WEST DEVON COUNCIL



Minutes of a meeting of the West Devon Council held on Tuesday, 23rd May, 2017 at 11.00 am at the Chamber - Kilworthy Park

Present: **Councillors:**

Mayor Cllr Sheldon **Deputy Mayor** Cllr Moody

Cllr Ball Cllr Cann OBE Cllr Cheadle Cllr Davies Cllr Edmonds Cllr Evans Cllr Hockridge Cllr Jory Cllr McInnes Cllr Leech Cllr Mott Cllr Moyse Cllr Musgrave Cllr Oxborough Cllr Parker Cllr Pearce **Cllr Roberts** Cllr Ridgers Cllr Sampson Cllr Samuel Cllr Sanders Cllr Sellis Cllr Watts Cllr Yelland

In attendance:

Councillors:

Officers:

Catherine Bowen Monitoring Officer

Steve Jorden Executive Director Head of Paid

Service

1. Minute's Silence

CM 1

Prior to consideration of the formal agenda items at this meeting, the Mayor called on everyone in attendance to observe a minute's silence in remembrance of those who had lost their lives in the terrorist attack at Manchester Arena on the evening of Monday, 22 May 2017.

2. **Mayor's Announcement**

CM₂

Having received a request from other Members, the Mayor confirmed that he would exercise his discretion to invoke Council Procedure Rule 19 whereby a paper ballot would take place for each of the following appointments for 2017/18:

- The Mayor;
- The Vice-Chairman of the Development Management and Licensing Committee; and
- The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

3. To elect The Mayor of the Borough for the ensuing year

CM 3

Cllr J Sheldon moved the appointment of Cllr J B Moody as Mayor for the ensuing year and Cllr R F D Sampson subsequently seconded the motion.

No other nominations were received and upon the motion being submitted to the meeting, it was declared (by virtue of a paper ballot) to be **CARRIED** and **"RESOLVED** that Cllr J B Moody be appointed Mayor for the ensuing year".

The retiring Mayor and newly elected Mayor left the Council Chamber so that Cllr J B Moody could be invested with the civic regalia. The retiring Mayor also invested Mrs Moody with the Mayoress's Badge of Office.

Upon returning to the Council Chamber, the newly elected Mayor, Cllr J B Moody, made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, signed the Register and addressed the Council.

Cllr J B Moody then chaired the rest of the meeting.

Cllr R Cheadle proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor. The proposition was seconded by Cllr P R Sanders.

Cllr J B Moody then invested Cllr J Sheldon and Mrs Sheldon with the Past Mayor's and his Consort's Medallions.

The retiring Mayor, Cllr J Sheldon proceeded to address the meeting.

4. To elect The Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year

CM 4

The Mayor called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.

One nomination was received as follows:

Cllr M Davies proposed: Cllr C R Musgrave

seconded: Cllr K Ball

There being no other nominations, it was declared to be **CARRIED** and **"RESOLVED** that Cllr M Davies be appointed as Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year".

The Deputy Mayor then made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and signed the register and the Mayor invested Cllr M Davies with the Deputy Mayor's Insignia.

Cllr M Davies then addressed the Council.

5. **Apologies for absence**

CM 5

An apology for absence was received from Cllrs R E Baldwin, D W Cloke, P Kimber, B Lamb and B Stephens.

6. **Declarations of Interest**

CM 6

The Mayor invited Members to declare any interests in the items of business to be considered during the course of the meeting, but there were none made.

7. To approve and adopt as a correct record the Minutes of the Meetings of the Council held on 11 April 2017

CM 7

It was moved by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr L Samuel and upon the motion being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **"RESOLVED** that the Council agree the Minutes of the 11 April 2017 meeting as a true record"

8. To approve and then formally sign the Council's Constitution

CM 8

It was moved by Cllr R F D Sampson, seconded by Cllr P R Sanders and upon the motion being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **"RESOLVED** that the amendments to the Council Constitution (as summarised in Paragraph 2 of the report presented to the Audit Committee at its meeting on 21 March 2017 and fully outlined on the Council website) be approved and adopted, subject to:

1. the limit of asset disposals and acquisitions that are delegated to the Assets COP Lead, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, the lead Hub Committee Member for Assets and the Section 151 Officer being increased from £50,000 to £150,000, with any acquisitions and disposals above these limits being referred to the Hub Committee for approval; and

2. the suggested amendments to the Overview and Scrutiny Terms of Reference and Procedure Rules (pages 9 to 20 of the published Summons refer) being referred to the Overview and Scrutiny and Hub Committees for further consideration."

The Mayor then signed the bound copy of the Constitution for 2017/2018.

9. To consider motions of which notice has been duly submitted by Members in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15:

CM 9

It was moved by Cllr M Davies and seconded by Cllr K Ball that:

"The Borough Council instigates a Community Governance Review commencing June/July 2017. Whilst the main purpose of this Review will be to consult on a proposal to increase the size of the Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council by two additional parish councillors, the responsibility for determining and publishing the final terms of reference for this Review will be delegated to the Senior Specialist – Democratic Services, in consultation with the Leader of Council, the Leader of the Independent Group and the local Ward Members."

In presenting his motion, the proposer made specific reference to:-

- the Parish Council having consisted of 8 Members for over 100 years. During this time, it was noted that the population of the parish had more than doubled and further major development was also planned;
- there being plenty of interest amongst the local population to serve on the Parish Council; and
- the geographical size of the parish. The proposer also highlighted the sheer size of the parish and informed that it covered over 15 square miles.

When put to the vote, the motion was declared **CARRIED**.

