

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 25TH JUNE, 2012

PRESENT: Councillor K Wakefield in the Chair

Councillors A Blackburn, J Blake, S Golton,
P Gruen, G Latty, T Leadley, J Lewis,
L Mulherin, E Nash, J Procter and
M Rafique
A, Lowe (in attendance)

Apologies Councillor R Finnigan

1 Appeals against refusal of inspection of documents

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

2 Exempt Information - possible exclusion of the press and public

There were no resolutions to exclude the public

3 Late items

There were no late items submitted to the agenda

4 Declaration of Interests

Councillor G Latty declared an interest in agenda item 8 Community Governance Review to consult on proposals to create a new parish of Rawdon, as he had helped raise the petition in support of Rawdon becoming a Parish Council. (minute 8 refers)

5 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Finnigan.

6 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Wednesday 9th May 2012 be approved as a correct record.

7 Community Governance Review to consult on proposals to increase the number of parish councillors for Scarcroft parish council

The Committee received a report of the Head of Licensing and Registration outlining a request which had been received from Scarcroft Parish Council asking the Council to consider a Community Governance Review to increase the number of parish councillors from 7 to 9.

RESOLVED – Members of the General Purposes Committee resolved to approve the process and timetable for the Community Governance Review as detailed in the report.

8 Community Governance Review to consult on proposals to create a new parish of Rawdon

The Committee considered a report of the Head of Licensing and Registration seeking approval for a Community Governance Review to be undertaken following the receipt of a valid petition (seeking the establishment of a Parish Council for (Rawdon) from electors in polling districts from Horsforth, Guiseley & Rawdon and Otley & Yeadon wards.

Following questions from the committee the Head of Licensing and Registration confirmed that the Community Governance Review will specifically consider the electoral area for the potential Parish and issues relating to precepts.

RESOLVED - The General Purposes Committee resolved to approve the process and timetable for the Community Governance Review outlined in the report

Councillors Rafique, Gruen and Blackburn entered the meeting at 2.05pm. Councillor Mulherin left the meeting at the conclusion of this item¹.

9 Establishment of the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

The City Solicitor presented her report which advised Members about establishing a Police and Crime Panel as a joint committee with other West Yorkshire authorities, to scrutinise an elected Police and Crime Commissioner from November 2012.

RESOLVED – Members of the General Purposes Committee resolved to:

- (a) note the Council's statutory obligation to establish, and agree arrangements for the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel;

and recommend that full Council;

- (b) approve the establishment of a joint committee with four other West Yorkshire councils, as detailed in the report;
- (c) delegate authority to the City Solicitor to enter into an agreement to formalise the panel arrangements set out in the report; and
- (d) appoint Councillors Lowe, Iqbal, and J. L. Carter as the council's representatives on the Panel.

¹ Councillor Lowe joined the meeting at this point and declared a personal interest in agenda item 9 Establishment of the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel, as a nominated member of the panel. (minute 9 refers). However as per Council Procedure Rule 26.2, Councillor Lowe's participation in the meeting was in a non voting capacity.

10 Amendments to Council Delegation Scheme

The Committee considered a report of the Director of City Development and the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods which outlined the proposed changes to the Officer Delegation Scheme (Council (non executive) functions) in respect of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods and Director of City Development.

RESOLVED – Members of the General Purposes Committee resolved to recommend that full Council adopt the changes.

11 Appointment of the Independent Person

The Committee considered a report of the City Solicitor in relation to the appointment of an Independent Person.

Members gave their support for the appointment of Gordon Tollefson as the Independent Person.

RESOLVED – Members of the General Purposes Committee resolved to recommend that full Council appoint Mr Gordon Tollefson for a period of up to one year under the transitional arrangements contained in Article 7 of the Commencement Order.