

At the Meeting of the **WEST DEVON BOROUGH COUNCIL** held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, KILWORTHY PARK, TAVISTOCK** on **TUESDAY** the **17<sup>th</sup>** day of **FEBRUARY 2015** at **4.30 PM** pursuant to Notice given and Summons duly served.

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

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

Head of Paid Service  
Executive Director (Service Delivery & Commercial  
Development)  
Monitoring Officer  
Democratic Services Manager  
Section 151 Officer  
Head of Devon Building Control Partnership

**CM 72 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs C Hall, L B Rose and D M Wilde.

**CM 73 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

Cllrs S C Bailey, M V L Ewings, A F Leech, C M Marsh and E H Sherrell each declared a personal interest in Item 11: 'Leisure Service Procurement' (CM 79 refers). Cllrs Bailey, Ewings and Sherrell each declared their interest by virtue of being Tavistock Town Councillors. Cllr Leech declared his interest by virtue of being an Okehampton Town Councillor and Cllr Marsh declared her interest by virtue of being a member of the Okehampton Community Recreation Association (OCRA). Each of these Members remained in the meeting during consideration of this item and took part in the debate and vote thereon.

Cllr T G Pearce declared a personal interest in Item 21: 'Future Options for the Devon Building Control Partnership' (CM 89 refers) by virtue of being a Member of the Partnership and remained in the meeting and took part in the debate and vote thereon.

Cllrs K Ball, L J G Hockridge, J R McInnes, D E Moyse and R P Sanders each declared a personal interest in Item 18: 'Review of Parking Charges in Princetown Car Park' (CM 86 refers) by virtue of their representation on the Dartmoor National Park Authority and remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and vote thereon.

**CM 74                    CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr R E Baldwin and upon the motion being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **“RESOLVED** that the Council agree the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2014 and the special meeting held on 20 January 2015 as a true record.”

For the purpose of the record, Cllr D K A Sellis asked for it to be recorded that she had submitted her apologies for the special meeting held on 20 January 2015 due to the meeting conflicting with other Borough Council business.

**CM 75                    COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

The Mayor wished to bring forward the following communications:-

- On behalf of the Council, the Mayor introduced and welcomed both the Head of Paid Service and the Executive Director – Service Delivery and Commercial Development to their first Council meetings since joining the Council;
- In respect of the inaugural Council Tax Resolution Panel meeting on Tuesday, 24 February 2015, the Council was informed that this meeting had been lawfully established to set the Council Tax for 2015/16. For clarity, the Mayor proceeded to inform that the Panel consisted of the four Group Leaders only, but any other Member of Council could attend and take part at this meeting if they so wished.
- With regard to her upcoming Civic Dinner, the Mayor reminded those Members who had yet to confirm their attendance at this event to do so as soon as was practically possible;
- The Mayor also made reference to an upcoming event at Ashbury Golf Club on Saturday, 7 March 2015. The Council was informed that the Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir was performing a charity concert at this event and tickets were still available.

**CM 76                    MOTIONS**

The Mayor confirmed that no motions had been submitted for consideration at this meeting.

**a. Community Services Committee – 20 January 2015**

It was moved by Cllr R F D Sampson, seconded by Cllr K Ball and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and “**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the 20 January 2015 meeting be received and noted, with the exception of the following Unstarred Minutes:”

In respect of the Unstarred Minutes:

**i. CS 16 – Introduction of Experimental Pay & Display Charges in Long Stay Car Parks in Okehampton and Tavistock**

The following recommendation, which differed from the recommendation which was agreed at the Community Services Committee meeting, was moved by Cllr R F D Sampson and seconded by Cllr K Ball:

*‘It is recommended that the experimental Pay & Display charges in all long-stay car parks in Okehampton and Tavistock be implemented for a period of 12 months, with monthly reviews, which will ensure the close monitoring of the scheme. The recommended charge is one tariff of £2 for all-day parking in long-stay car parks, with an additional charge of 50p for half an hour in Mill Road car park.*

*It is further recommended that, for the duration of the experimental order, the Wharf car park be designated as a short-stay car park with a maximum stay of three hours. Short stay parking charges to remain consistent with current tariffs, i.e.*

*½ hour - £0.50;  
1 hour - £1.00;  
2 hours - £1.80; and  
3 hours - £2.20.’*

In discussion on the altered recommendation, a number of Members stated their concern at the original proposal which had been recommended by the Community Services Committee. However, the revised wording (which had been moved and seconded) had overcome each of their concerns in this regard and these Members were happy to put on record their support for this proposal. When put to the vote, this proposal was declared **CARRIED**.

**ii. CS 17 – Consideration of objections received in respect of Coach Parking in Mill Road Car Park, Okehampton**

It was moved by Cllr R F D Sampson, seconded by Cllr K Ball and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and “**RESOLVED** that:-

- 1) the provision of two coach parking bays in the Mill Road car park be formally approved and exempt from payment of a parking fee; and
- 2) the Off-Street Parking Places Order be so amended and advertised as such.”

