

Chief Executive's Department
Civic Centre
HARTLEPOOL

25 April, 2014

Councillors Ainslie, C Akers-Belcher, S Akers-Belcher, Atkinson, Barclay, Beck, Brash, Cook, Cranney, Dawkins, Fisher, Fleet, Gibbon, Griffin, Hall, Hargreaves, Jackson, James, Lauderdale, A E Lilley, G Lilley, Loynes, Martin-Wells, Dr. Morris, Payne, Richardson, Robinson, Shields, Simmons, Sirs, Tempest and Thompson

Madam or Sir,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the COUNCIL to be held on THURSDAY, 8 May, 2014 at 7.00 p.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool to consider the subjects set out in the attached agenda.

Yours faithfully

D Stubbs
Chief Executive

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COUNCIL AGENDA



Thursday 8 May 2014

at 7.00 p.m.

**in the Council Chamber,
Civic Centre, Hartlepool.**

- (1) To receive apologies from absent Members;
- (2) To receive any declarations of interest from Members;
- (3) To deal with any business required by statute to be done before any other business;
- (4) To receive questions from and provide answers to the public in relation to matters of which notice has been given under Rule 11;
- (5) To approve the minutes of the last meeting of the Council held on 3 April 2014 as the correct record;
- (6) To answer questions from Members of the Council on the minutes of the last meeting of Council;
- (7) To answer questions of Members of the Council under Rule 12;
 - (a) Questions to the Chairs of Committees and Forums
 - (b) Questions on Police and Crime Panel and Fire Authority issues to the appropriate Members
- (8) To deal with any business required by statute to be done;
- (9) To receive any announcements from the Chair, or the Head of Paid Service;
- (10) To dispose of business (if any) remaining from the last meeting and to receive the report of any Committee to which such business was referred for consideration;

(11) To consider reports from the Council's Committees and to receive questions and answers on any of those reports;

1. Report of Civic Honours Committee (to follow)

(12) To consider any other business specified in the summons to the meeting, and to receive questions and answers on any of those items;

(13) To consider reports from the Policy Committees:

(a) proposals in relation to the Council's approved budget and policy framework; and

(b) proposals for departures from the approved budget and policy framework;

(14) To consider motions in the order in which notice has been received

"That this council voluntarily gives up its alcohol licence at the inspirations cafe and thereby return Stranton Cemetery to being a place of rest"

Signed:-

Councillor Brash
Councillor G Lilley
Councillor Thompson
Councillor Atkinson
Councillor A Lilley
Councillor Dawkins

(15) To receive the Chief Executive's report and to pass such resolutions thereon as may be deemed necessary.



COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

3 April 2014

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

PRESENT:-

The Chairman (Councillor S Akers-Belcher) presiding:

COUNCILLORS:

Ainslie	C Akers-Belcher	Barclay
Beck	Cook	Cranney
Fisher	Fleet	Gibbon
Griffin	Hall	Jackson
James	Lauderdale	A Lilley
G Lilley	Loynes	Martin-Wells
Dr Morris	Payne	Richardson
Robinson	Shields	Simmons
Sirs	Tempest	Thompson

Officers: Dave Stubbs, Chief Executive
Peter Devlin, Chief Solicitor
Andrew Atkin, Assistant Chief Executive
John Morton, Assistant Chief Finance Officer
Denise Ogden, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Louise Wallace, Director of Public Health
Alastair Rae, Public Relations Manager
Amanda Whitaker and David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

Prior to the commencement of business, the Chairman advised Members that he was going to visit former Councillor Ray Waller, Freeman of the Borough, who was ill. It was agreed that the Chair should convey the thoughts and best wishes of Council to Mr Waller during that visit.

The Chairman also reminded Members of a letter, from the Chief Solicitor, which had been circulated recently and which had highlighted some general principles of conduct which should be observed and adhered to by all Members at Council meetings.

148. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENT MEMBERS

Councillors Atkinson, Brash, Dawkins and Hargreaves

149. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS

None

150. BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE TO BE DONE BEFORE ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

151. PUBLIC QUESTION

None

152. MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

The Minutes of Proceedings of the Council held on the 27 February 2014, having been laid before the Council.

RESOLVED - That the minutes be confirmed.

The minutes were thereupon signed by the Chairman.

153. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ON THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

With reference to minute 145, a Member sought confirmation that a letter had been sent to the Police and Crime Commissioner, expressing the concerns of Council in relation to the precept increase of 1.997%. It was agreed that a copy of the letter to the Police and Crime Commissioner be forwarded to all Members of the Council.

154. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(a) Questions to Chairs of Committees and Forums

Question from Councillor Brash to Chair of Regeneration Services Committee:-

"Can the Chair explain in terms of resources, officer time, and any other associated costs to the council, how much the new local plan is going to cost the tax payer of Hartlepool from November 2013 to its proposed adoption in December 2016 and from whom did the Chair obtain this information?"

