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SOUTH HAMS COUNCIL - THURSDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER, 2013

Agenda, Reports and Minutes for the meeting

Agenda No Item

- 1. Agenda Letter (Pages 1 14)
- 2. <u>Reports</u>

Reports to Council:

- a) <u>Item 11 Moorings Allocation Policy</u> (Pages 15 26)
- b) <u>Item 12 Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report</u> (Pages 27 46)
- 3. Minutes (Pages 47 60)

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Agenda Item 1

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD AT FOLLATON HOUSE, TOTNES ON THURSDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 2013

Members in attendance							
	* Denotes attendance ø Denotes apology for absence						
*	Cllr K J Baldry	*	Cllr M J Hicks				
*	Cllr A D Barber	Ø	Cllr P W Hitchins (Vice Chairman)				
*	Cllr H D Bastone	*	Cllr J M Hodgson				
*	Cllr J H Baverstock	*	Cllr T R Holway				
*	Cllr J I G Blackler	*	Cllr L P Jones				
*	Cllr I Bramble	*	Cllr D W May				
*	Cllr J Brazil	*	Cllr C M Pannell				
Ø	Cllr C G Bruce-Spencer	*	Cllr J T Pennington				
*	Cllr B F Cane	*	Cllr R Rowe				
*	Cllr B E Carson (Chairman)	*	Cllr M F Saltern				
Ø	Cllr R J Carter	*	Cllr P C Smerdon				
*	Cllr B S Cooper	*	Cllr J W Squire				
*	Cllr S E Cooper	*	Cllr R C Steer				
*	Cllr P Coulson	*	Cllr M Stone				
*	Cllr P K Cuthbert	*	Cllr R J Tucker				
*	Cllr R J Foss	*	Cllr R J Vint				
*	Cllr R D Gilbert	*	Cllr L A H Ward				
*	Cllr A S Gorman	Ø	Cllr J A Westacott MBE				
*	Cllr M J Hannaford	*	Cllr K R H Wingate				
Ø	Cllr J D Hawkins	*	Cllr S A E Wright				

ltem No.	Minute Ref No below refers	Officers in attendance and participating
All		Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer and Democratic
agenda		Services Manager
items		
Item 11	28/13	Harbour Master

22/13 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Cllr R Rowe be appointed Vice-Chairman for the duration of this Council meeting.

23/13 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9 May 2013 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

24/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare any interests in the items of business to be considered during the course of the meeting. These were recorded as follows:-

Cllrs M F Saltern and B E Carson both declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in Item 10(b): 'Notices of Motion' (Minute 27/13(b) below refers) by virtue of their Board membership of the Devon and Cornwall Housing Devon Community Interest Company and both left the meeting during the discussion and vote on this item.

Having sought the advice of the Monitoring Officer, Cllr P Coulson declared a personal interest in item 11: 'Moorings Allocation Policy' (Minute 28/13 below refers) by virtue of his ownership of a mooring and remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and vote on this item.

Cllr S A E Wright also declared a personal interest in item 11: 'Moorings Allocation Policy' (Minute 28/13 below refers) by virtue of his membership of the Salcombe Harbour Board and remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and vote on this item.

25/13 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman advised that he had attended a number of engagements recently but he did wish to draw particular attention to the success of the recent Hog Roast which had proven to be very well received by both staff and Members.

26/13 **QUESTIONS**

It was noted that two questions had been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 8:

From CIIr Baldry to CIIr Gilbert, lead Executive Member for Environment Services

Winter Closure of Public Lavatories:

- 1. As part of the decision making process has the Executive taken advice on the public health implications?
- 2. At a time when our fragile tourist industry is trying to encourage all year round visitors, what impression will potential visitors receive when they that this necessary facility is closed?

In reply, Cllr Gilbert advised that the Council had taken advice and proceeded to inform that there was no evidence to suggest that closure of public toilets had any implications upon public health. This advice was given in consultation with Environmental Health. Cllr Gilbert gave assurances whereby the Council had exercised all normal due diligence. Whilst other local authorities had also exercised such diligence, a number were closing many of their public conveniences for good (e.g. Teignbridge District Council).

At this time, the only issue being considered was whether or not any public conveniences should be closed during the deep winter season.

In respect of the impression that visitors would get, Cllr Gilbert felt that this would hopefully be one of predominantly finding that a public convenience would be open, unlike other local authorities who were closing their facilities permanently.

In reply to a supplementary question regarding the likely greater impact of closures on older people, Cllr Gilbert reiterated his comments in respect of public conveniences not being permanently closed.

From CIIr Brazil to CIIr Gilbert, lead Executive Member for Environment Services

In the business plan for car parking charges at Follaton House, £21 was the cost of parking permits used (valid all day). Will you be using the same £21 cost for all business cases including South Brent and Beesands car parks and if not why not?

In response, Cllr Gilbert stated that this was not the case. The Council was not proposing to introduce any new charges in free car parks, other than the two which had already been agreed to hold discussions with. Cllr Gilbert also stated that the decision not to charge at Follaton House had nothing to do with the business plan and was put on hold to await the outcome of the T18 Programme.

Having said that, Cllr Gilbert went on to say that the modelled charge of £21.00 per permit had been used purely as an example of a suggested staff costing, based upon the benchmarking exercise undertaken to show what other councils were charging their staff to park. Indeed, where charges could be found, they were in larger towns or cities with good public transport infrastructure. Finally, Cllr Gilbert advised that he was not aware of any other district or borough council charging their staff or members to park in Devon.

In response to a supplementary question, Cllr Gilbert informed that he had spoken to the Mayor of Salcombe Town Council with regard to the intention to undertake a thorough car park review for the town. Cllr Gilbert had already advised the Mayor that Salcombe could have as many permits as it wished provided that the loss of income was offset by an increase in pay and display charges.

In highlighting the importance of local town and parish councils having some influence in the process, Cllr Gilbert also confirmed that the process would not result in a one size fits all approach to Council car parks.

27/13 NOTICE OF MOTION

It was noted that four motions had been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.1.

(a) By Clirs Brazil and Baldry

"This Council has made huge savings by sharing services with West Devon. For some reason we have not been able to achieve the same arrangement with Teignbridge. We will now write to every member of Teignbridge Council inviting them to meet and discuss a shared service programme between the three councils."

In his introduction, the proposer made reference to:-

- the progress already made in Shared Services with West Devon Borough Council. The proposer highlighted the commendable strides which had been made on the shared services agenda and hoped that this was being used by other local authorities as good practice;
- his frustration at the lack of progress on shared services with Teignbridge District Council (TDC). The proposer felt that TDC was an obvious partner, but for some reason this was not proving possible. As a consequence, the proposer felt that Members should meet with one another to discuss the merits of a three way programme. If these discussions proved to be successful, then that would in turn provide officers with a direction of travel; and
- the motion attempting to eradicate the existing blockages in an attempt to save Council Taxpayers a large sum of money without incurring any cuts to front line services.

In discussion, the Leader highlighted his pride at the shared services agenda saving just under £6 million to date, which he felt to be a great achievement. The Leader proceeded to advise that in 2006, the Leader of TDC withdrew from the Shared Services agenda with the Council. Under a new administration in 2011, discussions had taken place with the Leader of TDC and the latest position was that TDC was currently undergoing its own structural review and did not wish therefore to be included in the shared services programme at this time. In the event of TDC making an approach, the Leader informed that it would be his advice that they should join as a partner in the transformation programme.

As a consequence, an amendment was then **PROPOSED** and **SECONDED** to read as follows:-

"This Council has made huge savings by sharing services with West Devon. For some reason we have not been able to achieve the same arrangement with Teignbridge. We ask the Leader to write to Teignbridge Council inviting them to discuss a transformation programme between the three councils." In the debate on the amendment, the following points were raised:-

- Some Members felt that the extent of the amendment negated the role of both sets of Members in this regard;
- A Member questioned why the council could not work towards both shared services and the transformation programme. In reply, the Leader informed that it was anticipated that the required savings could be made through the transformation programme and the shared services concept had now been superseded both locally and nationally. In addition, the lead Executive Member for Financial Services confirmed that shared services would no longer be sufficient to meet the funding shortfall faced by the Council;
- The proposer of the motion stated his disappointment at the response from TDC and still could not see why shared services and transformation could not run side by side and were deemed to be mutually exclusive.

When put to the vote, the amendment was declared **CARRIED** and therefore became the substantive motion.

A further amendment was then **PROPOSED** and **SECONDED** to read as follows:

"This Council has made huge savings by sharing services with West Devon. For some reason we have not been able to achieve the same arrangement with Teignbridge. We ask the Leader to write to every Member of Teignbridge Council inviting them to discuss a transformation programme between the three councils."

When put to the vote, this amendment was declared LOST.

It was then:

RESOLVED

This Council has made huge savings by sharing services with West Devon. For some reason we have not been able to achieve the same arrangement with Teignbridge. We ask the Leader to write to Teignbridge Council inviting them to discuss a transformation programme between the three councils.