**b. Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 27 January 2015**

It was moved by Cllr M V L Ewings, seconded by Cllr D E Moyse and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and “**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the 27 January 2015 meeting be received and noted.”

**c. Planning & Licensing Committee – 13 January 2015**

It was moved by Cllr C M Marsh, seconded by Cllr M J R Benson and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and “**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the 13 January 2015 meeting be received and noted.”

**d. Resources Committee - 3 February 2015**

It was moved by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr R E Baldwin and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and “**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the 3 February 2015 meeting be received and noted, with the exception of the following Unstarred Minutes:”

In respect of the Unstarred Minutes:

**i. RC 26 Revenue and Capital Budget Proposals for 2015/16 to 2018/19**

The Council noted that this item would be considered later on in the agenda (Minute CM 78 below refers).

**ii. RC 28 Our Plan – Annual Delivery Plan**

It was moved by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr R E Baldwin and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and “**RESOLVED** that:

1. the draft Annual Delivery Plan, as the Council’s Corporate Plan for 2015/16, be adopted; and
2. authority be delegated to the Community Manager to make minor grammatical and typographical changes to be document in order to finalise it for publication.”

**CM 78 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2014/15 TO 2017/18**

A report was considered that updated Members on the revenue budget position for the year 2015/16. In introducing the report, the Leader informed that it would be his intention to propose that the Council should increase Council Tax by 1.9%. To enable the debate, the recommendations were then moved by Cllr P R Sanders and seconded by Cllr R E Baldwin.

In the subsequent discussion, reference was made to:-

- (a) the proposal to increase Council Tax by 1.9%. Whilst a Member expressed his concern at the negative public perception associated with any increase in Council Tax, other Members countered that it was essential to build additional monies into the Council’s base budget;
- (b) the amount of New Homes Bonus (NHB) monies being used to bridge the Budget gap. Some Members highlighted the statement in the presented agenda report whereby, in the future, the savings generated by the Transformation Programme would result in the Council being able to reduce the extent to which NHB monies were used to fund the Council’s Revenue Budget. In hoping that this statement would be realised, these Members felt that the current trend of being so reliant upon NHB monies would be unsustainable in the future;
- (c) the work of the finance officers. A number of Members wished to put on record their gratitude for the hard work undertaken by the finance officers during the Budget setting process.

In accordance with statutory legislation, two recorded votes were then called for. The first recorded vote was called for on part 1 only of the recommendation, with the second recorded vote being called for on parts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the recommendation.

The voting on part 1 of the recommendation (i.e. that Council Tax should be increased by 1.9%) was recorded as follows:-

For the motion (27): Cllrs Bailey, Baldwin, Ball, Benson, Cann, Clish-Green, Cloke, Ewings, Hill, Hockridge, Horn, Leech, Marsh, McInnes, Moody, Morgan, Morse, Moyse, Musgrave, Oxborough, Pearce, Ridgers, Sampson, Sanders, Sellis, Sheldon and Whitcomb

Against the motion (1): Cllr Sherrell

Abstentions (0):

Absent (3): Cllrs Hall, Rose and Wilde

and the vote was therefore declared **CARRIED**.

The voting on parts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the recommendation was recorded as follows:-

For the motion (27): Cllrs Bailey, Baldwin, Ball, Benson, Cann, Clish-Green, Cloke, Ewings, Hill, Hockridge, Horn, Leech, Marsh, McInnes, Moody, Morgan, Morse, Moyse, Musgrave, Oxborough, Pearce, Ridgers, Sampson, Sanders, Sellis, Sheldon and Whitcomb

Against the motion (1): Cllr Sherrell

Abstentions (0):

Absent (3): Cllrs Hall, Rose and Wilde

and the vote was therefore declared **CARRIED**.

It was then **“RESOLVED** that:

1. an increase in Council Tax of 1.9% be agreed (which equates to a Band D council tax of £208.39 for 2015/16, an increase of £3.89 per year or 7 pence per week). This option equates to a Council Tax requirement of £4,054,644 (Appendix B1 of the presented agenda report refers);