The Chairman responded that a report submitted to the Regeneration Services Committee on the 20th February 2014 had detailed the local plan timetable and

also the evidence base required to support the local plan. In terms of costs the report had highlighted that £125,000 was anticipated to be required for production of the evidence base; £10,000 was anticipated to be required for advertising, printing and venue costs and £82,000 was anticipated to be required for Examination, totalling £217,000. However if a Barrister was needed for the Examination in Public there could be a need to add approximately £16,000, totalling £233,000. The Medium Term Financial Strategy included a reserve of £250,000 to cover the production of the evidence base and EiP. These figures had been compiled having regard to the previous costs, however excluded officer time as this was an unknown at this stage. The Chairman advised that this information had been provided by the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods and Planning Services Manager.

(b) Questions to Police and Crime Panel and Fire Authority issues

None

Minutes of the meeting of the Cleveland Police and Crime Panel held on 29 August 2013 and 22 October 2013 had been circulated.

155. BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE

None

156. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

157. TO DISPOSE OF BUSINESS (IF ANY) REMAINING FROM THE LAST MEETING AND TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF ANY COMMITTEE TO WHICH SUCH BUSINESS WAS REFERRED FOR CONSIDERATION.

None

158. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES

(1) Pay Policy 2014/15 – Report of Finance and Policy Committee

The Chairman of the Finance and Policy Committee advised Council that under Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011, Council had to approve a Pay Policy on an annual basis. Previous pay policies had been approved in respect of 2012/13 and 2013/14. At its meeting on 27 February 2014 the Finance and Policy Committee had considered the draft Pay Policy 2014/15, which had been circulated with the report, and had agreed to recommend the pay policy to Council as it reflected the various pay related policies and arrangements operating within the Council.

RESOLVED - That the draft Pay Policy 2014/15 be approved.

The above was agreed by show of hands. The Chair confirmed, in the absence of dissent, that this was the unanimous decision of the Council.

159. TO CONSIDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS SPECIFIED IN THE SUMMONS OF THE MEETING

(1) Review of the Council's Constitution – Report of Monitoring Officer

The Monitoring Officer presented a comprehensive report which reminded Members that at a meeting of Council held on 5th December, 2013 it had been resolved that a Council Working Group in unison with the Monitoring Officer meet to review the Council's Constitution and "to ensure the aims and principles of the Constitution are given full effect". Consequently views had been invited from elected Members, Officers and members of the public and those representations had been highlighted at the Working Group on 28th January, 2014. It was highlighted that as an exception the Working Group had been open to members of the public to attend. A Press Release publicising the meeting of the Working Group had been issued, together with notification on the Council's website and individual correspondence was sent to those individuals who had submitted representations as part of the consultation process. The Monitoring Officer's report captured the views expressed at that Working Group (Appendix A), those changes which were required on the recommendation on the Monitoring Officer (Appendix B) and those matters which required consideration and formal resolutions of Council (Appendix C). It was intended, unless otherwise specified, that changes to the Council's Constitution would be implemented to coincide with the municipal year 2014/15.

The Monitoring Officer highlighted reference in his report to the operation of the Children's Services Committee with respect to its "Education Representatives". Following consideration of a report by the Children's Services Committee, at its meeting on 31 March 2014, the Monitoring Officer advised that it was recommended that the term of office of Diocesan representatives and Parent Governor Representatives be for a four year term based on the municipal year. It was recommended also that there should be additional power for the Children's Services Committee to 'co-opt' such individuals onto the Committee who would benefit the workings of the Committee on particular education themes. Such 'co-option' would be for such period as the Committee determined and the appointments would be at the discretion of the Committee. It was noted that such co-optees, in the absence of a scheme, would not have voting rights.

RESOLVED – That the recommendations in respect of "education representatives" on the Children's Services Committee be agreed.

It was moved by Councillor Cook and seconded by Councillor Richardson:-

“That the recommendation that the position of Ceremonial Chair to be occupied for no longer than 2 consecutive years not be adopted.”

A vote was taken on the amendment. It was agreed that there should not be a limit on the term of office of the position of Ceremonial Mayor.

The above was agreed by show of hands. The Chair confirmed, in the absence of dissent, that this was the unanimous decision of the Council.

During the Debate the Leader of the Council expressed his disagreement with concerns which had been expressed by a Member in relation to the implications of the recommendation not to reinstate the provision of supplementary public questions in the Council. Alternative opportunities for public engagement with the public were highlighted including the facility to raise questions at meetings of Policy Committees.

