	Contributions (to)/from Earmarked Reserves	431
	Total Funding	6,789

2. That the recommendations contained in the report of the Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) as reproduced below are confirmed.

- 2.1 It be noted that on 31 October 2017 the Council calculated the Council Tax Base 2018/19
- (a) for the whole Council area as 22,455 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (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 Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2018/19 (excluding Parish precepts) is £3,754,701.
- 2.3 That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2018/19 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
- (a) **£24,915,186** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
 - (b) **£19,800,618** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - (c) **£5,114,568** being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(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 31B of the Act).
 - (d) **£227.77** 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 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
 - (e) **£1,359,867** 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) **£167.21** 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.

2.5 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 2018/19 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

Valuation Bands

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
151.84	177.15	202.46	227.77	278.39	329.01	379.60	455.54

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
832.56	971.33	1,110.09	1,248.85	1,526.37	1,803.89	2,081.42	2,497.70

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER NORTH YORKSHIRE

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
155.21	181.08	206.95	232.82	284.56	336.30	388.03	465.64

NORTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
46.13	53.82	61.51	69.20	84.58	99.96	115.33	138.40

AGGREGATE OF COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENTS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1,185.74	1,383.38	1,581.01	1,778.64	2,173.90	2,569.16	2,964.38	3,557.28

2.6 The Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2018/19 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.

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

	2018/19 £
Craven DC	167.21
North Yorkshire County Council	1,248.85
Police and Crime Commissioner North Yorkshire	232.82
North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	69.20
Sub-Total	1,718.08
Town & Parish Council (average)	60.56
Total	1,778.64

Resolved –

1. That in respect to Motion 1, Minute POL.911 – Revenue Budget / Council Tax 2018/19 as set out above is confirmed and adopted.

For the Motion: Councillors Barrett, Baxandall, Dawson, Graham, Harbron, Heseltine Hull, Ireton, Lis, Madeley, Mason, Moorby, Morell, Mulligan, Place, Shuttleworth, Solloway Staveley, Sutcliffe, Thompson, Welch and Whitaker. (22)

Against the Motion: None (0)

Abstain: Councillor Brown (1)

2. That in respect to Motion 2, the recommendations contained in the report of the Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) as set out above are adopted.

For the Motion: Councillors Barrett, Baxandall, Dawson, Graham, Harbron, Heseltine Hull, Ireton, Lis, Madeley, Mason, Moorby, Morell, Mulligan, Place, Shuttleworth, Solloway Staveley, Sutcliffe, Thompson, Welch and Whitaker. (22)

Against the Motion: None (0)

Abstain: Councillor Brown (1)

CL.1020 OTHER RECOMMEDATIONS FOR CONFIRMATION

The following recommendations were submitted from the Audit and Governance Committee meeting held on 23 January 2018:

(Note: For each minute the motion was proposed and seconded “That the recommendations in the minutes are confirmed.”)

(a) AC.308 Anti-Money Laundering Policy

Resolved – That the recommendations at Minute AC.308 are confirmed.

(b) AC.309 Whistleblowing Policy

Resolved – That the recommendations at Minute AC.309 are confirmed.

CL.1021 **DRAFT CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2018/19**

The Democratic Services Manager submitted a report which presented the draft calendar of meetings for 2018/19. It was reported that the draft calendar was to be brought back to the April Council meeting for confirmation.

There were no comments on the draft calendar of meetings for 2018/19.

CL.1022 **STATEMENT FROM THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

The Deputy Leader provided an update on the Draft Local Plan, which included representations that had been submitted and the deadline for responses. The next stage involved preparation for formal submission to the Secretary of State by 29 March 2018.

It was advised that the Secretary of State was supportive towards securing a devolution deal for Yorkshire, possibly by May 2020.

CL.1023 **STATEMENT FROM LEAD MEMBERS AND CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES**

Councillor Staveley advised that the Select Committee was undertaking a review of Bereavement Services and its findings were being finalised next month.

It was reported that due to the adverse weather conditions, the Select Crime and Disorder Committee meeting on 28 February 2018 had been cancelled.

CL.1024 **GENERAL QUESTION / STATEMENT TIME**

A question was submitted by Councillor Brown to the Deputy Leader of the Council as follows:

“Could you please outline for us the measures that CDC has put in place to avoid single use plastic on CDC premises and by our staff during working hours?”

The following response was provided by Councillor Lis, Lead Member for Greener Craven:

“Single Use Plastics can be defined as plastics that are only used once before they are thrown away or recycled. This includes plastic bags, straws, coffee stirrers, water bottles and most food packaging.

The Council in its everyday business uses very little of these commodities. The major commodity is paper for copying and printing. This is delivered in cardboard boxes with individual reams of paper within the box wrapped in paper wrapping. Where we do use single use plastics such as cartridge tonners for printers these are recycled via the supplier.

Finally, the Council does not provide a vending machine service to provide hot and cold drinks for staff, therefore such plastics are not produced.”

A question was also submitted by Councillor Solloway to the Lead Member for Greener Craven as follows:

“Having recently done a few journeys from Skipton to Northallerton, the difference in levels of litter and plastic waste on the roadside verges in Craven, is much more than when you cross other District Boundaries, and given that Hambleton District Council and Harrogate Borough Council seem to have teams of litter pickers clearing their verges, could we see to it that we too get our roadside verges cleared, please?”

The following response was provided by Councillor Lis, Lead Member for Greener Craven:

“Officers are aware of the situation and are in the process of arranging road verge litter picking in March for the following ‘A’ roads –

Spring Verge Purge Timetable	
‘A’ Road	Week commencing (indicative)
A65 Skipton through Gargrave, Coniston, Hellifield, Long Preston, Settle By-Pass to boundary	To be confirmed
A6068 to boundary through Glusburn and Crosshills	To be confirmed
A59 from West Marton boundary to Beamsley	To be confirmed
A629 to boundary	To be confirmed
A56 from Broughton Roundabout to Thornton boundary	To be confirmed

The ‘A’ roads verge litter annual litter picking is an annual event and requires some planning as the Council will need the assistance of NYCC to create a rolling road closure programme so that litter picking can take place.

Non ‘A’ roads are dealt with via an established road sweeping daily programme delivered by Waste Management Services. Occasionally, there may be difficulty providing this service, especially during periods of heavy rain.”

Chairman