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West Devon
Borough
Council

WEST DEVON COUNCIL - TUESDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY, 2014

Agenda, Reports and Minutes for the meeting

Agenda No Item

1. **Summons Letter** (Pages 1 - 2)

2. **Reports**

Reports to Council

a) Item 8 - Council Tax Setting for 2013/14 (Pages 3 - 18)

b) Item 9 - Schedule of Meetings for 2014/2015 (Pages 19 - 20)

3. **Minutes** (Pages 21 - 26)

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PART TWO – ITEMS WHICH MAY BE TAKEN IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ON THE GROUNDS THAT EXEMPT INFORMATION MAY BE DISCLOSED (if any).

If any, the Council is recommended to pass the following resolution:

“**RESOLVED** that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the Meeting for the undermentioned item of business on the grounds that exempt information may be disclosed as defined in Part I of Schedule 12(A) to the Act.”

Dated this 17th day of February 2014

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan Robinson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Chief Executive

AGENDA
ITEM

8

WEST DEVON BOROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA
ITEM

8

NAME OF COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	25th February 2014
REPORT TITLE	Council Tax 2014-2015
Report of	Head of Finance & Audit
WARDS AFFECTED	All

Summary of report: This report is to enable the Council to calculate and approve the Council tax requirement for 2014/15.

Financial implications: This report shows how the Council Tax is prepared and set for 2014/15.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Council approves the formal council tax resolutions as detailed below:

1. That it be noted that on 18 December 2013 the Chief Executive and Strategic Directors, under delegated authority from full Council, approved the Council Tax Base for the year 2014/15:
 - (a) for the whole Council area as 19,185.50 in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base)(England) Regulations 2012; and
 - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates in accordance with regulation 6 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base)(England) Regulations 2012 as in the attached **Appendix A**.

2. That the Council Tax requirement for West Devon Borough Council's own purposes for 2014/15 (excluding Parish precepts) is calculated at £3,923,435 (**Appendix B**).

3. That the following amounts are calculated by the Council for the year 2014/15 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and the Localism Act 2011 **(Appendix B)**:

- (a) £27,213,412 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish/Town Councils **(Gross expenditure including parish precepts)**.
- (b) £22,190,384 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act **(Total income including formula grant and council tax surplus)**.
- (c) £5,023,028 being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act) **(Council tax requirement including parish precepts)**.
- (d) £261.81 being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year **(Average band D council tax for West Devon Borough Council and parishes)**.
- (e) £1,099,593 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the attached **Appendix C – parish precepts**).
- (f) £204.50 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates **(Band D council tax for West Devon Borough Council only)**.

4. That it be noted the County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Fire Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwellings as shown below:

Precepting authority	Valuation Bands							
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Devon County Council's tax requirements	759.06	885.57	1,012.08	1,138.59	1,391.61	1,644.63	1,897.65	2,277.18
Police & Crime Commissioner's tax requirements	110.77	129.24	147.70	166.16	203.08	240.01	276.93	332.32
Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority's tax requirements	51.26	59.80	68.35	76.89	93.98	111.06	128.15	153.78

5. That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2014/15 for each of the categories of dwellings shown at **Appendix D (total of all valuation band council taxes for West Devon Borough Council including parishes, county, police and crime commissioner and fire authority)**.
6. That the Council has concluded that the basic amount of Council Tax for West Devon Borough Council for 2014/15 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992. (see calculation at **Appendix B**).

Officer contact:

Jackie Waites Chief Accountant 01822 813543 jackie.waites@westdevon.gov.uk

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 The Localism Act 2011 has made significant changes to the Local Government Finance Act 1992, and now requires the billing authority to calculate a council tax requirement for the year, not a budget requirement as previously. West Devon Borough Council is a billing authority.