(b) By Clirs Hodgson and Gorman

"To support potentially vulnerable residents, we recommend that Devon and Cornwall Housing, Sovereign Homes and other Housing Associations etc, that are associated with delivering South Hams District Council affordable and social housing don't evict tenants unable to pay rent due to the implementation of the bedroom tax that has caused a reduction in their benefits." In her introduction, the proposer advised that the bedroom tax could cause a great deal of hardship and stress. In light of the lack of availability of smaller rental accommodation, residents could find themselves unable to move house. In addition, it was not always convenient for residents to encourage (or find) a lodger to move in to their property.

In discussion, reference was made to:-

- (a) the comments of the lead Executive Member for ICT and Customer Services. The Member informed that the Council could not tell organisations who they could and could not evict. However, she did give assurances that the Council was working very closely with landlords and residents and was monitoring this issue very closely. In respect of the scale and seriousness of the issue, the Member confirmed that she would be providing a progress report to a future Community Life and Housing Scrutiny Panel meeting;
- (b) support for the motion. In expressing his support, a Member commented that the notion of evicting tenants would actually cost Council Taxpayers more in the long term.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.5, a recorded vote was then demanded on the motion. The voting on the motion was recorded as follows:-

For the motion (32)	Cllrs Baldry, Barber, Bastone, Baverstock, Blackler, Bramble, Brazil, Cane, B Cooper, S Cooper, Cuthbert, Foss, Gilbert, Gorman, Hannaford, Hicks, Hodgson, Holway, Jones May, Pannell, Pennington, Rowe, Smerdon, Squire, Steer, Stone, Tucker, Vint, Ward, Wingate and Wright
Against the motion (0)	

Abstentions (1) Cllr Coulson

Cllrs Bruce-Spencer, Carson, Carter, Hawkins, Hitchins, Saltern and Westacott

It was then:

Absent (7)

RESOLVED

To support potentially vulnerable residents, we recommend that Devon and Cornwall Housing, Sovereign Homes and other Housing Associations etc, that are associated with delivering South Hams District Council affordable and social housing don't evict tenants unable to pay rent due to the implementation of the bedroom tax that has caused a reduction in their benefits.

(c) By Cllrs Hodgson and Hawkins

"Sustainable Community Act Proposal – A Supermarket Levy:

That the Secretary of State

- 1. gives Local Authorities the power to introduce a local levy of 8.5% of the rate on large retail outlets in their area with a rateable annual value not less that £500,000; and
- 2. requires that the revenue from this levy go directly to the Local Authority in order to be used to improve local communities in their areas by promoting local economic activity, local services and facilities, social and community wellbeing and environmental protection."

(NOTE: Cllr Hawkins had submitted his apologies to the meeting and as a consequence, Cllr Baldry seconded this motion).

In her introduction, the proposer felt that the motion was a straightforward one and referred to her supporting paper, which had been circulated with the published agenda papers.

During discussion, the following points were raised:-

- (a) In respect of the suggested rate being 8.5%, some Members felt that this could be too restrictive and reference in the motion to it should therefore be removed. Following a debate, both the proposer and seconder were content to remove this element from their motion;
- (b) Some Members expressed their support for the motion and felt that it was an opportunity to support smaller local businesses who were suffering. In disagreement, other Members stated that in light of the current economic climate, supermarkets were a source of cheaper food and these proposals would have a knock on effect to food producers and suppliers and would also result in higher prices being passed on to customers.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.5, a recorded vote was then demanded on the motion. The voting on the motion was recorded as follows:-

For the motion (24)	Cllrs Baldry, Barber, Bastone, Baverstock, Blackler, Bramble, Brazil, Cane, Carson, B Cooper, S Cooper, Cuthbert, Gorman, Hannaford, Hodgson, Holway, Jones, Pannell, Saltern, Tucker, Vint, Ward, Wingate and Wright
Against the motion (4)	Cllrs Coulson, Pennington, Rowe and Stone
Abstentions (7)	Cllrs Foss, Gilbert, Hicks, May, Smerdon, Squire and Steer
Absent (5)	Cllrs Bruce-Spencer, Carter, Hawkins, Hitchins and Westacott

It was then:

RESOLVED

Sustainable Community Act Proposal – A Supermarket Levy:

That the Secretary of State

- 1. gives Local Authorities the power to introduce a local levy on large retail outlets in their area with a rateable annual value not less that £500,000; and
- 2. requires that the revenue from this levy go directly to the Local Authority in order to be used to improve local communities in their areas by promoting local economic activity, local services and facilities, social and community wellbeing and environmental protection.

(d) By Clirs Gorman and Baldry

"That this Council supports the aims and objectives of the Living Wage Foundation www.livingwage.org.uk and resolves to investigate joining other public sector bodies to become a Living Wage Employer, which is a recognised sign of good practice in employment."

In his introduction, the proposer highlighted his supporting paper, which had been circulated with the published agenda papers. The proposer also emphasised that the motion sought that the matter be investigated and made reference to the social costs of not becoming a living wage employer. The lead Executive Member for Corporate Services confirmed that he welcomed this motion and he had already begun to pursue this matter. The Member confirmed that this currently affected two members of staff and in highlighting the national cross party political support for this issue, made reference to the benefits on staff morale and echoed the comments of the proposer regarding the social benefits.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That this Council supports the aims and objectives of the Living Wage Foundation **www.livingwage.org.uk** and resolves to investigate joining other public sector bodies to become a Living Wage Employer, which is a recognised sign of good practice in employment.

28/13 MOORINGS ALLOCATION POLICY

The Council considered a report which sought approval of a revised Moorings Allocation Policy.

In the subsequent discussion, reference was made to:-

- (a) confirmation that the Harbour Board had agreed the recommendation at its meeting on 23 September 2013;
- (b) priority being given to local residents as opposed to second homeowners. Whilst a number of Members were sympathetic to the initial intention to give priority to local residents, since the decision was made to charge 100% Council Tax for second homeowners, it was now almost impossible to administer the existing policy.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That the Moorings Allocation Policy be amended in accordance with paragraph 3 of the presented agenda report.

29/13 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY – ANNUAL REPORT

The Council considered a report which presented the workings of Overview and Scrutiny during the 2012/13 Municipal Year.

In discussion, reference was made to:-

- (a) the progress which had been made during 2012/13. A Member commented that the Panels were working well, with each now having a much clearer and distinct area of responsibility. In addition, the Member felt that great strides had been made in the working relationships between the Panels and the Senior Management Team;
- (b) the importance of the role of Scrutiny throughout the Transformation 18 Programme.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny during 2012/13 Municipal Year be noted and Members have had the opportunity to comment on the current work programmes of the three Scrutiny Panels.

30/13 REPORTS OF BODIES

RESOLVED

That the minutes and recommendations of the undermentioned bodies be received and approved subject to any amendments listed below:-

(a) Salcombe Harbour Board	20 May 2013
(b) Development Management Committee	22 May 2013
(c) Economy & Environments Scrutiny Panel	23 May 2013
(d) Community Life & Housing Scrutiny Panel	23 May 2013
(e) Executive	6 June 2013

E.04/13: Review of Free Car Parks

RESOLVED

That the following free car parking areas be agreed and added to the District Council's Off Street Parking Places Order:

- Aveton Gifford (Timbers and off Jubilee Street)
- Jawbones, Dartmouth
- Follaton House
- Hope Cove
- The Levels, Dittisham



(f)	Audit Committee	13	June 2013
(g)	Corporate Performance & Resource Scrutiny Par	nel	20 June 2013
(h)	Development Management Committee	26	June 2013
(i)	Salcombe Harbour Board	15	July 2013
(j)	Executive	18	July 2013

E.11/13: Public Question Time

The Leader of Council wished to put on record the value which he felt had been gleaned from the two King Edward VI Community College students undertaking a week of work experience with Member Services.

E.12/13: Medium Term Financial Strategy

RESOLVED

- That Members have provided a set of "minded to" views in order to guide the 2014/15 budget process on the use of New Homes Bonus as a means of bridging the budget gap in 2014/15 and beyond; the level of Council Tax Support Grant to be passed on to Parish and Town Councils; the proportion of Council Tax Support Grant to pass onto recipients, and the proportion of savings from service reductions; and
- That the £140,000 savings identified by the Senior Management Team be accepted and built into the base budget for 2014/15 onwards.

E.17/13: Connect Strategy and Priority Action Plan Update 2013-14

RESOLVED

That the Connect Strategy annual update for 2013-14, incorporating updated action plans for Community Life, Environment and Homes, be approved and adopted.

E.20/13: Review of Free Car Parking

In respect of South Brent, the lead Executive Member advised that a meeting had been held with the parish council. The outcome of this meeting was that the parish council would undertake the consultation with the community and once the recommended option was known, dialogue would be continued.

