South Hams Council



Title:	Agenda				
Date:	Thursday, 21st March, 2024				
Time:	2.00 pm				
Venue:	Council Chamber - Follaton House				
Full Members:	Chairman Cllr Pannell				
	Vice Chairman Cllr Taylor				
	<i>Members:</i>	CIIr Abbott CIIr Allen CIIr Birch CIIr Bonham CIIr Brazil CIIr Carson CIIr Cooper CIIr Dennis CIIr Dewynter CIIr Dewynter CIIr Dommett CIIr Edie CIIr Hancock CIIr Hancock CIIr Hodgson CIIr Hopwood	CIIr Jackson CIIr Lawford CIIr Long CIIr McKay CIIr Munoz CIIr Nix CIIr O'Callaghan CIIr Oram CIIr Penfold CIIr Penfold CIIr Presswell CIIr Rake CIIr Steele CIIr Steele CIIr Thomas CIIr Yardy		
Interests – Declaration and Restriction on Participation:	Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest not entered in the Authority's register or local non pecuniary interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda (subject to the exception for sensitive information) and to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on an item in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest.				
Committee administrator:	Democratic.Serv	rices@swdevon.gov.uk			

Page No

1. Minutes

to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 15 February 2024

2. Urgent Business

the Chairman to announce if any item not on the agenda should be considered on the basis that he considers it as a matter of urgency (any such item to be dealt with under 'Business Brought forward by the Chairman');

3. Exempt Information

to consider whether the consideration of any item of business would be likely to disclose exempt information and if so the category of such exempt information;

4. Declarations of Interest

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Members are invited to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Registerable Interests and Non-Registerable Interests including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting;

5. Business Brought Forward by the Chairman

to consider business (if any) brought forward by the Chairman in accordance with agenda item 2:

6.	Public Question Time	11 - 12
7.	Proposed Devon & Torbay Combined Authority and Devolution Deal	13 - 68
8.	2024/25 Capital Strategy; 2024/25 Treasury Management Strategy; and 2024/25 Investment Strategy	69 - 124
9.	Annual Review of Health and Safety Policy Statement	125 - 144
10.	Pay Policy Statement	145 - 154
11.	Draft Calendar of Meetings 2024/25	155 - 160

1 - 10

12.	Reports of Bodies	
	to receive and as may be necessary approve the minutes and recommendations of the under-mentioned Bodies (* Indicates minutes containing recommendations to Council).	
(a)	Budget Advisory Committee - 11 January 2024	161 - 164
(b)	Overview & Scrutiny Committee - 8 February 2024	165 - 168
(c)	Development Management Committee - 14 February 2024	169 - 176
(d)	Special Executive - 21 February 2024	177 - 178
(e)	Council Tax Setting Committee - 22 February 2024	179 - 182
(f)	Executive* - 7 March 2024	183 - 198

Outstanding Committee Recommendations as follows:

(a) Minute E.76/23 Climate Change Update & Devon, Cornwall And The Isles Of Scilly Climate Adaptation Plan

- 1. That Council be **RECOMMENDED** to endorse the Devon Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Climate Adaptation Plan as set out at Appendix A of the presented agenda report;
- (b) Minute E.79/23 Housing Benefit War Pensions Disregard Policy
 - 2. That Council be **RECOMMENDED** to adopt the Housing Benefit War Pensions Disregard Policy as set out at Appendix A of the presented agenda report

(c) Minute E.80/23 Month 10 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2023/24

2. That Council be **RECOMMENDED** to fund up to £170,000 of planning appeal costs from the Business Rates Retention Earmarked Reserve (as detailed in paragraphs 3.5 to 3.7 of the presented agenda report).

The associated Committee Report can be accessed here (Agenda Items 9,

12 and 13 refer): <u>https://democracy.swdevon.gov.uk/documents/g1830/Public%20reports%</u> <u>20pack%2007th-Mar-</u> 2024%2010.00%20South%20Hams%20Executive.pdf?T=10

(d) Minute E.88/23 Fusion Lifestyle - Leisure Contract Update (To be considered at Agenda Item 16 below)

(g) Special Executive - 13 March 2024

To follow

13. Questions

to consider the following question(s) (if any) received in accordance with Council Procedure Rules.

14. Notice of Motion

to consider the following motions received (if any) in accordance with Council Procedure Rules:

a) From Clirs McKay and O'Callaghan

"The Hunting Act 2004 made chasing wild animals with dogs illegal apart from the particular exempt forms of hunting detailed in the Act.

As well as the Hunting Act 2004 there is also the Animal Welfare Act 2006 which embodies the so-called Five Freedoms of animal welfare which state that every animal deserves the right to humane treatment. The Five Freedoms are recognised across the globe and include a right to the freedom from "fear or distress".

The sentience of animals has been the subject of much research and it has long been recognised that all animals are capable of a range of emotions. The Animal Welfare (Sentience) Act 2022 defines sentience in law.

It cannot therefore be conceived that any blood sport is acceptable, and it is important that the culture and tradition that surrounds and supports this barbaric activity is discouraged.

It is often argued that blood sports are part of the management of the countryside. That is rarely the reality, but where such management is required it needs to be carried out by trained specialists who have proper regard to an animal's welfare and rights under the legislation.

This Council therefore resolves that:

- 1. It does not support the killing of animals for sport or leisure in any circumstances.
- 2. It will henceforth not allow any form of hunting or any organisation that is associated with hunting to use its facilities.
- 3. It will require written permission to be sought for the use and management of any and all animal traps on its land and reserves the right to refuse permission where in the opinion of the Executive it considers they could cause unnecessary and avoidable suffering.
- 4. It will actively encourage other Local Authorities, including Devon Country Council, to adopt a similar resolution."

15. Exclusion of Public and Press

"That in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in order to avoid the likely disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act";

16. Fusion Lifestyle - Leisure Contract Update

199 - 208