1.2 Precepts have been notified to us from the Parish and Town Councils, Devon County Council, Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner and Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority. These are detailed below:

(i) Town & Parish Councils

The Town & Parish Council Precepts for 2014/15 are detailed in Appendix C and total £1,099,593. The increase in the average Band D Council Tax for Town and Parish Councils is 3.04% and results in an average Band D Council Tax figure of £57.31 for 2014/15.

(ii) Devon County Council

Devon County Council met on 20th February 2014 and set their precept at £21,844,418.45. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £1,138.59.

(iii) Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner

Devon and Cornwall Police Authority met on 8th February 2014 and set their precept at £3,187,862.68. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £166.16.

(iv) Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority

Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service met on 24th February 2014 and set their precept at £1,475,173. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £76.89.

2. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

2.1 The Council is required by law to approve the Council Tax taking into account the requirements of our precepting bodies.

2.2 The Localism Act 2011 has made significant changes to the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and now requires the billing authority to calculate a council tax requirement for the year, not its budget requirement as previously.

2.3 As billing authority, the Council must determine whether the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2014/15 is excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992. These principles are set by the Secretary of State each year. Where the amount of council tax for a financial year is "excessive" within the meaning of the principles, it will place the authority under a duty to hold a referendum. For the financial year 2014/15, according to the current principles the basic amount of council tax will not be excessive if it is less than 2%. Within those terms, the proposed increase in the billing authority's council tax (1.9%) is not excessive and will not trigger a referendum.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The Council is required to calculate and approve the Council Tax requirement for 2014/15. This report shows how the Council Tax is prepared and set for 2014/15.

3.2 The table below shows how an average Band D council bill is made up for West Devon Borough Council:

Precepting Authority	Band D Council Tax 2013/14	Band D Council Tax 2014/15	£ Increase	% Increase	Date Approved
Devon County Council	£1,116.36	£1,138.59	£22.23	1.9913%	20 Feb 2014
West Devon Borough Council	£200.69	£204.50	£3.81	1.9%	18 Feb 2014
Devon & Cornwall Police & Crime Commissioner	£162.92	£166.16	£3.24	1.99%	7 Feb 2014
Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue	£75.39	£76.89	£1.50	1.99%	24 Feb 2014
Average Parish /Town Council	£55.62	£57.31	£1.69	3.04%	Various
TOTAL	£1,610.98	£1,643.45	£32.47	2.02%	

4. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate priorities engaged:	All
Statutory powers:	Local Government Finance Act 1992 Localism Act 2011
Considerations of equality and human rights:	None directly related to this report
Biodiversity considerations:	None directly related to this report
Sustainability considerations:	None directly related to this report
Crime and disorder implications:	None directly related to this report
Background papers:	SMT 18 Dec 2013 - Declaration of Council Tax Base Council 18 Feb 2014 – Budget Proposals 2014/15
Appendices attached:	Appendix A - Parish and Town Council Tax Bases 2014/15 Appendix B - Calculations relating to recommendations Appendix C - Parish and Town Council Precepts 2014/15 Appendix D – County, Police Authority, Fire Authority, District and Parish/Town Requirements 2014/15 Information Sheet – Comparison of Parish / Town Precepts in 2013/14 and 2014/15

STRATEGIC RISKS TEMPLATE

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No	Risk Title	Risk/Opportunity Description	Inherent risk status				Mitigating & Management actions	Ownership
			Impact of negative outcome	Chance of negative outcome	Risk score and direction of travel			
1	To explain the Council Tax setting process.	Members are given a breakdown on how an average Council Tax bill is made up between the various precepting bodies	2	3	6	↔	Careful liaison required with the other major preceptors to ensure that an appropriate level of information is available to Members	Head of Finance and Audit
2	The way in which the Council Tax Resolutions are made is set out very precisely and the Council must adhere to the various Acts and Regulations.	The Council must set the Council Tax by 11 March 2014. The timetable for the budget setting process takes this into account and allows sufficient time for the significant amount of work involved.	5	3	15	↔	Significant planning and staff resources required to ensure that the process is managed efficiently and effectively by the required dates	Head of Finance and Audit