It was moved by Councillor C Akers-Belcher and seconded by Councillor Richardson that the vote be put.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17.5 of the Constitution, a recorded vote was taken on the recommendations of the Monitoring Officer set out in the report:-

Those in favour:

Councillors Ainslie, C Akers-Belcher, S Akers-Belcher, Barclay, Beck, Cook, Cranney, Fisher, Fleet, Griffin, Hall, Jackson, James, Loynes, Martin-Wells, Morris, Payne, Richardson, Robinson, Shields, Simmons, Sirs and Tempest.

Those against:

Councillors Gibbon, Lauderdale, A Lilley, G Lilley and Thompson

Those abstaining:

None.

The vote was carried and the following amendments to the Constitution were agreed:-

- The required amendments to the Council's Constitution as outlined in Appendix B.
- The amendments to reflect the following areas:-
 - Corporate Parent Forum – change to composition of Forum
 - The additional representations on Children's Services Committee with respect to “education representatives”, parent governor representatives and potential other co-optees as agreed earlier in the meeting.

- Reduction in the number of Members on Planning Committee from 16 to 11 Members with a quorum of 5 Members.
- Substitution arrangements not to be permitted in respect of Planning Committee
- That reports be presented on options in respect of the following issues:-
 - Review of composition of Children's Strategic Partnership
 - Review of format of Neighbourhood Forums with regard to 'Face the Public' agenda items
 - Alignment of the role of 'Champions' to the general duties of Committee Chairs
- Unless where otherwise specified, the resolution of Council in respect of all the changes incorporated within Appendix B and those changes agreed by Council in respect of Appendix C operate from the beginning of the Municipal Year 2014/15.

160. REPORT FROM THE POLICY COMMITTEES

(a) Proposal in relation to the Council's budget and policy framework

(1) Reviewing the Sustainable Community Strategy for Hartlepool - Report of Finance and Policy Committee

The report presented by the Chair of the Finance and Policy Committee sought Council's approval of the reviewed Sustainable Community Strategy which was appended to the report. The Council had a statutory duty to prepare a Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for the Borough. The previous SCS was adopted 5 years ago in 2008 and therefore needed to be reviewed to ensure that it remained relevant, reflected local circumstances and responded to national changes. Three options for reviewing the SCS had been presented to Finance and Policy Committee on the 31st May 2013. The Committee had agreed with the recommendation for Option 3 'A change in approach with a downsized Community Strategy focusing on other key strategies to provide the detail.' A first draft for consultation had been agreed by Finance and Policy Committee on the 26th July 2013 with a subsequent consultation period in accordance with the agreed budget and policy framework procedure set out in the Councils Constitution. The second draft of the Strategy had been agreed by Finance and Policy Committee on the 29th of November 2013 which had reflected the comments which had been made during the eight week consultation period. The final draft of the Strategy had been presented to Finance and Policy Committee on the 31st January 2014 and the Committee had agreed to endorse the Strategy and had referred the document to Council for final approval.

RESOLVED - That the reviewed Sustainable Community Strategy for Hartlepool be approved.

The above was agreed by show of hands. The Chair confirmed, in the absence of dissent, that this was the unanimous decision of the Council.

(2) Council Plan 2014/15 – Report of Finance and Policy Committee

The Chairman of the Committee presented the report which highlighted that the Council Plan was the Council's top level plan which set out the priorities and how the Council would help achieve the vision set in Hartlepool's Community Strategy. As in previous years, the Council Plan set out a series of outcomes arranged around the eight Community Strategy themes. There was also a section dedicated to organisational development activities. The Actions, Performance Indicators and Targets set out in the Council Plan would be regularly reviewed through the Council's Performance Management Framework. Progress would be reported quarterly to Finance and Policy Committee.

The Plan had been considered by Finance and Policy on 18 October 2013 for consideration of the outcome framework. All draft proposals had been considered by all of the Committees during January and February 2014 with feedback submitted to Finance and Policy Committee on 27 February where approval was given to take the Council Plan 2014/15 to Council for approval. The Council Plan, appended to the report, set out how the Council proposed to deliver the priority outcomes. The plan contained the key Performance Indicators and targets, where available, which would be used to monitor progress throughout 2014/15. As in previous years the timetable for producing the Council Plan meant that some target information for the Performance Indicators could not be included at this stage as the information was not yet available. However, a detailed year end performance report would be produced for the Committee later in the year which would include this information.

RESOLVED - That the 2014/15 Council Plan be approved.

The above was agreed by show of hands. The Chair confirmed, in the absence of dissent, that this was the unanimous decision of the Council.