With regard to Yealmpton, the Leader of Council informed that no decision had been taken and the review would continue with the local parish council.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That that the following free car parking areas be agreed and added to the District Council's Off Street Parking Places Order and, where appropriate, consider the potential for generating income:

- Malborough
- Marldon
- South Brent
- Stoke Fleming
- Kingsbridge Hill, Totnes
- Wembury
- Yealmpton

E.21/13: Operational Changes to Off Street Parking Places Order

RESOLVED

That the operational changes to the District Council's Off Street Parking Places Order be agreed as follows:

- That the Parking Order be updated appropriately to allow enforcement to be undertaken in respect of motorists who pay for their parking via the recently introduced pay-by-phone facility;
- That the Fish Quay area of the Creek Car Park be added to the Off Street Parking Places Order;
- That officers continue discussions to reach a mutually satisfactory conclusion in respect of parking for fishermen in the Creek Car Park, Salcombe, following the redevelopment of the area and, if necessary, provide reserved parking;
- That parking in Coronation Car Park during the Dartmouth Regatta week be limited to a maximum of three hours; and
- That the new parking bays in Victoria Road, Dartmouth, be added to the Off-Street Parking Places Order.

(k) Audit Committee

A.08/13: Statement of Internal Control and Annual Governance Statement 2012/13

RESOLVED

That the draft Annual Governance Statement 2012/13 and supporting evidence provided by the presented agenda report be approved.

(I) Development Management Committee 24 July 2013

DM.11/13: Minutes

In respect of incorrect comments which he had made towards a Member during the previous Committee meeting, the Chairman reiterated his regret at this incident.

(m) Developmen	t Management Committee	28 August 2013
(n) Economy & I	Environment Scrutiny Panel	5 September 2013
(o) Community L	ife & Housing Scrutiny Panel	5 September 2013

CLH.16/13: Update on the Impact of Welfare Reforms

In response to a question, the lead Executive Member for ICT and Customer Services confirmed that she would be giving a further update to the next Panel meeting on the impact of welfare reforms.

(p) Executive

19 September 2013

E.30/13: Corporate Sponsorship Framework

RESOLVED

That the framework document be approved (as outlined at Appendix A to the presented agenda report and subject to minor amendments being made to paragraph 4.2) to be used by service areas in maximising sponsorship opportunities.

E.32/13: Stowford Mill Planning Brief

RESOLVED

That the planning brief (as outlined in Appendix A of the presented agenda report) be approved, so that it would be used as an aid to prospective purchasers to inform on the site's development potential and is a material consideration to guide the decision-making process for any planning applications submitted.

E.3713(a): Economy and Environment Scrutiny Panel – 5 September 2013

(i) EE.16/13 Recycling and Waste Service Review

Before the vote was taken, a Member wished to congratulate the work of the officers who had supported the task and finish group on this review and felt that this piece of work had been an excellent piece of work from all involved.

RESOLVED

- 1. That option 7 (as set out in paragraph 3.3 of the presented agenda report) be the preferred way forward; and
- That a bid of £237,000 be made to the Council's Capital Programme and is funded from the Sustainable Waste Management Reserve (£71,000) and Capital Reserves (£166,700).
- (q) Audit Committee

19 September 2013

A.16/13: New Budget Process and Monitoring – Next Steps

A local Ward Member made reference to the request for details to be provided to the task and finish group on the Wembury Marine Centre and stated his strong opposition to any action being taken by the Council which would be detrimental to this facility. In reply, the Chairman of the Audit Committee advised that the task and finish group was primarily tasked with looking at income generation opportunities and gave assurances that the Group would consider every aspect in detail and would only make rational recommendations.

(Meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 4.15 pm)



SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL

AGENDA
ITEM
11

NAME OF COMMITTEE	COUNCIL
DATE	26 September 2013
REPORT TITLE	MOORINGS ALLOCATION POLICY
REPORT OF	Salcombe Harbour Master
WARDS AFFECTED	All South Hams

Summary of report:

To propose a change to the Mooring Allocation Policy. This report was considered by the Harbour Board on 23 September 2013 and an update from that meeting will be presented by the Chairman of the Harbour Board Cllr R J Carter, this will enable any policy change to be implemented for the 2014 mooring allocations, the process for which begins in November 2013.

Financial implications:

There are no direct financial implications from this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Council RESOLVES to change the Mooring Allocation Policy to give priority to customers who pay Council Tax to SHDC as described in paragraph 3.

Officer contact: lan Gibson – 01548 843791 (Internal 7104)

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 The current edition of the Moorings Policy was published in 2012. The Salcombe Harbour Board ("SHB") recommended to Full Council on 12 November 2012 that the updated Moorings Policy be adopted (SH36/12). The Moorings Policy was adopted by Full Council on 13 December 2012 (63/12).

1.2 The Moorings Policy is routinely reviewed every five years with urgent issues being considered by the Harbour Board as they arise. Continuing uncertainty in distinguishing between permanent residents and second home owners, following the removal of the Council Tax discount for second home owners, has given rise to an urgent review of the Moorings Allocation Policy. The issue was raised at the Board on 20 May 2013 (SH 7/13) and discussed in full at a Harbour Board workshop on 15 July 2013. The discussion points covered by the workshop are detailed in Paragraph 2.

2. Moorings Allocation Policy Factors for Consideration

- 2. 1 The Moorings Policy adopted in 2007 gave priority to customers who paid 100% Council Tax. This policy was adopted to give priority to permanent residents of the South Hams. The waiting list was in two parts, the A list for 100% Council Tax Payers and a B List for discounted Council Tax Payers (second home owners). Customers whose residential status changed to 100% Council Tax payers were transferred from the B list to the A list with their original seniority and an allocation made when they came to the top of the waiting list.
- 2.2 In April 2013 the District Council removed the discount offered to second home owners on their properties within the South Hams. This gave rise to an expectation that people on the B list would now be allocated a mooring when they came to the top of the waiting list.
- 2.3 The Harbour Board had anticipated that this change might cause difficulties for the moorings policy and specifically consulted about this in March 2012 as part of its consultation on the new moorings policy. At the same time SHDC gave some reassurance that it would continue to be possible to tell from Council Tax bills who was a permanent South Hams resident and who was a second home owner. This was absolutely essential for the scheme to be administered fairly by the Harbour Office staff.
- 2.4 Accordingly, the Moorings Policy adopted in 2012 changed the criteria for allocation of moorings from 100% Council Tax payers to customers who were permanently resident within the South Hams. However, with the experience of the allocations for the 2013/14 season, it proved to be more difficult than anticipated to discern from the Council Tax bill the residency status of the customer.

- 2.5 There were a large number of complaints about the Moorings Allocation Policy which focused on the fact that the Policy was discriminatory, including from people whose families had owned properties in the South Hams, and been on a waiting list for a mooring, for a very long time. Advice was sought from SHDC Legal Department which affirmed the legality of the Policy, providing that the Policy could be applied fairly. But, because there is now no unambiguous way to distinguish permanent residents from second home owners, applying the Policy fairly continues to be an issue.
- 2.6 After careful consideration we feel that further consultation on the proposed policy change will **not** be needed for the following reasons;
 - 2.6.1 The last consultation was recent and anticipated the change to CT rebate. Consultation feedback at Appendix 1.
 - 2.6.2 The responses are likely to be the same existing users are likely to seek to maintain the status quo and there was no response to the second public consultation.
 - 2.6.3 Since the original decision the end to CT rebate for second home owners has been implemented and in response to correspondence from local residents and MP the Board have sought detailed legal advice.
 - 2.6.4 The Board Members have undertaken a focussed workshop on the possible alternative Moorings Policies and decided that a two tier list is no longer appropriate given the equal CT liability for all residents.
 - 2.6.5 The Moorings Policy states at para 5.0.1 that the Board may review 'urgent' matters as they arise. The policy does not define urgent but given that the alternative is to wait for the 5 year review in 2017 and the significant change to CT rebate, it is reasonable to describe this issue as 'urgent'. Any changes required as a result of such a review need to be ratified by the Full Council and amendments published.
 - 2.6.6 The report for the Harbour Board meeting in September will be published prior to the meeting and this will provide a further opportunity for people to comment if they want to.

3. Moorings Allocation Policy Proposal

- 3.1 It is proposed that the Moorings Allocation Policy be amended as follows:
 - 3.1.1 The current waiting list, which customers joined with the understanding that priority was given to local residents over second home owners, is closed with effect from 1 September 2013. This closed list is then allocated to, Permanent Residents first, then to second home owners on the former B list, so meeting the contractual obligation to these customers.
 - 3.1.2 A new waiting list is started with effect from the same date. The criterion for joining the 2013 list is proof of payment of Council Tax to SHDC.
 - 3.1.3 Once the closed waiting list has been satisfied, allocations will be made to the 2013 waiting list.
 - 3.1.4 Because of a number of factors, the current waiting lists are at their lowest level for at least two decades. It is therefore an opportune time to change the mooring allocation and waiting list criteria.
 - 3.1.5 It is to be noted that the moorings policy would continue to give priority to those who have a residence in the South Hams. Only if there were no waiting list for a mooring would a mooring be allocated to someone who was not a South Hams Council Tax payer.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Statutory Powers: Local Government Act 1972, Section 151. The Pier and Harbour Order (Salcombe) Confirmation Act 1954 (Sections 22-36).
- 4.2 A local authority is entitled to make policies in order to provide guidelines for its own decision-making (whether by members or officers) but it should not regard itself as completely restricted by policy. It must always be possible for the authority to make an exception to policy; if it isn't, the authority will be regarded as having "fettered its discretion "and that is unlawful. However, in order to be fair to everyone, the authority should have good reasons both for making an exception, or refusing to do so.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no direct financial implications from this report.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 The risk management implications are:

Risk/Opportunity	F	Risk Statu	S	Mitigating and
	Impact/ Severity	Likelihood/ Probability	Risk Score	Management Actions
The Harbour Board is accused of discrimination in its allocation of harbour facilities.	3	2	6	As part of the policy review an Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to ensure compliance with equality legislation and the needs of Harbour users. The Harbour Authority will have a fit for purpose moorings allocation policy which is strictly adhered to and kept under constant review. Mooring allocation has an appeals process.

7. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate priorities	Community Life
engaged:	Economy
Statutory powers:	Local Government Act 1972, Section 151. The
	Pier and Harbour Order (Salcombe) Confirmation
	Act 1954 (Sections 22-36).
Considerations of	None
equality and human	
rights:	
Biodiversity	None
considerations:	
Sustainability	None
considerations:	
Crime and disorder	None
implications:	
Background papers:	Moorings Policy 2012 (SH 36/12)
	Harbour Board Agenda 20 May 2013 (SH 7/13)
Appendices	1. Moorings Policy Consultation Feedback 2012.
attached:	

lan Gibson <u>Harbour Master</u> Council 26 September This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix 1 to

Report on proposed change to

Mooring Allocation Policy

Moorings Policy Consultation – Conducted in summer of 2012

- Q1. Do you support the principle of continuing to give priority to people ordinarily resident in the South Hams described in paragraph 6.2?
- **Q2.** Do you support the proposal for two waiting lists as described in paragraph 6.3 and, if so, what criteria should be used to distinguish between the two lists in future?
- Q3. Would you prefer there to be just one waiting list with all Council Tax payers on the same list?
- Q4. In your opinion does the draft Moorings Policy require any further clarification?

Forum	Comments	Remarks
Fishermen	Our members have discussed your Consultation on Mooring Policy document & are most grateful for the opportunity to have been included in the circulation list. By in large our members who fish out of Salcombe are very happy with the existing situation. When it comes to discussing Mooring Matters we find your staff to be understanding & helpful with the problems specific to the Commercial Fleet e.g. store boxes, need for all state of the tide moorings, etc. We would hope that the division between the commercial mooring area & the leisure areas will be maintained so that if more commercial boats wish to join the fleet they can be accommodated as this is, we believe, in the best interests of Salcombe generally, due to the year round contribution that the commercial fleet makes to the economy of the Town.	Requesting priority for moorings for commercial fishing boats, this is a current policy which should not be changed.
	Being all locals our members naturally believe that the principle of priority to local full time residents should be maintained as we do not want to see a situation where Salcombe becomes	Support for priority to local

	a ghost town in the winter. It seems to us that the two list system has worked well & in the absence of a better idea we would be happy to support its continuation & the criteria for inclusion on the "local" list should simply be that the address in the South Hams must be a rate payers principal residence.	people, ascertained by the payment of Council Tax.
The Salcombe & Kingsbridge Estuary Conservation Forum	 I circulated the Moorings Policy Questionnaire to all Estuary Conservation Forum members and received the following response. Q.1 Yes. There is strong support for the two tier system. Q.2 We support the proposal for two waiting lists. Applicants should declare that they qualify to vote in General Elections in the South Hams constituency or they should sign a written statement that they are normally resident in the South Hams for the majority of the year. The Election suggestion should be able to be checked at Follaton on the Electoral Roll. It is legal for British Citizens to vote on more than one occasion for Council Elections but illegal to vote more than once in a General Election. Q.3 No. As above it is strongly felt that permanent residents should take priority Q.4 Being very familiar with SHA requirements I find the document clear and in no need of any further clarification. Whether this would apply to a newcomer I am not sure. There were no comments from Forum members. the Mooring Policy question of how to differentiate between full time and part time residents, people are only allowed to vote in one constituency in a General Election. There is therefore presumable a way of checking residential qualifications which could be used to ensure only voters in either the Totnes or S.W.Devon constituencies are given access to waiting list A. I did mention this in the reply from the Forum but it was right at the bottom (as is this) so might have been missed. 	Support for priority to local people and continuance of two waiting lists. Proposal to use the electoral roll as qualification of residency.

SKEA	Q1 - 17 voted for giving priority to local people, 2 voted against it. Q2 - 15 supported the principal of two waiting lists, 4 voted against it. No comment received regarding the criteria that should be used to distinguish between the two lists.	Support for priority to local residents in allocation of moorings.
	Q3 – 7 voted for one waiting list while 13 voted against it.	But seems SKEA would like to see one waiting list.
	Q4 – 11 felt the draft6 moorings policy required further clarification, 6 felt it was OK.	Although there was a suggestion that further clarification
	The poll went out to 158 members of SKEA but, disappointingly and rather surprisingly there are only about 20 replies, and they require some explanation. Next to the Q1 to Q5. there is a drop-down menu, which shows the nominal answers that I posted. SKEA members, having marked each reply as read, were asked to indicate "I agree" or "I disagree", by the 'thums-up' or 'thumbs-down' sign. But see my cautionary note at the foot of the list. Clearly there has been some confusion!	was required, it is not clear where the clarification is required.
KEBC	At the last KEBC committee meeting it was agreed to obtain the clubs position on the Moorings Policy in 2 stages. The first was to obtain a view from the April meeting, the second to put that view to all members for comment. After the vote on the Moorings Policy questions, I believe this to be the result:	Support for priority to residents.
	Q1 Majority in favor of continuing to give priority to people ordinarily resident in the South Hams.	Majority in favour of 2 waiting lists
	Q2 Majority in favor of 2 lists the main criteria being residency.	Utilisation of Council Tax as
	Q3 Majority in Favor of not having a single list with all Tax Payers on it.	qualification criteria.
	Q4 No clarifications have been identified yet for the Moorings Policy.	

K/B & SALCOMBE MARINE BUSINESS FORUM- ANDREW TURNER- JONES	Q1 Yes, ordinary residents should have the priority and this should continue dependant on selective criteria. A permanent resident is determined in what way? Q2 My personal opinion is that a point scoring system is implemented to distinguish the priority of the waiting list. I think two lists is moreover not really relevant as the applicant would be scored against a pre-set criteria to determine their ranking and eligibility in the list. A set of questions is set and then ranked to give a total score that is fair. Fairness is determined on not just the fact you are a resident here but how long you are here, how long your family has lived here such as your parents, what the mooring is for- leisure use, business use, syndicate, length of time you have been waiting, also if you have been prepared to accept a less desirable mooring in the meantime. Some example questions with proof required- Are you a permanent resident? How long have you been a permanent resident? Is the mooring for personal/business use? Has your family been resident for 10 yrs+ Has person been prepared to accept mooring such as upper harbour/foreshore?				
To Andrew Turner- Jones From Tim Tucker (South Sands Ferry) 26/05/2012	 Comments on the proposed Mooring Policy are:- 4.0.1. There are a number of Private Moorings in South Sands Bay, a number owned by the Tides Reach Hotel and some by private individuals. 6.0.2. I think a mooring should be passable from "father to son/daughter as well, ie when next generation take over the family home and boat etc. 6.0.14 Mooring should belong to a syndicate, as long as any one or more member is a SHC rate payer. 	There are no private moorings at South Sands, they are mooring licences. The transfer of moorings through the family would tie up moorings for generations and would make it more difficult for newcomers to get a mooring.			

	6.0.15 Private Moorings belonging to a business, eg Tides Reach Hotel, Boat Hire Company should be transferable when that business is sold.	There are many boats with a mooring which are
	6.0.18 Same comment as 6.0.2.	owned by a syndicate, providing one member of the
	6.2.1 What is definition of "ordinary resident"? ie someone who lives within SHDC for more that 6 months? How could this be verified?	syndicate has qualified for the mooring.
	6.3. I agree with the principle of two waiting lists but again the definition of "ordinary resident" should be clarified as many second home owners are in residence for a number of months.	There is provision in the policy for the transfer of business moorings when a
	6.6.1. Again, there are a number of private and commercial moorings (deep water) at South Sands which are not owned by SHA.	business is sold. The definition of
	6.13. Is there a priority for "marine engineers" to have a pontoon berth for their work boat?	Ordinary resident is the exam question which is still to be resolved.
	6.13.5 The South Sands Hotel (and others) own a number of private moorings; they are part	resolved.
	of the assets when the business is sold and should pass to the new owner.	There are no Deep
		Water moorings at
		South Sands which
		are not in SHA ownership. The
		transfer of business
		moorings is
		covered by 6.13.5.
Dave Halsell	Q1. Do you support the principle of continuing to give priority to people ordinarily resident in the	Support for
– Singing	South Hams described in paragraph 6.2?	priority to
Paddles	YES	residents,
	Q2. Do you support the proposal for two waiting lists as described in paragraph 6.3 and, if so,	maintenance of
	what criteria should be used to distinguish between the two lists in future?	2 lists and use
	YES - ELECTORAL ROLE	of electoral role.