Direction of travel symbols ↓ ↑ ↔

PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL TAX BASES 2014/2015

<u>Parish/Town</u>	<u>Council Tax Base</u>
	Number of Band D Equivalent Properties
Beaworthy	81.50
Belstone	118.64
Bere Ferrers	1007.48
Bondleigh	55.47
Bradstone	0.00
Bratton Clovelly	166.28
Brentor	183.54
Bridestowe	207.63
Broadwoodkelly	92.01
Buckland Monachorum	1597.41
Burrator	638.66
Chagford	703.72
Dartmoor Forest	356.05
Drewsteignton	341.78
Exbourne & Jacobstowe	205.87
Germansweek	69.78
Gidleigh	59.91
Gulworthy	196.12
Hatherleigh	551.21
Highampton	106.92
Horrabridge	688.90
Iddesleigh	80.60
Inwardleigh	156.37
Kelly	49.18
Lamerton	278.98
Lewdown	321.96
Lifton	392.82
Lydford	175.15
Mary Tavy	345.41
Meeth	62.21
Milton Abbot	345.42
Monkokehampton	49.16
Northlew	267.83
North Tawton	610.29
Okehampton Hamlets	248.09
Okehampton Town	2226.10
Peter Tavy	127.53
Plasterdown	261.98
Sampfords Courtenay	225.31
Sourton	155.31
South Tawton	435.97
Spreyton	168.28
Sticklepath	154.75
Stowford	115.24
Sydenham Damerel	107.40
Tavistock	4250.59
Throwleigh	144.69
Total	19,185.50

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Recommendation 2

Calculation of Council Tax Requirement	
Council Tax Base x Average Band D Council Tax	
19185.50 x £204.50	3,923,435

Recommendation 3

Calculation of figures relating to sub sections (a) to (f)			
	£	£	
Revenue Expenditure			
Gross revenue expenditure 2014/15 estimate	26,113,819		Appendix D - Council Budget report
<u>Add</u> Total town/parish precepts 2014/15	1,099,593		
		27,213,412	3(a) Total expenses
Revenue Income			
<u>Less</u> Total income 2014/15 estimate (including contributions from reserves)	19,022,253		Appendix D - Council Budget report
<u>Less</u> Formula Grant	3,168,131		
<u>Less</u> Estimated surplus on Collection Fund in respect of Council Tax (WDBC share)	0		
		22,190,384	3(b) Income detail
Council Tax Requirement (including parish precepts)		5,023,028	3(c)
Band D Council Tax for District & Parish/town requirements			
Council Tax Requirement above Tax base	5,023,028 19,185.50	261.81	3(d)
Total Parish/Town Council Precepts (as per attached Appendix C)		1,099,593	3(e)
Band D Council Tax for District requirement			
Council Tax Requirement (excluding parish precept Tax base	3,923,435 19,185.50	204.50	3(f)

Recommendation 6

Comparison of Average Band D Council Tax		
	2013/14	2014/15
Council tax requirement excluding parish precepts (3,797,213	3,923,435
Council tax base	18,920.79	19,185.50
Average Band D equivalent (£'s)	200.69	204.50
Increase in average Band D council tax	1.90%	
Nb. A referendum is required if the Council Tax increase is 2% or above		

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PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL PRECEPTS 2014/2015