(3) Community Safety Plan 2014-2017 – Report of Finance and Policy Committee

The report sought Council endorsement of the Community Safety Plan for 2014-17. The document, appended to the report, had been approved by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership on 21 March 2014 and had been developed based on the findings of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership Strategic Assessment and public consultation. The report highlighted the process that had been undertaken in the development of the strategy in accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework. Following agreement of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership strategic objectives and priorities in December 2013, the first draft of Community Safety Plan 2014-17 had been published for a nine week consultation. The consultation process had been carried out in accordance with the requirements of the existing Voluntary and Community Sector Strategy

undertakings. Although there had been relatively low take-up in relation to the on-line survey, there had been full support for the proposed Community Safety Plan and its key objectives and priorities from all respondents, together with Committees and Partnership Boards consulted. Feedback from the Office of Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner also confirmed that the Community Safety Plan supported the objectives of the Cleveland Police and Crime Plan, fulfilling the obligation set out in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 for PCC's and Community Safety Partnership's to have due regard for the priorities established in the local Police and Crime Plan and Community Safety Plan. Action plans to support the delivery of the Community Safety Plan had been developed by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership Task Groups and would take into account comments and suggestions received through the consultation process.

RESOLVED – That the Safer Hartlepool Partnership Community Safety Plan 2014-17 be endorsed.

The above was agreed by show of hands. The Chair confirmed, in the absence of dissent, that this was the unanimous decision of the Council.

(b) Proposal for Departure from the Budget and Policy Framework

(1) Proposed New Centre for Independent Living Burbank Street –
Report of Finance and Policy Committee

The Chairman of the Finance and Policy Committee presented a report which reminded Members that on 6th February 2014, Council had approved the proposal to build a new Independent Living Centre at Burbank and had noted that a further report on the detailed business case would be submitted to full Council. A detailed report had been considered by the Finance and Policy Committee on 28th March 2014 and a copy of that report was included in the agenda papers. The Finance and Policy Committee had agreed the approach and timescales for the tendering process for this project. It had been agreed also, that on the basis of work completed on the business case, to seek Council approval of the financial aspects of this project to enable work to commence after tender submissions had been received and assessed.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That a maximum revenue funding limit of up to £90,000 be approved and that it was anticipated the actual revenue cost is more likely to be in the order of £60,000;
- (ii) That the funding arrangements detailed in the report be noted.
- (iii) That a Prudential Borrowing Limit of £3.1m, which may not be used depending on the procurement option adopted, be approved.

The above was agreed by show of hands. The Chair confirmed, in the absence of dissent, that this was the unanimous decision of the Council.

(2) Priority Schools Building Programme – Nursery Provision at Holy Trinity CE Primary School – Report of Finance and Policy Committee

The Chairman of the Finance and Policy Committee presented the report which sought Council approval of the funding contribution towards the provision of nursery facilities at Holy Trinity Primary School. The school was being replaced as part of the Priority Schools Building Programme and grant funding of £1.9m had been allocated for this project. The Priority School Building Programme funding did not cover the replacement of nursery facilities. As these facilities were needed it was considered appropriate to complete these works at the same time which was the most cost effective way of providing the nursery facilities.

RESOLVED - That a funding contribution of £159,291 for a 26FTE nursery provision at Holy Trinity CE Primary School be approved and that the cost of £159,291 be funded from a combination of the net additional Capital Receipt generated from the sale of the existing nursery site and a contribution from the 2013/14 forecast revenue outturn of between £40,000 and £60,000;

- i) That the Capital Programme and Prudential Indicators be updated to include this scheme.

The above was agreed by show of hands. The Chair confirmed, in the absence of dissent, that this was the unanimous decision of the Council.

161. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

None

162. EMPTY PROPERTY REPORT

The quarterly report which Council had requested, at its meeting on the 19th October 2012, was circulated which outlined progress in implementing the Council's Empty Property Purchasing Scheme.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

163. SPECIAL URGENCY DECISION

Council was informed that there had been no special urgency decisions taken in the period November 2013 to January 2014.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

164. CLAWBACK – THE DOMES, TEES ROAD SEATON CAREW
HARTLEPOOL

The Chief Executive presented a report which referred to a report which had been considered by Finance and Policy Committee on 28th March 2014. A copy of the Committee report had been circulated excluding the exempt information which was not included to avoid jeopardising the Council's financial position until the detailed negotiations had been concluded. The Chief Executive advised Members that the issues detailed in the report had developed very quickly in the week before the Finance and Policy Committee meeting. The Committee had been required to act quickly to provide the opportunity to receive a very significant one-off clawback payment to dispose of the Council's financial interest in the Domes. As detailed in the report officers had advised that this offer was attractive and also removed the risk associated with receiving instalments over a 15 year period, which would depend on the business trading profitability for this period.

The report sought approval to allocate part of the clawback monies to fund one-off initiatives covering:

- £34,000 for Free Swims during the 2014 Summer holidays;
- £80,000 to fund 2 Enforcement Officer posts for 2 years;
- £131,000 to match fund one-off funding provided by the Government for Highways Maintenance issues.