Q3. Would you prefer there to be just one waiting list with all Council Tax payers on the same	
list?	
NO	
Q4. In your opinion does the draft Moorings Policy require any further clarification?	
NO	

Agenda Item 2b

SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM	
12	

NAME OF COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	26 September 2013
REPORT TITLE	Overview and Scrutiny – Annual Report
Report of	Member Services Manager
WARDS AFFECTED	All

Summary of report: To report to Members on the workings of Overview and Scrutiny during the 2012/13 Municipal Year.

Financial implications: There are no financial implications to this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Council RESOLVES to note the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny during 2012/13 Municipal Year and has the opportunity to comment on the current work programmes of the three Scrutiny Panels.

Officer contact: Kathryn Trant, Member Services Manager 01803 861185 <u>kathryn.trant@southhams.gov.uk</u>

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 At the Annual Council meeting of 19 May 2011, a report was presented of the Constitution Working Group which made a number of recommendations in relation to revised Terms of Reference for the Overview and Scrutiny function (minute 08/11 refers). Part 2, Article 5 and Part 3 of the Constitution, set out the Terms of Reference, the general role and the specific functions of the Panels.
- 1.2 Council Procedure Rule 6.5 states that –

Each Scrutiny Panel must report annually to full Council on their workings and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate.

1.3 Set out at Appendix A is an outline of the issues considered by each of the Scrutiny Panels during the 2012/13 Municipal Year.

2. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Summary of work undertaken 2012/13

- 2.1 The Community Life and Housing Scrutiny Panel considered a large number of items at its formal meetings throughout the year and gave particular focus to the New Homes Bonus, the implications on the Council of the Government's new welfare reforms and the impact on the service provided to communities by the cuts to Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service.
- 2.2 The public forum facility provided the opportunity for some members of the Public to raise concerns they had about the SPD on Masterplans and Development Briefs and the Panel called in the Executive's decision on this item and recommended a review be undertaken.
- 2.3 By way of Task and Finish Groups, the Panel initiated and prioritised a number of reviews to consider:
 - The development of the Local Council Tax Scheme
 - How Councils could support Town and Parish Councils to take on Devolved Services
 - Identifying sites for Gypsies and Travellers
 - Developing processes to support the Council's engagement with young people
- 2.4 The Economy and Environment Scrutiny Panel undertook a number of key reviews including:
 - A major review on the complex topic of the future options for the Recycling and Waste Service to improve performance
 - Developing Interim Guidance for Solar PV and Wind Turbine applications
 - Considering how the Council could support local towns to create vibrant and sustainable town centres and increase local spend (which initiated the very successful 'Revitalising Our High Streets' event)
 - Consideration of the status of the Council's biodiversity duty and the risks of non-compliance of high priority statutory requirements
- 2.5 In terms of formal items, the Panel gave specific focus to the significant changes that were taking place in marine conservation as a result of new legislation and the implications of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. The Panel also maintained a watching brief throughout the year on the progress of the implementation of Dog Control Orders.
- 2.6 The public forum facility provided the opportunity for some members of the public to comment on the development of the interim guidance on Solar PV and Wind Turbine applications.

- 2.7 Both the Economy and Environment Scrutiny Panel and the Community Life and Housing Scrutiny Panel have reviewed the Action Plans that support the delivery of the Council's Corporate Priorities. Both Panels have highlighted the need for more streamlining to ensure the action plans remain realistic and achievable and the need for the inclusion of SMART targets to enable the measuring of outcomes.
- 2.8 The Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Panel, in addition to the regular monitoring of Performance Indicators and Review of the Service Level Agreements of the CAB and CVS, has been involved in the setting up and working of new Standards procedures to deal with complaints alleging breaches of the Member Code of Conduct. A report on General Dispensations and Revised Procedures to deal with complaints are two examples of the additional work that this Panel has undertaken.
- 2.9 The Panel also specifically requested a report on the use of agency staff and has requested that an annual update on this be provided.

3. FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

Work Programme 2013/14

- 3.1 Each Panel has already held its first two meetings for 2013/14 and has established a work programme for the year 2013/14, and these can be found at Appendix B to this report. Whilst the programmes form the basis of their work, this list is not exhaustive as each Panel has the ability to absorb further agenda items as and when they arise.
- 3.2 The Programming Panel (which comprises of the Chairman or Vice Chairman of each Panel, the Vice Chairman of Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Panel and the Chairman of Executive) meet on occasion to discuss the workloads of the four bodies to ensure efficiency of the overview and scrutiny process.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Statutory Powers – Local Government Act 2000

5. RISK MANAGEMENT

5.1 The risk management implications are shown at the end of this report in the strategic risks template.

Corporate priorities engaged:	All		
Statutory powers:	Local Government Act 2000		
Considerations of equality and human rights:	Not affected by this report		

Biodiversity considerations:	Not affected by this report
Sustainability considerations:	Not affected by this report
Crime and disorder implications:	Not affected by this report
Background papers:	Council papers for 19 May 2011; 21
	July 2011, 9 February 2012, Council
	Constitution
Appendices attached:	Appendix A: Issues considered by
	Overview and Scrutiny 2012/13
	Appendix B: Items for future
	consideration

STRATEGIC RISKS TEMPLATE

			Inherent risk status					
No	Risk Title	Risk/Opportunity Description	Impact of negative outcome	Chance of negative outcome	Risk score and direction of travel		Mitigating & Management actions	Ownership
1	Reputation	- It is a constitutional requirement to provide an annual report on the Overview and Scrutiny function.	1	1	1	€	Regular monitoring can ensure that the function is providing outcomes and adding value to the Council.	Member Services Manager

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Community Life and Housing Sc	rutiny Panel
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Date of meeting	Issues Considered
24 May 2012	 Securing Good Quality Safe Homes Private Sector Renewal Policy Briefing on the Introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners Task and Finish report on Devolved Services
13 September 2012	 Leisure Centres, Sport and Healthy Lifestyle Contract New Homes Bonus Public Spaces Working Group Task and Finish Group Updates – Youth Engagement/ Youth Cabinet/ Gypsy and Traveller Sites (identifying sites and responding to unauthorised sites)/ Council Tax Support
29 November 2012	 Call In – SPD on Masterplans and Development Briefs Health and Wellbeing Strategy Skin Cancer and Ambulance Response Times Progress on the Community Life and Homes Delivery Plans New Homes Bonus Strategy Localisation of Council Tax Update from the Public Spaces Working Group Task and Finish Group Updates – Youth Engagement to build communication processes/ Gypsy and Traveller Sites (identifying sites and responding to unauthorised sites)
10 January 2013	Budget Proposals 2013/14
14 March 2013	 Leisure Centres, sport and Healthy Lifestyle Contract Rent Plus Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service Implications for the Council and the Residents of South Hams of the Governments Welfare Reforms Devon Home Choice Review of the Connect Partnership and related Delivery Arrangements Task and Finish Group Updates – Youth Engagement to build communication processes/ Gypsy and Traveller Sites (identifying sites and responding to unauthorised sites)

Appendix A – Issues Considered by the Scrutiny Panels during the 2012/13 municipal year

Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Panel

Date of meeting	Issues Considered
7 June 2012	 Legal Opinion on the Development at Kingswear Railway Station Visit South Devon Q4 Performance Indicator Report Performance Indicator Review Presentation from the Deputy Leader
4 October 2012	 Performance Indicators Report Customer First and Complaint Handling The Use of Agency Staff Communications and Media – Service and Performance Report General Dispensation and amendments to delegation of powers to grant dispensations Revised Procedures to deal with complaints alleging breaches of the Code of Conduct Significant Partnerships Update on Ivybridge Swimming Pool
3 January 2013	 Code of Conduct Report Review of Service Level Agreements with CAB/CVS 2015 Customer First Project update Q2 Performance Indicators Report Refurbishments at Ivybridge Pool Update
10 January 2013	Budget Proposals 2013/14
18 April 2013	 Q3 Performance Indicator Report Time taken to process Benefit Claims Review of Connect Partnership and related Delivery Plans Expenditure on Membership of Professional Bodies

Appendix A – Issues Considered by the Scrutiny Panels during the 2012/13 municipal year

Date of meeting	Issues Considered
24 May 2012	 Task and Finish Update on Review of Recycling and Waste Service Task and Finish Update on Town Vibrancy Progress on the Implementation of Dog Control Orders
6 September 2012	 Update on a policy for renewable energy applications and in particular wind turbines Task and Finish Update on Recycling and Waste Service Review of South Hams Biodiversity Action Plan and Emerging Biodiversity Work Update on Networked pay and display machines Progress on Economy Delivery Plan Task and Finish Update on Town Vibrancy
22 November 2012	 Review of progress on the Environment Delivery Plan 24 Hour Pay and Display Charges Fees and Charges report for 2013/14 Flood and Water Management Act 2010 update Trees and Hedges Progress report on Implementation of Dog Control Orders Task and Finish Updates on Town Vibrancy/ Recycling and Waste Service/ Development of Renewable Energy Policy/ Review of South Hams Biodiversity Action Plan and Emerging Biodiversity Work Update from Joint Rural Broadband Working Group
10 January 2013	Budget Proposals 2013/14
7 March 2013	 South West Devon Community Energy Partnership Marine Legislation and Designations Review of AONB Management Plans Development of a Policy for Renewable Energy Review of Connect Partnership and related Delivery Arrangements Progress report on the Implementation of Dog Control Orders Task and Finish Updates on Review of Recycling and Waste Service/ South Hams Biodiversity Action Plan and Emerging Biodiversity Work