<u>Parish/Town</u>	<u>Precept</u>
	£
Beaworthy	1,157
Belstone	1,642
Bere Ferrers	56,239
Bondleigh	191
Bratton Clovelly	5,167
Brentor	11,286
Bridestowe	5,881
Broadwoodkelly	2,464
Buckland Monachorum	40,082
Burrator	4,064
Chagford	32,968
Dartmoor Forest	15,702
Drewsteignton	12,892
Exbourne & Jacobstowe	4,889
Germansweek	1,704
Gidleigh	0
Gulworthy	3,969
Hatherleigh	20,738
Highampton	3,508
Horrabridge	28,796
Iddesleigh	1,921
Inwardleigh	2,590
Kelly	420
Lamerton	4,636
Lewdown	5,113
Lifton	10,941
Lydford	6,059
Mary Tavy	14,411
Meeth	1,237
Milton Abbot & Bradstone	3,867
Monkekehampton	1,933
Northlew	7,472
North Tawton	77,613
Okehampton Hamlets	8,715
Okehampton Town	180,983
Peter Tavy	7,251
Plasterdown	2,691
Sampford Courtenay	5,759
Sourton	4,171
South Tawton	11,303
Spreyton	1,683
Sticklepath	3,649
Stowford	1,805
Sydenham Damerel	430
Tavistock	476,406
Throwleigh	3,195
Total	<u><u>1,099,593</u></u>

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**TOTAL COUNCIL TAX INCORPORATING COUNTY, POLICE AUTHORITY, FIRE AUTHORITY, DISTRICT & PARISH/TOWN
REQUIREMENTS 2014/2015**

BAND	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Beaworthy	1,066.89	1,244.71	1,422.53	1,600.34	1,955.97	2,311.60	2,667.23	3,200.68
Belstone	1,066.65	1,244.43	1,422.21	1,599.98	1,955.53	2,311.08	2,666.63	3,199.96
Bere Ferrers	1,094.63	1,277.09	1,459.53	1,641.96	2,006.83	2,371.72	2,736.59	3,283.92
Bondleigh	1,059.71	1,236.35	1,412.97	1,589.58	1,942.81	2,296.06	2,649.29	3,179.16
Bratton Clovelly	1,078.13	1,257.84	1,437.53	1,617.21	1,976.58	2,335.97	2,695.34	3,234.42
Brentor	1,098.41	1,281.50	1,464.57	1,647.63	2,013.76	2,379.91	2,746.04	3,295.26
Bridestowe	1,076.30	1,255.70	1,435.08	1,614.46	1,973.22	2,332.00	2,690.76	3,228.92
Broadwoodkelly	1,075.27	1,254.50	1,433.71	1,612.92	1,971.34	2,329.77	2,688.19	3,225.84
Buckland Monachorum	1,074.15	1,253.18	1,432.21	1,611.23	1,969.28	2,327.33	2,685.38	3,222.46
Burrator	1,061.66	1,238.62	1,415.56	1,592.50	1,946.38	2,300.28	2,654.16	3,185.00
Chagford	1,088.65	1,270.11	1,451.55	1,632.99	1,995.87	2,358.76	2,721.64	3,265.98
Dartmoor Forest	1,086.82	1,267.97	1,449.11	1,630.24	1,992.51	2,354.79	2,717.06	3,260.48
Drewsteignton	1,082.57	1,263.01	1,443.44	1,623.86	1,984.71	2,345.57	2,706.43	3,247.72
Exbourne & Jacobstowe	1,073.25	1,252.14	1,431.02	1,609.89	1,967.64	2,325.40	2,683.14	3,219.78
Germansweek	1,073.70	1,252.66	1,431.62	1,610.56	1,968.46	2,326.36	2,684.26	3,221.12
Gidleigh	1,057.42	1,233.67	1,409.91	1,586.14	1,938.61	2,291.09	2,643.56	3,172.28
Gulworthy	1,070.91	1,249.41	1,427.90	1,606.38	1,963.35	2,320.33	2,677.29	3,212.76
Hatherleigh	1,082.50	1,262.93	1,443.35	1,623.76	1,984.59	2,345.43	2,706.26	3,247.52
Highampton	1,079.29	1,259.19	1,439.07	1,618.95	1,978.71	2,338.48	2,698.24	3,237.90
Horrabridge	1,085.29	1,266.18	1,447.07	1,627.94	1,989.70	2,351.47	2,713.23	3,255.88
Iddesleigh	1,073.31	1,252.20	1,431.09	1,609.97	1,967.74	2,325.51	2,683.28	3,219.94
Inwardleigh	1,068.46	1,246.55	1,424.63	1,602.70	1,958.85	2,315.01	2,671.16	3,205.40
Kelly	1,063.11	1,240.31	1,417.50	1,594.68	1,949.05	2,303.43	2,657.79	3,189.36
Lamerton	1,068.50	1,246.60	1,424.68	1,602.76	1,958.92	2,315.10	2,671.26	3,205.52
Lewdown	1,068.01	1,246.02	1,424.03	1,602.02	1,958.02	2,314.03	2,670.03	3,204.04
Lifton	1,075.99	1,255.33	1,434.67	1,613.99	1,972.65	2,331.32	2,689.98	3,227.98
Lydford	1,080.48	1,260.57	1,440.66	1,620.73	1,980.89	2,341.05	2,701.21	3,241.46
Mary Tavy	1,085.23	1,266.12	1,446.99	1,627.86	1,989.60	2,351.35	2,713.09	3,255.72
Meeth	1,070.67	1,249.13	1,427.58	1,606.02	1,962.91	2,319.81	2,676.69	3,212.04
Milton Abbot	1,064.89	1,242.38	1,419.87	1,597.34	1,952.30	2,307.27	2,662.23	3,194.68
Monkokehampton	1,083.63	1,264.25	1,444.86	1,625.46	1,986.67	2,347.89	2,709.09	3,250.92
Northlew	1,076.02	1,255.37	1,434.71	1,614.04	1,972.71	2,331.39	2,690.06	3,228.08
North Tawton	1,142.20	1,332.58	1,522.95	1,713.31	2,094.04	2,474.78	2,855.51	3,426.62
Okehampton Hamlets	1,080.84	1,260.99	1,441.14	1,621.27	1,981.55	2,341.83	2,702.11	3,242.54
Okehampton Town	1,111.62	1,296.90	1,482.28	1,667.74	2,037.98	2,408.52	2,779.06	3,334.88