10. To receive the Minutes of the following Committees, to note the delegated decisions and to consider the adoption of those Minutes which require approval:

CM 10

a. Overview and Scrutiny (External) Committee - 21 March 2017

It was moved by Cllr D K A Sellis, seconded by Cllr A Roberts and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **"RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the 21 March 2017 meeting be received and noted".

b. Overview and Scrutiny (Internal) Committee - 18 April 2017

It was moved by Cllr C R Musgrave, seconded by Cllr J Yelland and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **"RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the 18 April 2017 meeting be received and noted".

c. Planning and Licensing Committee - 24 April 2017

It was moved by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr G Parker and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **"RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the 24 April 2017 meeting be received and noted".

d. Hub Committee - 16 May 2017

It was moved by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr L Samuel and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **"RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the 16 May 2017 meeting be received and noted, with the exception of Unstarred Minutes HC 77 and HC 78".

In respect of the Unstarred Minutes:

HC 77 - Using the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site Supplementary Planning Document in Decision-Making

It was moved by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr L Samuel and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and "**RESOLVED** that:-

- (i) the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site Supplementary Planning document be adopted as a guidance document in planning decision making;
- (ii) the approach of including clarification on and further detail to Policies SPT11; TTV20; DEV21 and DEV23 of the emerging Joint Local Plan in the Thriving Towns and Villages Supplementary Planning Document be agreed; and
- (iii) a review of the Tavistock Conservation Area Management Plan be agreed with the specific purpose of incorporating a World Heritage Site element into that document."

ii. HC 78 - 100% Business Rates Retention Consultation Response

It was moved by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr L Samuel and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and "**RESOLVED** that the Council agree 'in principle' to apply to DCLG to become a business rates pilot for 2018/19, in alliance with the County Council, subject to the financial modelling being undertaken by Local Government

Futures (on behalf of the Devon S151 Officers Group) demonstrating that there is no financial detriment to Authorities in doing so."

11. To appoint a Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing year

CM 11

a. Leader

It was moved by Cllr G Parker, seconded by Cllr A Roberts and upon the motion being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and "**RESOLVED** that Cllr P R Sanders be appointed Leader of the Council for the ensuing year."

b. Deputy Leader

It was moved by Cllr K Ball, seconded by Cllr J R McInnes and upon the motion being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **"RESOLVED** that Cllr L Samuel be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing year."

12. To report on the composition of political groups

CM 12

Members noted the schedule of officially appointed political groups as follows:

- 21 Conservative Group Members; and
- 10 Independent Group Members.

13. To approve the Committee Structure for the coming year:

CM 13

It was moved by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr R F D Sampson and upon the motion being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **"RESOLVED** that the Committee structure be as follows for the coming year:

Audit 7 Members; Hub 9 Members;

Overview & Scrutiny 15 Members; Development Management & Licensing 10 Members; and Standards 5 Members

with all of the appointments to the above Committees being politically balanced".

14. To receive the appointments from the Political Groups of the Members they have selected to serve on the Committees. To appoint (if any) the requisite number of Members from the

Members of the Council who, at the date of this meeting, are not members of a Political Group.

CM 14

A list of appointments made to the Committees by the two political groups for the ensuing year had been circulated and were duly approved. The Leaders of the two political groups were named as:

Conservative Cllr P R Sanders

(Deputy: Cllr L Samuel)
Cllr R F D Sampson

(Deputy: Cllr W G Cann OBE)

15. To appoint the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to the Committees of the Council

CM 15

(i) Development Management and Licensing Committee: Vice-Chairman

Two nominations were put forward to the role of Vice-Chairman of the Development Management and Licensing Committee as follows:

- Cllr T G Pearce; and
- Cllr A Roberts.

Independent

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 19, the result of the ballot was declared that Cllr A Roberts be appointed as the Vice-Chairman of the Development Management and Licensing Committee for the ensuing year.

(ii) Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Chairman

Two nominations were put forward to the role of Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as follows:

- Cllr R Cheadle; and
- o Cllr J Yelland.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 19, the result of the ballot was declared that Cllr J Yelland be appointed as the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the ensuing year.

The remaining appointments were then proposed by Cllr P R Sanders and seconded by Cllr R F D Sampson and when put to the vote were declared to be **CARRIED**:

Audit Committee: Cllr M Davies (Chairman);

Cllr K Ball (Vice Chairman)

Hub Committee: Cllr P R Sanders (Chairman);

Cllr L Samuel (Vice Chairman);

Overview & Scrutiny Committee: Cllr R Cheadle (Vice-Chairman);

Development Management &

Licensing Committee: Cllr P R Sanders (Chairman); Standards Committee: Cllr A F Leech (Chairman); and

Cllr J Sheldon (Vice Chairman).

16. To appoint representatives to the list of Outside Bodies for the ensuing year.

CM 16

Members considered a report that presented the Group Leader's nominations to fill the vacancies on the list of Outside Bodies.

It was then proposed by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr R F D Sampson and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **"RESOLVED** that:

- 1. The Council should be represented on the list of Outside Bodies as presented to the meeting;
- 2. Appropriate representatives be appointed as this Council's appointments to those Bodies for the 2017/18 Municipal Year and that for the purposes of Members' Allowances, attendance at meetings of these Bodies be regarded as an approved duty; and
- 3. Members appointed to Outside Bodies provide regular feedback and consultation on issues affecting the Bodies concerned".

17. To appoint representatives to the list of Other Groups for the ensuing year.

CM 17

It was proposed by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr R F D Sampson and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and "**RESOLVED** that the appointments as presented to the meeting be endorsed for the ensuing year".

18. **Dartmoor National Park Authority**

CM 18

It was noted that the two Council representatives appointed to the Dartmoor National Park were:-

Cllr W G Cann OBE (Independent)
Cllr D E Moyse (Conservative)

(NOTE: These appointments formed part of the Political Balance Table.)

Signed by:

Chairman