Economy and Environment Scrutiny Panel

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COMMUNITY LIFE AND HOUSING SCRUTINY PANEL

ANNUAL REPORT – SCRUTINY

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME – 2013-14

2013		
23 May	Executive Forward Plan	
	Public Forum	
	Annual Review of Community Life and Homes Action Plans	
	Annual Work Programme 2013-14	
	Annual Review of the South Devon and Dartmoor Community Safety Partnership	
	Affordable Housing Capital Programme 2013-14	
Page	Public Spaces Working Group	
lige	Task and Finish Group Update	
	Youth Engagement	
37		
5 September	Public Forum	
	Executive Forward Plan	
	New Approach to Budget Setting and Monitoring (Next Steps)	
	Update on the Impact of Welfare Reforms	
	Rent Plus	
	Future Agenda Items	
	Task and Finish Group Updates:	
	Sites for Gypsies and Travellers	
	Youth Engagement	
21 November	AGENDA – WORK IN PROGRESS	
	Public Forum	
	Executive Forward Plan	
	TONE Leisure	

	Impact of Welfare Reforms	
	Homelessness	
	Executive Member for ICT and Customer Services – Update on Briefing with MPs	
	Update on Discretionary Housing Payments and Homelessness Budget and any other	
	discretionary budget	
	Devon Home Choice	
	Update on the Pressures on the Disabled Facilities Grant	
	Affordable Housing Delivery Update	
	Tenants Incentive Scheme	
	Community Led Development	
	Task and Finish Group Updates:	
	Joint Budget Process	
	Empty Homes Strategy	
	Health and Well Being	
	Youth Engagement	
	 Sites for Gypsies and Travellers 	
D a	Public Spaces Working Group	To be confirmed
20 14		
2014 09 January	Joint Scrutiny Panel – Budget Meeting	
88		
27 March	AGENDA – WORK IN PROGRESS	
	Executive Forward Plan	
	Public Forum	
	Impact of Welfare Reforms	
	Update from Devon and Cornwall Housing	To be confirmed.
	Public Spaces Working Group	To be confirmed
	Task and Finish Group Updates:	
	Joint Budget Process	
	Health and Well Being	
	Youth Engagement	
	Sites for Gypsies and Travellers	
16 May	ANNUAL COUNCIL	

To be considered for scheduling:

Domestic Violence Community Consultation Band E – Housing Waiting List Ageing Population Sustainable Communities Act Health and Well Being Board Update Healthwatch

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CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY PANEL

SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME – 2013-14

2013	Agenda Items	Lead Officers
20 June 13	Public Forum	
	Executive Forward Plan	
	Planning Performance and Complaints	
	Performance Report	
	Ombudsman Complaints	
	2013-14 Annual Work Programme	
3 October 13	Public Forum	
	Executive Forward Plan	
	Transformation 18	
<u> </u>	CAB/CVS Service Level Agreements	
	Councillors Annual Attendance	
	New Approach to Budget Setting and Monitoring	
	Task and Finish Group Updates:	
	 Expenditure on Membership of Professional Bodies 	
	Ombudsman Complaints and Annual Letter	
	Quarter 1 – Performance Indicators	
	Update on Use of Agency Staff	
	Annual Work Programme – Future Agenda Items	
	AGENDA – WORK IN PROGRESS	
28 November 13	Public Forum	
	Executive Forward Plan	
	New Approach to Standards Complaints – Twelve Month Review	External Visitors
	T18 Update	
	Shared Services Summary	

	Quarter PI 2	
	Task and Finish Group Update:	
	 Joint – Income Generation 	
2014		
9 January	Joint Scrutiny Panels – Budget Meeting	
	AGENDA – WORK IN PROGRESS	
13 March	Public Forum	
	Executive Forward Plan	
	Quarter PI 3	
	Transformation 18 Update	
8 May	Annual Council	
8 May Q Q Q		
Q		
4	AGENDA – WORK IN PROGRESS	
10 June	Public Forum	
	Executive Forward Plan	
	Transformation 18 Update	
	Quarter PI - 4	

Members

ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL

SCRUTINY – ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME – 2013/14

2012	Agenda Items	
23 May	Public Forum	
	Executive Forward Plan	
	Review of Recycling and Waste Service - Interim Report	
	Progress on Implementation of Dog Control Orders	
	Annual Review of Environment Action Plan	
-	Annual Work Programme 2013/14	
a	Review of AONB Management Plans	
Page	Visit south Devon	
4		
5-September	Public Forum	
	Executive Forward Plan	
	New Approach to Budget Setting and Monitoring – Next Steps	
	Recycling and Waste Service Review	
	Economy Action Plan	
	Trees and Hedges Update	
	Task and Finish Group Updates:	
	Renewable Energy	
	Biodiversity	
	Town Vibrancy	
	Work Programme 2013/14	
	Progress Report on the Implementation of Dog Control Orders	
	Rationalisation of Car Parking Permits	

Members

	AGENDA – WORK IN PROGRESS	
14 November	Public Forum	
	Executive Forward Plan	
	Fees and Charges Report /Permits	
	Business Provision Update	
	Coast Issues	
	Task and Finish Updates:	
	Review of AONB Plans	
	Trees Policy	
	Joint – Income Generation	
	Waste Policy	
	Town Vibrancy	
_	Renewable Energy	
P 2013 A January	Biodiversity	
2013		
⊈ ⊃January	Joint Budget Scrutiny Meeting	
	AGENDA – WORK IN PROGRESS	
20 March	Public Forum	
	Executive Forward Plan	
	Task and Finish Updates:	
	Waste Policy	
	Biodiversity	
	Renewable Energy	
	Town Vibrancy	
	Joint – Income Generation	
08 May	ANNUAL COUNCIL	

Members

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD AT FOLLATON HOUSE, TOTNES ON THURSDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 2013

Members in attendance					
	* Denotes attendance ø Denotes apology for absence				
*	Cllr K J Baldry	*	Cllr M J Hicks		
*	Cllr A D Barber	Ø	Cllr P W Hitchins (Vice Chairman)		
*	Cllr H D Bastone	*	Cllr J M Hodgson		
*	Cllr J H Baverstock	*	Cllr T R Holway		
*	Cllr J I G Blackler	*	Cllr L P Jones		
*	Cllr I Bramble	*	Cllr D W May		
*	Cllr J Brazil	*	Cllr C M Pannell		
Ø	Cllr C G Bruce-Spencer	*	Cllr J T Pennington		
*	Cllr B F Cane	*	Cllr R Rowe		
*	Cllr B E Carson (Chairman)	*	Cllr M F Saltern		
Ø	Cllr R J Carter	*	Cllr P C Smerdon		
*	Cllr B S Cooper	*	Cllr J W Squire		
*	Cllr S E Cooper	*	Cllr R C Steer		
*	Cllr P Coulson	*	Cllr M Stone		
*	Cllr P K Cuthbert	*	Cllr R J Tucker		
*	Cllr R J Foss	*	Cllr R J Vint		
*	Cllr R D Gilbert	*	Cllr L A H Ward		
*	Cllr A S Gorman	Ø	Cllr J A Westacott MBE		
*	Cllr M J Hannaford	*	Cllr K R H Wingate		
Ø	Cllr J D Hawkins	*	Cllr S A E Wright		

ltem No.	Minute Ref No below refers	Officers in attendance and participating
All		Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer and Democratic
agenda		Services Manager
items		
Item 11	28/13	Harbour Master

22/13 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Cllr R Rowe be appointed Vice-Chairman for the duration of this Council meeting.

23/13 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9 May 2013 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

24/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare any interests in the items of business to be considered during the course of the meeting. These were recorded as follows:-

Cllrs M F Saltern and B E Carson both declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in Item 10(b): 'Notices of Motion' (Minute 27/13(b) below refers) by virtue of their Board membership of the Devon and Cornwall Housing Devon Community Interest Company and both left the meeting during the discussion and vote on this item.

Having sought the advice of the Monitoring Officer, Cllr P Coulson declared a personal interest in item 11: 'Moorings Allocation Policy' (Minute 28/13 below refers) by virtue of his ownership of a mooring and remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and vote on this item.

Cllr S A E Wright also declared a personal interest in item 11: 'Moorings Allocation Policy' (Minute 28/13 below refers) by virtue of his membership of the Salcombe Harbour Board and remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and vote on this item.

25/13 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman advised that he had attended a number of engagements recently but he did wish to draw particular attention to the success of the recent Hog Roast which had proven to be very well received by both staff and Members.