**TOTAL COUNCIL TAX INCORPORATING COUNTY, POLICE AUTHORITY, FIRE AUTHORITY, DISTRICT & PARISH/TOWN
REQUIREMENTS 2014/2015**

BAND	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Peter Tavy	1,095.33	1,277.89	1,460.45	1,643.00	2,008.11	2,373.22	2,738.33	3,286.00
Plasterdown	1,064.27	1,241.66	1,419.04	1,596.41	1,951.16	2,305.92	2,660.68	3,192.82
Sampford Courtenay	1,074.46	1,253.55	1,432.63	1,611.70	1,969.85	2,328.01	2,686.16	3,223.40
Sourton	1,075.33	1,254.56	1,433.79	1,613.00	1,971.44	2,329.89	2,688.33	3,226.00
South Tawton	1,074.71	1,253.84	1,432.96	1,612.07	1,970.30	2,328.54	2,686.78	3,224.14
Spreyton	1,064.09	1,241.45	1,418.80	1,596.14	1,950.83	2,305.53	2,660.23	3,192.28
Sticklepath	1,073.14	1,252.01	1,430.87	1,609.72	1,967.43	2,325.15	2,682.86	3,219.44
Stowford	1,067.86	1,245.85	1,423.83	1,601.80	1,957.75	2,313.71	2,669.66	3,203.60
Sydenham Damerel	1,060.09	1,236.78	1,413.47	1,590.14	1,943.50	2,296.87	2,650.23	3,180.28
Tavistock	1,132.14	1,320.84	1,509.54	1,698.22	2,075.60	2,452.98	2,830.36	3,396.44
Throwleigh	1,072.14	1,250.84	1,429.54	1,608.22	1,965.60	2,322.98	2,680.36	3,216.44

Agenda Item 2b

WEST DEVON BOROUGH COUNCIL SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR 2014/2015