The report also proposed allocating the majority of the clawback payment, to fully cash back the value of the existing Growing Places interest free loan secured to purchase the Jackson's Landing site. This proposal would completely remove the financial risk if the site was not developed, or an onward sale was not completed by August 2015. Once this development or onward sale of this site was secured a strategy for earmarking the one off resources which no longer needed to manage this risk would be developed and reported to Finance and Policy Committee and full Council for approval.

Members were advised that at this stage it was not possible to provide the final value of the amount to allocate from the clawback payment to manage risk until the detailed negotiations had been concluded as this would prejudice the Council's financial position. However, as soon as a final figure was agreed, details would be provided to all Members and then reported to a future Council meeting. The recommendations approved by the Committee reflected the advice of the Chief Finance Officer to allocate the majority of the clawback funding to manage financial risk.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17.5 of the Constitution, a recorded vote was taken on the following recommendations:-

- i) Approval of the use of part of the clawback payment to fund one off priorities detailed in paragraph 4.3(i);

- ii) Approval of the proposal to earmark the majority of the clawback payment, which will be a significant six figure sum, to manage the financial risk detailed in paragraph 4.3 (ii); and
- iii) Noting that at this stage it is not possible to provide the final value of the amount to be earmarked under recommendation (ii) to manage risk until the detailed negotiations have been concluded as this would prejudice the Council's financial position. However, as soon as a final figure is agreed details will be provided to all Members and then reported to the next scheduled Council meeting. These details will be included in the draft 2013/14 Statement of Accounts, which will be available in early July.

Those in favour:

Councillors Ainslie, C Akers-Belcher, S Akers-Belcher, Barclay, Beck, Cook, Cranney, Fisher, Fleet, Gibbon, Griffin, Hall, Jackson, James, Lauderdale, A Lilley, G Lilley, Loynes, Martin-Wells, Morris, Payne, Richardson, Robinson, Shields, Simmons, Sirs, Tempest and Thompson.

Those against:

None

Those abstaining:

None.

The vote was carried.

165. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (VARIATION) ORDER 2006

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs referred to below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006

Minute 166 – (Nominations for Conferment of the Title of Freeman and Freewoman and Alderman and Alderwoman of the Borough - Report of Civic Honours Committee – This item contained exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 namely Information relating to any individual and Information which was likely to reveal the identity of an individual (paragraphs 1 and 2)

166. TO CONSIDER REPORTS FROM THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES

- (1) Nominations for Conferment of the Title of Freeman and Freewoman and Alderman and Alderwoman of the Borough - Report of Civic Honours Committee (paragraphs 1 and 2)

Council considered nominations in respect of the award of the titles of Honorary Freeman and Honorary Freewoman together with Honorary Alderman and Honorary Alderwoman of the Borough of Hartlepool. The decision of Council is set out in the confidential section of the minutes of proceedings of the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 7.50 p.m.

CHAIR

COUNCIL
8 May 2014



Report of: Chief Executive

Subject: BUSINESS REPORT

1. LETTER FROM POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

Members will recall that at the meeting of Council held on 27 February 2014 it was agreed that a letter be sent on behalf of Council, to the Police and Crime Commissioner, expressing the concerns which had been expressed by Council in relation to the precept increase of 1.997%.

A response to the letter has been received from the Police and Crime Commissioner which is attached as Appendix 1.

2. EXPENDITURE RELEVANT TO MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Further to requests by members this information has been compiled to provide the following:

a) details of any contracts for works or services which were subject to the Council's tender process and awarded to a body/entity listed on the Member's Register of Interests during the last 3 months (Appendix 2).

and

b) details of any payments made to a body/entity listed on the Member's Register of Interests during the last 3 months (Appendix 3).

It should be noted that the information presented in Appendix 3 has been vetted to comply with the following requirements:

The report includes the following categories of member interest:

- Employment, Office Trade, Profession or Vocation
- Sponsorship
- Contracts with the Authority
- Land in the area of the Authority

Securities
Other interests
Interested parties

The following categories are excluded:

Licence to occupy land
Corporate tenancies

All payments relating to benefits are excluded.

Caveats:

The report does not include information on those bodies listed on members interests forms which either do not have a supplier number on Integra or which cannot be identified on Integra given the information provided.

Recommendation - Members are asked to note the contents of the report.



Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland
Cleveland Police Headquarters
Ladgate Lane
Middlesbrough
TS8 9EH

Email: pcc@cleveland.pnn.police.uk
 Website: <http://www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk>

Police and Crime Commissioner:
 Chief Constable:

Barry Coppinger
 Jacqui Cheer QPM

Tel: 01642 301653
 Tel: 01642 301215

Dave Stubbs
 Chief Executive
 Hartlepool Council
 Civic Centre
 Hartlepool
 TS24 8AY

17 April 2014

Dear Dave,

Council Tax 2014/15

Thank you for your letter dated 4th April regarding the above and concerns of your members regarding the policing precept increase.