26/13 **QUESTIONS**

It was noted that two questions had been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 8:

From CIIr Baldry to CIIr Gilbert, lead Executive Member for Environment Services

Winter Closure of Public Lavatories:

- 1. As part of the decision making process has the Executive taken advice on the public health implications?
- 2. At a time when our fragile tourist industry is trying to encourage all year round visitors, what impression will potential visitors receive when they that this necessary facility is closed?

In reply, Cllr Gilbert advised that the Council had taken advice and proceeded to inform that there was no evidence to suggest that closure of public toilets had any implications upon public health. This advice was given in consultation with Environmental Health.

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Cllr Gilbert gave assurances whereby the Council had exercised all normal due diligence. Whilst other local authorities had also exercised such diligence, a number were closing many of their public conveniences for good (e.g. Teignbridge District Council).

At this time, the only issue being considered was whether or not any public conveniences should be closed during the deep winter season.

In respect of the impression that visitors would get, Cllr Gilbert felt that this would hopefully be one of predominantly finding that a public convenience would be open, unlike other local authorities who were closing their facilities permanently.

In reply to a supplementary question regarding the likely greater impact of closures on older people, Cllr Gilbert reiterated his comments in respect of public conveniences not being permanently closed.

From CIIr Brazil to CIIr Gilbert, lead Executive Member for Environment Services

In the business plan for car parking charges at Follaton House, £21 was the cost of parking permits used (valid all day). Will you be using the same £21 cost for all business cases including South Brent and Beesands car parks and if not why not?

In response, Cllr Gilbert stated that this was not the case. The Council was not proposing to introduce any new charges in free car parks, other than the two which had already been agreed to hold discussions with. Cllr Gilbert also stated that the decision not to charge at Follaton House had nothing to do with the business plan and was put on hold to await the outcome of the T18 Programme.

Having said that, Cllr Gilbert went on to say that the modelled charge of £21.00 per permit had been used purely as an example of a suggested staff costing, based upon the benchmarking exercise undertaken to show what other councils were charging their staff to park. Indeed, where charges could be found, they were in larger towns or cities with good public transport infrastructure. Finally, Cllr Gilbert advised that he was not aware of any other district or borough council charging their staff or members to park in Devon.

In response to a supplementary question, Cllr Gilbert informed that he had spoken to the Mayor of Salcombe Town Council with regard to the intention to undertake a thorough car park review for the town. Cllr Gilbert had already advised the Mayor that Salcombe could have as many permits as it wished provided that the loss of income was offset by an increase in pay and display charges.

In highlighting the importance of local town and parish councils having some influence in the process, Cllr Gilbert also confirmed that the process would not result in a one size fits all approach to Council car parks.

27/13 NOTICE OF MOTION

It was noted that four motions had been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.1.

(a) By Clirs Brazil and Baldry

"This Council has made huge savings by sharing services with West Devon. For some reason we have not been able to achieve the same arrangement with Teignbridge. We will now write to every member of Teignbridge Council inviting them to meet and discuss a shared service programme between the three councils."

In his introduction, the proposer made reference to:-

- the progress already made in Shared Services with West Devon Borough Council. The proposer highlighted the commendable strides which had been made on the shared services agenda and hoped that this was being used by other local authorities as good practice;
- his frustration at the lack of progress on shared services with Teignbridge District Council (TDC). The proposer felt that TDC was an obvious partner, but for some reason this was not proving possible. As a consequence, the proposer felt that Members should meet with one another to discuss the merits of a three way programme. If these discussions proved to be successful, then that would in turn provide officers with a direction of travel; and
- the motion attempting to eradicate the existing blockages in an attempt to save Council Taxpayers a large sum of money without incurring any cuts to front line services.

In discussion, the Leader highlighted his pride at the shared services agenda saving just under £6 million to date, which he felt to be a great achievement. The Leader proceeded to advise that in 2006, the Leader of TDC withdrew from the Shared Services agenda with the Council. Under a new administration in 2011, discussions had taken place with the Leader of TDC and the latest position was that TDC was currently undergoing its own structural review and did not wish therefore to be included in the shared services programme at this time. In the event of TDC making an approach, the Leader informed that it would be his advice that they should join as a partner in the transformation programme.

As a consequence, an amendment was then **PROPOSED** and **SECONDED** to read as follows:-

"This Council has made huge savings by sharing services with West Devon. For some reason we have not been able to achieve the same arrangement with Teignbridge. We ask the Leader to write to Teignbridge Council inviting them to discuss a transformation programme between the three councils." In the debate on the amendment, the following points were raised:-

- Some Members felt that the extent of the amendment negated the role of both sets of Members in this regard;
- A Member questioned why the council could not work towards both shared services and the transformation programme. In reply, the Leader informed that it was anticipated that the required savings could be made through the transformation programme and the shared services concept had now been superseded both locally and nationally. In addition, the lead Executive Member for Financial Services confirmed that shared services would no longer be sufficient to meet the funding shortfall faced by the Council;
- The proposer of the motion stated his disappointment at the response from TDC and still could not see why shared services and transformation could not run side by side and were deemed to be mutually exclusive.

When put to the vote, the amendment was declared **CARRIED** and therefore became the substantive motion.

A further amendment was then **PROPOSED** and **SECONDED** to read as follows:

"This Council has made huge savings by sharing services with West Devon. For some reason we have not been able to achieve the same arrangement with Teignbridge. We ask the Leader to write to every Member of Teignbridge Council inviting them to discuss a transformation programme between the three councils."

When put to the vote, this amendment was declared LOST.

It was then:

RESOLVED

This Council has made huge savings by sharing services with West Devon. For some reason we have not been able to achieve the same arrangement with Teignbridge. We ask the Leader to write to Teignbridge Council inviting them to discuss a transformation programme between the three councils.

(b) By Clirs Hodgson and Gorman

"To support potentially vulnerable residents, we recommend that Devon and Cornwall Housing, Sovereign Homes and other Housing Associations etc, that are associated with delivering South Hams District Council affordable and social housing don't evict tenants unable to pay rent due to the implementation of the bedroom tax that has caused a reduction in their benefits." In her introduction, the proposer advised that the bedroom tax could cause a great deal of hardship and stress. In light of the lack of availability of smaller rental accommodation, residents could find themselves unable to move house. In addition, it was not always convenient for residents to encourage (or find) a lodger to move in to their property.

In discussion, reference was made to:-

- (a) the comments of the lead Executive Member for ICT and Customer Services. The Member informed that the Council could not tell organisations who they could and could not evict. However, she did give assurances that the Council was working very closely with landlords and residents and was monitoring this issue very closely. In respect of the scale and seriousness of the issue, the Member confirmed that she would be providing a progress report to a future Community Life and Housing Scrutiny Panel meeting;
- (b) support for the motion. In expressing his support, a Member commented that the notion of evicting tenants would actually cost Council Taxpayers more in the long term.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.5, a recorded vote was then demanded on the motion. The voting on the motion was recorded as follows:-

For the motion (32)	Cllrs Baldry, Barber, Bastone, Baverstock, Blackler, Bramble, Brazil, Cane, B Cooper, S Cooper, Cuthbert, Foss, Gilbert, Gorman, Hannaford, Hicks, Hodgson, Holway, Jones May, Pannell, Pennington, Rowe, Smerdon, Squire, Steer, Stone, Tucker, Vint, Ward, Wingate and Wright
Against the motion (0)	

Abstentions (1) Cllr Coulson

Absent (7)

Cllrs Bruce-Spencer, Carson, Carter, Hawkins, Hitchins, Saltern and Westacott

It was then:

RESOLVED

To support potentially vulnerable residents, we recommend that Devon and Cornwall Housing, Sovereign Homes and other Housing Associations etc, that are associated with delivering South Hams District Council affordable and social housing don't evict tenants unable to pay rent due to the implementation of the bedroom tax that has caused a reduction in their benefits.

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(c) By Cllrs Hodgson and Hawkins

"Sustainable Community Act Proposal – A Supermarket Levy:

That the Secretary of State

- 1. gives Local Authorities the power to introduce a local levy of 8.5% of the rate on large retail outlets in their area with a rateable annual value not less that £500,000; and
- 2. requires that the revenue from this levy go directly to the Local Authority in order to be used to improve local communities in their areas by promoting local economic activity, local services and facilities, social and community wellbeing and environmental protection."

(NOTE: Cllr Hawkins had submitted his apologies to the meeting and as a consequence, Cllr Baldry seconded this motion).

In her introduction, the proposer felt that the motion was a straightforward one and referred to her supporting paper, which had been circulated with the published agenda papers.