All meetings to be held in the Council Chamber at the West Devon Borough Council Offices,
Kilworthy Park, Tavistock PL19 0BZ

MAY 2014			
Monday	5	Bank Holiday	
Tuesday	6	Planning and Licensing Committee	10.00am
Tuesday	13	Annual Meeting	11.00am
Monday	26	Bank Holiday	
JUNE			
Monday	2	Reserved for Special Meetings (if required)	
Tuesday	3	Planning & Licensing Committee	10.00am
Tuesday	10	Audit Committee	11.00am
Tuesday	17	Community Services Committee	2.00pm
Thursday	19	WD Site Inspections	
Tuesday	24	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	2.00pm
Monday	30	Reserved for Special Meetings (if required)	
JULY			
Monday	1	Planning & Licensing Committee	10.00am
Tuesday	15	Standards Committee	10.00am
Tuesday	15	Resources Committee	2.00pm
Thursday	17	Site Inspections	
Tuesday	22	Audit Committee	11.00am
Tuesday	22	Council Meeting	4.30pm
	29	Planning & Licensing Committee	10.00am
AUGUST			
Monday	4	Reserved for Special Meetings (if required)	
Thursday	14	Site Inspections	
Monday	25	Bank Holiday	
Tuesday	26	Planning & Licensing Committee	10.00am
SEPTEMBER			
Monday	1	Reserved for Special Meetings (if required)	
Tuesday	2	Community Services Committee	2.00pm
Thursday	11	Site Inspections	
Tuesday	23	Planning & Licensing Committee	10.00am
Tuesday	30	Audit Committee	11.00am
	30	Council Meeting	2.00pm
OCTOBER			
Monday	6	Reserved for Special Meetings (if required)	
Tuesday	7	Resources Committee	2.00pm
Thursday	9	Site Inspections	
Tuesday	14	Standards Committee	11.00am
	14	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	2.00pm
Tuesday	21	Planning & Licensing Committee	10.00am
Tuesday	28	Community Services Committee	2.00pm

NOVEMBER

Monday	3	Reserved for Special Meetings (if required)	
Thursday	6	Site Inspections	
Tuesday	18	Planning & Licensing Committee	10.00am
Tuesday	25	Audit Committee	11.00am

DECEMBER

Monday	1	Reserved for Special Meetings (if required)	
Tuesday	2	Resources Committee	2.00pm
Thursday	4	Site Inspections	
Tuesday	9	Council Meeting	4.30pm
Tuesday	16	Planning & Licensing Committee	10.00am
Thursday	25	Christmas Day	
Friday	26	Boxing Day	

**JANUARY
2015**

Thursday	1	Bank Holiday	
Monday	5	Reserved for Special Meetings (if required)	
Thursday	8	Site Inspections	
Tuesday	13	Community Services Committee	2.00pm
Tuesday	20	Planning & Licensing Committee	10.00am
Tuesday	27	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	2.00pm

FEBRUARY

Monday	2	Reserved for Special Meetings (if required)	
Tuesday	3	Resources Committee	2.00pm
Thursday	5	Site Inspections	
Tuesday	17	Planning & Licensing Committee	10.00am
	17	Council Meeting	4.30pm
Tuesday	24	Audit Committee	11.00am
	24	Meeting to set Council Tax	4.30pm

MARCH

Monday	2	Reserved for Special Meetings (if required)	
Tuesday	3	Community Services Committee	2.00pm
Thursday	5	Site Inspections	
Tuesday	10	Standards Committee	10.00am
Tuesday	17	Planning & Licensing Committee	10.00am
Tuesday	24	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	2.00pm

APRIL

Friday	3	Good Friday	
Monday	6	Easter Monday	
Thursday	9	Site Inspections	
Tuesday	14	Resources Committee	2.00pm
Tuesday	21	Planning & Licensing Committee	10.00am
Tuesday	28	Audit Committee	11.00am

