

SOUTH HAMS EXECUTIVE



Minutes of a meeting of the **South Hams Executive** held on **Thursday, 15th December, 2016** at **10.00 am** at the **Repton Room - Follaton House**

Present: **Councillors:**

Chairman Cllr Tucker
Vice Chairman

Cllr Gilbert

Cllr Wright

In attendance:

Councillors:

Cllr Baldry
Cllr Bramble
Cllr Brown
Cllr Foss
Cllr Hitchins
Cllr Holway
Cllr Pearce
Cllr Pringle
Cllr Smerdon
Cllr Vint

Cllr Birch
Cllr Brazil
Cllr Cuthbert
Cllr Green
Cllr Hodgson
Cllr Hopwood
Cllr Pennington
Cllr Rowe
Cllr Steer

Officers:

Sophie Hosking
Steve Jorden

Executive Director
Executive Director Head of Paid
Service

47. **Minutes**

E.47/16

The minutes of the Executive meeting held on 1 December 2016 were confirmed as a true record and signed off by the Chairman.

48. **Declarations of Interest**

E.48/16

Members and officers were invited to declare any interests in the items of business to be considered during the course of this meeting but none were made.

49. **Public Question Time**

E.49/16

In accordance with Executive Procedure Rules, the following questions had been submitted:

Question received from Cllr Hodgson:

1. Please could the Committee confirm the current position with the Devolution Bid:
 - as Somerset are in 'Special Measures';
 - since the Chancellor's Autumn Statement only provided 1/3 of the monies applied for by the Devon and Somerset LEP; and
 - questions now arising regarding the involvement of LEP's in allocation and spending of public funds?

In response to this question, the Leader advised that he and the Head of Paid Service had attended a recent meeting of the authorities who were involved in the Heart of the South West (HotSW) Devolution Bid. During this meeting, all authorities had indicated that they were still intending to progress the Bid. The success of the Bid may depend on whether or not an elected Mayor was included in the Bid. The fact that Somerset County Council may be in special measures did not impact on the Bid at this stage. In respect of the LEP, the Leader advised that their focus was on economy and growth and LEP Members had the same requirements as local authorities did regarding the need to declare and register interests.

Question received from Cllr Hodgson:

2. Why has SHDC not been involved to date with discussions about Devon as a Unitary Authority, should this be pursued instead of a combined authority with Somerset?

In reply, Cllr Tucker informed that there had been no discussions about a Unitary Authority in Devon and no other authorities were discussing Unitary Devon to the best of our knowledge.

Question received from Georgina Allen:

3. If our Devolution Bid falls through, does that mean that our housing quota will change?

Cllr Tucker responded that the LEP had ideas in respect of housing numbers but these could not be enforced. Moreover, the housing numbers were dictated by need and the numbers within the Joint Local Plan.

50. **Budget Proposals Report 2017/18**

E.50/16

Members were presented with a report that asked for consideration of budget proposals for 2017-18, and the outcomes of the Members' Budget Workshop, prior to requesting views of the joint meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel and the Development Management Committee in January 2017 on the budget issues contained within the report.

The Leader introduced the report, and in doing so highlighted particular areas of interest. He advised Members that there would be no debate today, but he or the s151 Officer would respond to any questions.

Members then asked a number of questions on specific parts of the report and also advised of proposals that would be brought forward to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel meeting on 19 January 2017 when the detail of the budget would be debated. Members concluded by thanking the s151 Officer and the Finance Business Partner for their hard work in producing a comprehensive draft budget report.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That the Budget Proposals report for 2017-18 and the outcomes of the Members' Budget Workshop be considered, prior to requesting the views of the joint meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel and the Development Management Committee in January 2017 on the budget issues contained within the report.

51. **Capital Budget Proposals for 2017/18 to 2019/20**

E.51/16

Members were presented with a report that set out the Capital Bids to the 2017/18 Capital Programme totalling £2,525,000 and a suggested way that the Bids could be funded.

The Leader introduced the report, and the Executive Portfolio Holder for Support Services highlighted the revised way that the appendices were presented. Members queried the amount set aside for electric car points, and local Ward Members noted the Salcombe Harbour Office refurbishment project and how it could contribute to income generation. Members then had a discussion on play parks and devolving them to town and parish councils.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That the views of the joint meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel and the Development Management Committee be sought on the following:

1. The Capital Programme proposals for 2017/18, which total £1,485,000 (presented Appendix A refers)
2. The Capital Programme proposals for 2017/18, which total £1,040,000 (presented Exempt Appendix B refers)
3. The removal of the 2016/17 capital projects from the capital programme, as detailed in presented Appendix D, following the budget scouring exercise
4. The use of the remaining capital programme contingency from the 2015/16 and 2016/17 programmes, totalling £167,000, to meet the increased costs as detailed in exempt Appendix D of the presented agenda report
5. To finance the 2017/18 capital programme of £2,525,000 from the funding sources set out in Section 4 of the presented agenda report.

The Meeting concluded at 11.15 am

Signed by:

Chairman