I have attached a document prepared by my finance officer, which shows individual and cumulative cuts in £m and % to the policing budget over recent and likely future years. You will recall I visited the council with senior police officers towards the end of last year, to outline the financial situation and give a presentation regarding the medium-term financial strategy we have developed to respond to government cuts in grant and which included a 1.997% precept increase – i.e. between 5p-8p per week for properties in Bands A-D. This was also communicated to all householders in a leaflet enclosed with the council tax, copy also attached. I have so far received no complaints in this respect directly from Hartlepool residents or members.

The medium-term financial strategy includes reducing numbers of police officers, Police Community Support Officers and police staff; closure of premises; renegotiation of external contracts and a restructuring of the force, as you will recall. The restructure also included an assessment of appropriate levels of policing needed to deliver services in Hartlepool and across Cleveland, which is monitored by senior officers and which allows resources to be supplemented if the situation warrants it. In addition there was some reduction in numbers due to previous levels of additional funding via the council and the former Police Authority into Police Community Support Officers which could not be sustained.

I have visited Hartlepool many times since elected - attending around 20 community meetings or events and same number of partnership-related meetings. My Police Property Act fund has also supported 9 community projects in Hartlepool. I have

also attended and observed police operational activity in Hartlepool on a number of occasions.

My impression is that the restructuring of the force has helped deliver continuing crime reductions in Hartlepool and I am continually impressed by the excellent partnership working in Hartlepool and the role of the police in this, which has my full support.

I will continue to visit and support activity in Hartlepool, will attend community meetings as last year, and hope to visit members of the council again later this year prior to one of your council meetings, to give a further update on progress.

I would request that you share my reply with members and if you have any further questions or comments please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely



Barry Coppinger
Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland

Cc Iain Wright MP



The Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland is an accredited Living Wage Employer with the Living Wage Foundation.

Tackling crime in our communities

Recent times have been challenging for Cleveland, having to come to terms with a £32m budget reduction and the loss of over 300 policing posts. To have reduced crime further is a tribute to the commitment of all our Officers and a real achievement for the partnership between police, public and other organisations across Cleveland.

If we are to maintain this, I believe it is essential we retain a regular police presence in our communities. That will require continued financial prudence by the force, coupled with a rise in the police precept of 2%. I understand the financial pressures local people are under, but I believe this small rise, equivalent to a penny per day or less for most, is a price worth paying for retention of Neighbourhood Policing and the benefit it brings in terms of reductions in crime and the fear of crime.

That is also dependent on Government not cutting our budget further. I shall continue to make the point to the Home Secretary, and others, that further cuts will result in a less visible force and risk reversing the downward fall in crime of recent years.

I have attended over 140 local meetings across Hartlepool, Redcar & Cleveland, Stockton and Middlesbrough as part of my "Your Force, Your Voice" campaign and have listened to your thoughts about local policing. It has proved very informative and helps shape the Police and Crime Plan that gives strategic direction to the force. I intend to continue with these meetings on an ongoing basis.

I am also working with a range of organisations across Cleveland, including to develop further the services to victims of crime and to seek to prevent re-offending. Given increasing scarcity of funds in our public services it is also important we collaborate as much as possible, particularly between the emergency services, which I will pursue further over the coming year.

Barry Coppinger – Police & Crime Commissioner

Property Band	Council Tax 2013-14	Council Tax 2014-15	Annual Increase	Weekly Increase	%age of Households (% Total)
A	£132.19	£134.83	£2.64	5p	47.4 (47.4)
B	£154.22	£157.30	£3.08	6p	18.1 (65.5)
C	£176.25	£179.77	£3.52	7p	18.0 (83.5)
D	£198.28	£202.24	£3.96	8p	9.0 (92.5)
E	£242.34	£247.18	£4.84	9p	4.7 (97.2)
F	£286.41	£292.12	£5.72	11p	1.7 (98.9)
G	£330.47	£337.07	£6.60	13p	1.0 (99.9)
H	£396.56	£404.48	£7.92	15p	0.1 (100)

Investing in Policing

For 2014-15 the total funding available to the PCC will be £133.2m. This money comes from:

Income provided to the PCC	2014-15 £m	2013-14 £m
Government Grant	89.8	94.2
Council Tax Grants	7.7	7.6
Council Tax – your contribution	28.8	27.6
Total	126.2	129.5
Other Income - Specific grants	5.6	5.6
- Fees, charges and Partnerships	2.2	2.4
- Victims and Witness Funding	0.2	0.0
Contingency and Reserves	-1.0	-1.0
Total Funding Available	133.2	136.4