MAY

Monday	4	Bank Holiday	
Thursday	7	District and Borough Council Elections	
Tuesday	19	Annual Meeting	11.00am
Monday	25	Bank Holiday	
Tuesday	26	Planning & Licensing Committee	10.00am

To confirm any meeting date, please contact Committee Services on 01822 813662

All meetings are open to the public

Agenda Item 3

At the Meeting of the **WEST DEVON BOROUGH COUNCIL** held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, KILWORTHY PARK, TAVISTOCK** on **TUESDAY** the **25th** day of **FEBRUARY 2014** at **4.30 pm** pursuant to Notice given and Summons duly served.

Present Cllr C M Marsh – The Deputy Mayor (In the Chair)

Cllr S C Bailey	Cllr R E Baldwin
Cllr K Ball	Cllr M J R Benson
Cllr A Clish-Green	Cllr D W Cloke
Cllr M V L Ewings	Cllr C Hall
Cllr T J Hill	Cllr L J G Hockridge
Cllr D M Horn	Cllr A F Leech
Cllr J R McInnes	Cllr N Morgan
Cllr M E Morse	Cllr D E Moyse
Cllr C R Musgrave	Cllr T G Pearce
Cllr R F D Sampson	Cllr P R Sanders
Cllr D K A Sellis	Cllr J Sheldon
Cllr D Whitcomb	

Head of Paid Service
Monitoring Officer
Democratic Services Manager
Chief Accountant

CM 77 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs W G Cann OBE, J B Moody, R J Oxborough, P J Ridgers, L B Rose, E H Sherrell and D M Wilde.

CM 78 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Deputy Mayor invited Members to declare any interests in the items of business to be considered during the course of the meeting and these were recorded as follows:

Cllrs K Ball and D K A Sellis declared a personal interest in Item 4: 'Business Brought Forward by or with the consent of the Mayor' (Minute CM 80 below refers) by virtue of being Devon County Council Members who sit on the Devon and Exeter Area Rail Project Working Party and remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and vote on this item.

CM 79 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

The Deputy Mayor had no communications that she wished to raise.

BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE MAYOR

The Deputy Mayor informed that both she and the Mayor had agreed for one item to be brought forward to this meeting. The item related to a motion, which had been submitted and proposed by Cllr K Ball and seconded by Cllr J R McInnes and read as follows:-

“Following the destruction and closure of the railway line at Dawlish by the recent winter storms, West Devon Borough Council calls on Her Majesty’s Government to reinstate the line from Plymouth to Okehampton (via Tavistock) as an alternative main line route to the Dawlish line.”

In introducing the motion, the proposer thanked the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for permitting its consideration and cited two main reasons for bringing it forward. Firstly, in light of the obvious weakness in the line at Dawlish and the subsequent negative impact to businesses in Devon and Cornwall, there was a definite need for an alternative (but not replacement) route. Secondly, if the line from Plymouth to Okehampton (via Tavistock) was reinstated, then this would result in a significant boost to both tourism and the economy of West Devon.

In discussion, particular reference was made to:-

- (a) the potential benefits to the West Devon area. In emphasising the benefits, a number of Members highlighted the importance of the Council putting down a marker in this regard by supporting the motion;
- (b) the communication cascade. If the motion was supported by the Council, Members felt that a letter should be sent to the Secretary of State, local MPs and neighbouring local authorities to increase their awareness of this matter;
- (c) proposed amendments to the motion. Two amendments were individually suggested as follows:
 - to commence the motion with the words: *‘Because of the continuous problems and.....’*
 - to extend the brackets on the third and fourth line to read: (via Tavistock *and on to Exeter.....*)

Since the proposer and seconder of the motion were happy to accept these amendments, these were incorporated into the substantive motion.