During discussion, the following points were raised:-

- (a) In respect of the suggested rate being 8.5%, some Members felt that this could be too restrictive and reference in the motion to it should therefore be removed. Following a debate, both the proposer and seconder were content to remove this element from their motion;
- (b) Some Members expressed their support for the motion and felt that it was an opportunity to support smaller local businesses who were suffering. In disagreement, other Members stated that in light of the current economic climate, supermarkets were a source of cheaper food and these proposals would have a knock on effect to food producers and suppliers and would also result in higher prices being passed on to customers.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.5, a recorded vote was then demanded on the motion. The voting on the motion was recorded as follows:-

For the motion (24)	Cllrs Baldry, Barber, Bastone, Baverstock, Blackler, Bramble, Brazil, Cane, Carson, B Cooper, S Cooper, Cuthbert, Gorman, Hannaford, Hodgson, Holway, Jones, Pannell, Saltern, Tucker, Vint, Ward, Wingate and Wright
Against the motion (4)	Cllrs Coulson, Pennington, Rowe and Stone
Abstentions (7)	Cllrs Foss, Gilbert, Hicks, May, Smerdon, Squire and Steer
Absent (5)	Cllrs Bruce-Spencer, Carter, Hawkins, Hitchins and Westacott

It was then:

RESOLVED

Sustainable Community Act Proposal – A Supermarket Levy:

That the Secretary of State

- 1. gives Local Authorities the power to introduce a local levy on large retail outlets in their area with a rateable annual value not less that £500,000; and
- 2. requires that the revenue from this levy go directly to the Local Authority in order to be used to improve local communities in their areas by promoting local economic activity, local services and facilities, social and community wellbeing and environmental protection.

(d) By Clirs Gorman and Baldry

"That this Council supports the aims and objectives of the Living Wage Foundation www.livingwage.org.uk and resolves to investigate joining other public sector bodies to become a Living Wage Employer, which is a recognised sign of good practice in employment."

In his introduction, the proposer highlighted his supporting paper, which had been circulated with the published agenda papers. The proposer also emphasised that the motion sought that the matter be investigated and made reference to the social costs of not becoming a living wage employer. The lead Executive Member for Corporate Services confirmed that he welcomed this motion and he had already begun to pursue this matter. The Member confirmed that this currently affected two members of staff and in highlighting the national cross party political support for this issue, made reference to the benefits on staff morale and echoed the comments of the proposer regarding the social benefits.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That this Council supports the aims and objectives of the Living Wage Foundation www.livingwage.org.uk and resolves to investigate joining other public sector bodies to become a Living Wage Employer, which is a recognised sign of good practice in employment.

28/13 MOORINGS ALLOCATION POLICY

The Council considered a report which sought approval of a revised Moorings Allocation Policy.

In the subsequent discussion, reference was made to:-

- (a) confirmation that the Harbour Board had agreed the recommendation at its meeting on 23 September 2013;
- (b) priority being given to local residents as opposed to second homeowners. Whilst a number of Members were sympathetic to the initial intention to give priority to local residents, since the decision was made to charge 100% Council Tax for second homeowners, it was now almost impossible to administer the existing policy.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That the Moorings Allocation Policy be amended in accordance with paragraph 3 of the presented agenda report.

29/13 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY – ANNUAL REPORT

The Council considered a report which presented the workings of Overview and Scrutiny during the 2012/13 Municipal Year.

In discussion, reference was made to:-

- (a) the progress which had been made during 2012/13. A Member commented that the Panels were working well, with each now having a much clearer and distinct area of responsibility. In addition, the Member felt that great strides had been made in the working relationships between the Panels and the Senior Management Team;
- (b) the importance of the role of Scrutiny throughout the Transformation 18 Programme.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny during 2012/13 Municipal Year be noted and Members have had the opportunity to comment on the current work programmes of the three Scrutiny Panels.

30/13 REPORTS OF BODIES

RESOLVED

That the minutes and recommendations of the undermentioned bodies be received and approved subject to any amendments listed below:-

(a) Salcombe Harbour Board	20 May 2013
(b) Development Management Committee	22 May 2013
(c) Economy & Environments Scrutiny Panel	23 May 2013
(d) Community Life & Housing Scrutiny Panel	23 May 2013
(e) Executive	6 June 2013

E.04/13: Review of Free Car Parks

RESOLVED

That the following free car parking areas be agreed and added to the District Council's Off Street Parking Places Order:

- Aveton Gifford (Timbers and off Jubilee Street)
- Jawbones, Dartmouth
- Follaton House
- Hope Cove
- The Levels, Dittisham



(f)	Audit Committee	13	June 2013
(g)	Corporate Performance & Resource Scrutiny Par	nel	20 June 2013
(h)	Development Management Committee	26	June 2013
(i)	Salcombe Harbour Board	15	July 2013
(j)	Executive	18	July 2013

E.11/13: Public Question Time

The Leader of Council wished to put on record the value which he felt had been gleaned from the two King Edward VI Community College students undertaking a week of work experience with Member Services.

E.12/13: Medium Term Financial Strategy

RESOLVED

- That Members have provided a set of "minded to" views in order to guide the 2014/15 budget process on the use of New Homes Bonus as a means of bridging the budget gap in 2014/15 and beyond; the level of Council Tax Support Grant to be passed on to Parish and Town Councils; the proportion of Council Tax Support Grant to pass onto recipients, and the proportion of savings from service reductions; and
- That the £140,000 savings identified by the Senior Management Team be accepted and built into the base budget for 2014/15 onwards.

E.17/13: Connect Strategy and Priority Action Plan Update 2013-14

RESOLVED

That the Connect Strategy annual update for 2013-14, incorporating updated action plans for Community Life, Environment and Homes, be approved and adopted.

E.20/13: Review of Free Car Parking

In respect of South Brent, the lead Executive Member advised that a meeting had been held with the parish council. The outcome of this meeting was that the parish council would undertake the consultation with the community and once the recommended option was known, dialogue would be continued.

With regard to Yealmpton, the Leader of Council informed that no decision had been taken and the review would continue with the local parish council.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That that the following free car parking areas be agreed and added to the District Council's Off Street Parking Places Order and, where appropriate, consider the potential for generating income:

- Malborough
- Marldon
- South Brent
- Stoke Fleming
- Kingsbridge Hill, Totnes
- Wembury
- Yealmpton

E.21/13: Operational Changes to Off Street Parking Places Order

RESOLVED

That the operational changes to the District Council's Off Street Parking Places Order be agreed as follows:

- That the Parking Order be updated appropriately to allow enforcement to be undertaken in respect of motorists who pay for their parking via the recently introduced pay-by-phone facility;
- That the Fish Quay area of the Creek Car Park be added to the Off Street Parking Places Order;
- That officers continue discussions to reach a mutually satisfactory conclusion in respect of parking for fishermen in the Creek Car Park, Salcombe, following the redevelopment of the area and, if necessary, provide reserved parking;
- That parking in Coronation Car Park during the Dartmouth Regatta week be limited to a maximum of three hours; and
- That the new parking bays in Victoria Road, Dartmouth, be added to the Off-Street Parking Places Order.

(k) Audit Committee

A.08/13: Statement of Internal Control and Annual Governance Statement 2012/13

RESOLVED

That the draft Annual Governance Statement 2012/13 and supporting evidence provided by the presented agenda report be approved.

(I) Development Management Committee 24 July 2013

DM.11/13: Minutes

In respect of incorrect comments which he had made towards a Member during the previous Committee meeting, the Chairman reiterated his regret at this incident.

(m) Developmen	t Management Committee	28 August 2013
(n) Economy &	Environment Scrutiny Panel	5 September 2013
(o) Community I	_ife & Housing Scrutiny Panel	5 September 2013

CLH.16/13: Update on the Impact of Welfare Reforms

In response to a question, the lead Executive Member for ICT and Customer Services confirmed that she would be giving a further update to the next Panel meeting on the impact of welfare reforms.

(p) Executive

19 September 2013

E.30/13: Corporate Sponsorship Framework

RESOLVED

That the framework document be approved (as outlined at Appendix A to the presented agenda report and subject to minor amendments being made to paragraph 4.2) to be used by service areas in maximising sponsorship opportunities.

E.32/13: Stowford Mill Planning Brief

RESOLVED

That the planning brief (as outlined in Appendix A of the presented agenda report) be approved, so that it would be used as an aid to prospective purchasers to inform on the site's development potential and is a material consideration to guide the decision-making process for any planning applications submitted.

E.3713(a): Economy and Environment Scrutiny Panel – 5 September 2013

(i) EE.16/13 Recycling and Waste Service Review

Before the vote was taken, a Member wished to congratulate the work of the officers who had supported the task and finish group on this review and felt that this piece of work had been an excellent piece of work from all involved.

RESOLVED

- 1. That option 7 (as set out in paragraph 3.3 of the presented agenda report) be the preferred way forward; and
- That a bid of £237,000 be made to the Council's Capital Programme and is funded from the Sustainable Waste Management Reserve (£71,000) and Capital Reserves (£166,700).
- (q) Audit Committee

19 September 2013

A.16/13: New Budget Process and Monitoring – Next Steps

A local Ward Member made reference to the request for details to be provided to the task and finish group on the Wembury Marine Centre and stated his strong opposition to any action being taken by the Council which would be detrimental to this facility. In reply, the Chairman of the Audit Committee advised that the task and finish group was primarily tasked with looking at income generation opportunities and gave assurances that the Group would consider every aspect in detail and would only make rational recommendations.

(Meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 4.15 pm)

Chairman

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