The Budget is spent on the following:	2014-15 £m	2013-14 £m
Office of the PCC	0.9	0.9
PCC Initiatives and Victims and Witnesses Services	1.8	1.7
Corporate Services (PFI and Capital Financing)	9.2	9.4
Expenditure by the Police Force:		
Employees	85.4	88.3
Major Contracts (Steria and TASCOR Custody Services)	22.4	22.2
Premises	3.8	3.9
Transport	1.8	1.8
Supplies and Services	5.6	5.9
Agency Services	2.4	2.3
Budget allocated to the Police Force	121.4	124.4

Total spending by the PCC	133.2	136.4
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PCC Achievements during 2013-14, include:

- Criminal Justice Volunteers Fair recruited over 900 people.
- 46 community projects supported by my Property Act Fund.
- Victims Strategic Group set up to monitor and develop services to victims
- 200 Special Constables to be recruited
- Independent Audit committee established, to monitor Force and PCC
- Restorative Justice by Cleveland Police and Community Payback promoted
- Regional strategy to tackle Violence Against Women and Girls developed
- Tees-wide 'Safe Places' scheme set up to help tackle disability hate crime
- Living Wage accreditation gained as employer and for future contracts.

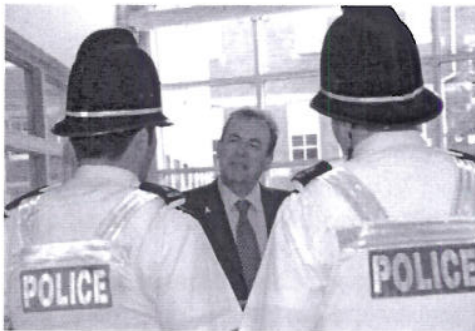
PCC Objectives for 2014-2016:

- Retain and Develop Neighbourhood Policing
- Ensure a better deal for victims and witnesses
- Divert people from offending with a focus on rehabilitation and the prevention of re-offending
- Develop better coordination, communication and partnership between agencies to make best use of resources
- Working for better industrial and community relations

The full Police and Crime Plan can be found on
www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk

You can make your views known at this site or by calling the PCC Office on 01642 301446, attending a local 'Your Force, Your Voice' meeting or by writing direct to the **Commissioner, Barry Coppinger, Police HQ, Ladgate Lane, Middlesbrough. TS8 9EH**

You can follow the Police and Crime Commissioner on *twitter@Cleveland_PCC* or on *facebook*, Search **Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner**.



The Force will be recruiting Special Constables, for more information visit
www.cleveland.police.uk/careers



The Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland, Barry Coppinger....

- Is a directly elected person who is responsible for the totality of policing across Cleveland.
- Ensures that the Police Force is efficient and effective.
- Appoints, and if necessary dismisses the Chief Constable.
- Holds the Chief Constable to account for the operational delivery of policing.
- Sets the strategic direction and objectives for policing by producing a Police and Crime Plan.
- Sets the annual police budget, including the policing element of the Council Tax.
- Produces an annual report setting out progress against the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan.
- Co-operates with other criminal justice agencies across the area.
- Works with partners and supports community safety activity to tackle crime and disorder.
- Contributes to national and international policing requirements.

This leaflet gives details of the 2014/15 Precept and further information about the PCC.

Cumulative Savings Targets/Cuts Since 2010	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Savings made in year	11.0	7.0	7.5	7.4			
Savings to be made					5.6	6.3	5.2
Cumulative savings made since 'Austerity'	11.0	18.0	25.5	32.9	38.5	44.8	50.0
Cumulative Savings as a %age of 2010-11 budget	7.4%	12.1%	17.2%	22.2%	25.9%	30.2%	33.7%
Government Grant Cuts (Year on Year)	-5.3	-6.6	-1.5	-3.4	-3.2	-2.1	-1.4
Government Grant Cuts (Cumulative)	-5.3	-11.9	-13.4	-16.8	-20.0	-22.1	-23.5
Government Grant Cuts as a %age of 2010-11 Government Grant Level	-5.0%	-11.2%	-12.7%	-15.9%	-18.9%	-20.9%	-22.2%

Chief Executive's Department

Civic Centre
Hartlepool
TS24 8AY

Tel: 01429 266522
www.hartlepool.gov.uk

Our Ref: KS/CEX
Your Ref:



Contact Officer/Email: dave.stubbs@hartlepool.gov.uk

4 April 2014

Mr B Coppinger, Police and Crime Commissioner
Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland
Police Headquarters
Ladgate Lane
Middlesbrough
TS8 9EH

Dear Barry

Council Tax 2014/15

Following a meeting of full Council on 27th February 2014 when Members considered a report to set the overall level of Council Tax for 2014/15 for the Hartlepool area, incorporating Hartlepool Council's own Council Tax and the precepts for Fire and Police, I have been asked to write to you setting out Members concerns regarding the increase in the Police precept and the level of Council Tax for 2014/15.