At this point, a further amendment was proposed by Cllr A Clish-Green and seconded by Cllr C R Musgrave to read as follows:-

“Because of the continuous problems and following the destruction and closure of the railway line at Dawlish by the recent winter storms, West Devon Borough Council calls on Her Majesty’s Government to (a): reinstate a regular passenger service from Exeter to Okehampton as a matter of urgency and (b) to seriously investigate the re-opening of the line from Okehampton (via Tavistock) to Plymouth.”

In support of the amendment, the proposer and seconder felt that it was more realistic and would help to ensure that the issue was seen in the regional, rather than just the borough, context. In contrast, other Members were of the view that the amendment would dilute the motion and detract from its intention.

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

It was then, upon being submitted to the Meeting, declared to be **CARRIED** and **“RESOLVED** that because of the continuous problems and following the destruction and closure of the railway line at Dawlish by the recent winter storms, West Devon Borough Council calls on Her Majesty’s Government to reinstate the line from Plymouth to Okehampton (via Tavistock and on to Exeter) as an alternative main line route to the Dawlish line.”

CM 81

COUNCIL TAX SETTING FOR 2014/15

A report was considered that enabled the Council to calculate and approve the Council Tax requirement for 2014/15.

It was moved by Cllr R E Baldwin, seconded by Cllr P R Sanders and upon the motion being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **“RESOLVED** that the formal Council Tax resolutions be approved as detailed below:

1. That it be noted that on 18 December 2013, the Chief Executive and Strategic Directors, under delegated authority from full Council, approved the Council Tax Base for the year 2014/15:
 - (a) for the whole Council area as 19,185.50 in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base)(England) Regulations 2012; and
 - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a parish precept relates in accordance with regulation 6 of the Local Authorities (council Tax Base)(England) Regulations 2012 as in the attached Appendix A of the presented agenda report.

2. That the Council Tax requirement for West Devon Borough Council's own purposes for 2014/15 (excluding parish precepts) is calculated at £3,923,435 (appendix B refers in the presented agenda report).
3. That the following amounts are calculated by the Council for the year 2014/15 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and the Localism Act 2011 (Appendix B refers in the presented agenda report):
 - (a) £27,213,412 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by parish/town councils (gross expenditure including parish precepts).
 - (b) £22,190,384 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act (total income including formula grant and council tax surplus).
 - (c) £5,023,028 being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act) (Council Tax requirement including parish precepts).
 - (d) £261.81 being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by item T (1(a) above) calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31B of the Act as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (average Band D Council Tax for West Devon Borough Council and parishes).
 - (e) £1,099,593 being the aggregate amount of all special items (parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per Appendix C of the presented agenda report).
 - (f) £204.50 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by item T (1(a) above) calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no parish precept relates (Band D Council Tax for West Devon Borough Council only).

4. That it be noted the County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Fire Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwellings as shown below:

Valuation Bands								
Precepting authority	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Devon County Council's tax requirements	759.06	885.57	1,012.08	1,138.59	1,391.61	1,644.63	1,897.65	2,277.18
Police & Crime Commissioner's tax requirements	110.77	129.24	147.70	166.16	203.08	240.01	276.93	332.32
Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority's tax requirements	51.26	59.80	68.35	76.89	93.98	111.06	128.15	153.78

5. That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts of the Council Tax for the year 2014/15 for each of the categories of dwellings shown at Appendix D of the presented agenda report (total of all valuation band council taxes for West Devon Borough Council including parishes, county, police and crime commissioner and fire authority).
6. That the Council has concluded that the basic amount of Council Tax for West Devon Borough Council for 2014/15 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992 (see calculation at Appendix B of the presented agenda report)."

CM 82

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

In considering the Schedule, some Members expressed their concern at the proposal for the Planning and Licensing Committee to no longer be fixed on a four weekly cycle.

In light of this concern, and the knock on effects to the Schedule, it was moved by Cllr M V L Ewings, seconded by Cllr M J R Benson and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **RESOLVED** that consideration of the Schedule be deferred to the Special Council meeting to be held on 25 March 2014."

(The Meeting terminated at 5.15 pm)

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