Members expressed concern that despite this Council freezing its Council Tax, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner had approved an increase in precepts. Concern was expressed particularly in relation to this increase in the context of the reduction in police services in Hartlepool.

I would welcome your comments on the above concerns by 18th April 2014 to enable me to report back to Members at the next Council meeting on 8th May 2014.

Yours sincerely

Dave Stubbs
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Appendix 2 – Contracts awarded to a body/entity listed on the Member's Register of Interests.

Date of Contract Award	Contract Name and Reference Number	Description of Goods / Services being procured	Contract Value
6/2/14	Benefit Advice and Financial Support Services –CRN 621 - 2014	Provision of benefit advice and financial support services for Hartlepool Communities	£108,544

Appendix 3 - Details of payments made to a body/entity listed on the Member's Register of Interests.

MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

2013/2014 - Quarter 4 - March 2014

Supplier Ref	Supplier Name	Current Quarter Payments (Jan - Mar 14) £	Cumulative Payments (April to Mar 2014) £
700025200	Belle Vue Community Sports	32,530.00	123,769.02
750137600	Fens Residents Association	-	795.00
700395100	Hartlepool Access Group	14,500.00	25,750.00
701780000	Hartlepool Carers	57,943.25	202,787.87
705354500	Hartlepool Credit Union Limited	44,712.92	124,136.81
701981200	Hartlepool Families First	63,355.27	188,754.30
700323500	Hartlepool Patch	25,793.05	65,452.62
705510700	Hartlepool United Community Sports Found	-	12,250.00
700123500	Hartlepool United Football Club	-	725.00
700122200	Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency	136,465.44	412,592.53
701780500	Headland Future Limited	19,941.68	109,049.29
705208300	Heugh Gun Battery Trust Ltd	10,000.00	15,350.00
700172100	Manor Residents Assoc	4,497.34	4,497.34
705247300	ORCEL Sea Training	-	674.25
702202000	Owton Fens Community Association	3,498.00	12,143.16
701117200	Owton Rossmere Community Enterprise Limi	8,391.00	18,557.25
701891900	Oxford Road Baptist Church	300.00	1,476.00
705144300	Rift House East Residents Association	200.00	1,700.00
750126300	Seaton Carew Holy Trinity Church Council	-	335.00
705615800	St Lukes Infant Welfare Mothers Club	-	200.00
750133800	Tees Valley Arts	-	1,100.00
750130500	The Friends of Seaton Park	-	1,500.00
750157400	The Rifty Youth Project	-	1,703.00
700300500	West View Advice & Resource Centre Ltd	31,893.00	155,713.25
700300600	West View Project	117,832.50	449,463.00
750071400	Who Cares NE	-	140,625.01
750054000	Xivvi Limited	-	5,658.98

571,853.45	2,076,758.68
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COUNCIL

8 May 2014



Report of: Chief Executive

Subject: BUSINESS REPORT (2)

3. COMMUNITY POOL CATEGORY 4 GRANT ALLOCATIONS 2014/15 – UPDATE

BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At its meeting on 28th March 2014 the Finance and Policy Committee approved the allocation of the available 2014/15 Community Pool Category 4 budget of £75,000. Eight organisations were granted the full allocation of funding requested and one organisation (Hartlepool Foodbank) received a part allocation.

PROPOSALS

- 3.2 A further report was considered by the Finance and Policy Committee on 25th April 2014 which identified an opportunity to make a one off contribution of £21,143 to the Community Pool Programme for Category 4 to support additional VCS organisation core costs. This contribution will be funded from the latest forecast 2013/14 outturn from the Child and Adult Services Social Care Budget.
- 3.3 The Finance and Policy Committee approved the proposal to provide additional funding to support the Hartlepool Foodbank, enabling the full grant allocation to be funded and to support the next two highest scoring eligible grant applications. This provides the following allocations:

- Hartlepool Foodbank - £2,111 (this contribution increases the total support to £10,000)
- Age UK Teesside - £9,032
- Hartlepool Access Group - £10,000

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.4 In recognition of the particular funding pressures being faced by Community and Voluntary sector organisations it was recommended to the Finance and Policy Committee that the above proposals are funded from the forecast uncommitted 2013/14 outturn in advance of a future Medium Term Financial

Strategy review report following closure of the 2013/14 accounts. This proposal will not impact on the initial outturn strategy approved by Council in February 2014. If there are any further changes in the forecast 2013/14 outturn identified during the closure process an additional report will be submitted to Finance and Policy Committee and Council.

RECOMMENDATION

- 3.5 Council is requested to approve a one off contribution of £21,143 from the latest forecast outturn from the Child and Adult Services Social Care Budget to the Community Pool Programme for Category 4 to support the following organisations:

- Hartlepool Foodbank - £2,111
- Age UK Teesside - £9,032
- Hartlepool Access Group - £10,000