2. the financial pressures as outlined in Appendix A of the presented agenda report (equating to £484,400) be accepted;
3. the proposed savings of £148,700 as outlined in Appendix A of the presented agenda report be adopted;
4. the Collection Fund surplus of £60,589 be agreed;
5. an additional £567,710 of New Homes Bonus Grant be used to balance the 2015-16 Budget. (NOTE: this is in addition to the £657,059 of New Homes Bonus already built into the budget assumptions to be used for 2015-16);
6. the Total Net Expenditure of the Council for 2015/16 be £8,134,325 (Appendix B1 and B2 of the presented agenda report refers);
7. the 2015/16 Capital Programme projects totalling £451,000 (as per section 8.1 of the presented agenda report) be approved;
8. the 2015/16 Capital Programme of £451,000 be financed by using £212,000 of New Homes Bonus funding and £239,000 of Government Grant (as per section 8.1 of the presented agenda report);
9. the Council transfers £2,610 of its allocation of New Homes Bonus for 2015/16 to an Earmarked Reserve called 'Community Investment Fund – Dartmoor National Park', to be applied for and drawn down by Dartmoor National Park as required. (NOTE. this amount is a one-off payment and the position will be considered annually by the Council as part of the budget process. The condition is that this is for use within the boundaries of the Borough Council only);
10. the Council Tax Support Grant of £87,285 be passed on to Town and Parish Councils (this is a reduction of 15% from 2014/15) as per Appendix E of the presented agenda report;
11. the minimum level of the Unearmarked Revenue Reserves be maintained at £750,000 as per Section 7 of the presented agenda report; and
12. the level of reserves (as set out within the presented agenda report) and the assessment of their adequacy and the robustness of budget estimates be noted. (Note: this is a requirement of Part 2 of the Local Government Act 2003)."

## **CM 79**

### **LEISURE SERVICE PROCUREMENT**

A report was presented that summarised the strategic issues that the Council would need to consider as part of assessing future leisure provision, including the use of the leisure assets, following the end of the current contract in 2016.

In discussion, the following points were raised:-

- (a) Members recognised the importance of the proposed joint Leisure Services Board having its first meeting before the May 2015 local elections;
- (b) It was confirmed that the soft market testing would include reference to provision for a swimming pool at the Tavistock centre;
- (c) In expressing their support for these proposals, a number of Members wished for the immense work undertaken by officers to be recognised. Moreover, the view was expressed that these proposals were the best possible solution which was available to the Council at this time.

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

1. the objectives for future leisure services delivery (as set out in paragraph 1.5 of the presented agenda report) be agreed;
2. leisure services be offered as a joint contract for up to 25 years with South Hams District Council to include facilities (and options) as set out in paragraph 6.6 of the presented agenda report. This to include consideration of options for prudential borrowing and to retain an option for separate contracts if required;
3. a joint leisure services procurement exercise be agreed with South Hams District Council through the competitive dialogue process;
4. it be agreed that Repair and Maintenance obligations lie with the operator(s);
5. it be agreed that the procurement exercise include an option to assess local operation of the Parklands Leisure Centre at Okehampton. In addition, that local input to service delivery shall be secured through local participation in Annual Service Development Plans;
6. a joint Leisure Services Board be established with South Hams District Council based upon an agreed Joint Procurement Protocol. Membership to consist of nominated WDBC Members and comparable SHDC representation. In this respect, that detailed arrangements be delegated to the Natural Environment and Recreation Manager, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Chairman of the Community Services Committee. In addition, the Board will be supported by an officer working group;



7. agreement be given to a procurement preparation and evaluation exercise (to be timetabled as set out in paragraph 11.1 and Appendix 1 of the presented agenda report);
8. officers be instructed to appoint specialist leisure expertise (or other expertise as required) to support the procurement and evaluation of leisure services in accordance with procurement procedures and Financial Regulations;
9. officers also be instructed to conclude liaison with stakeholders and interested parties in order to refine third party details for inclusion in procurement;
10. detailed arrangements for procurement and evaluation be delegated to the Natural Environment and Recreation Manager, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, the Chairman of the Community Services Committee, Board Members and relevant local Ward Members (where there are location specific issues); and
11. a further report be presented to the Council on the outcome of the procurement exercise and tender evaluation setting out recommendations for future service arrangements.”

## **CM 80**

### **COLLABORATION AGREEMENT**

Members considered a report that presented a draft Collaboration Agreement between the Council and South Hams District Council to record the basis upon which the Councils would continue to collaborate together.

In introducing the report, the Leader clarified that reference in the draft agreement to: *'the unanimous consent of the Councils'* referred to each of the Councils involved in the Agreement and not the number of voting Members at each Council meeting.

In discussion, particular reference was made to:-

- (a) the shared services relationship with South Hams District Council. The Leader stressed that this recommendation was in no way whatsoever a stepping stone towards a fully fledged merger with South Hams District Council. In addition, the point was raised that the purpose of the report was to formalise the working relationship between the two authorities;
- (b) initial concerns being allayed. A Member commented that, before this meeting, the Executive Director (Service Delivery and Commercial Development) had been able to allay his initial concerns in relation to the recommendation and he was therefore now minded to vote in support of these proposals.

It was then moved by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr R E Baldwin and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **“RESOLVED** that:

1. the Collaboration Agreement (as outlined at Appendix A of the presented agenda report) be agreed; and
2. the Executive Director (Service Delivery and Commercial Development) be given delegated authority, in consultation with the Leader of Council, to make any minor amendments to the Agreement to reflect the new structure, in accordance with the Transformation Programme.”

#### **CM 81**

#### **INTERIM DELEGATION SCHEME TO OFFICERS**

A report was considered that sought to adopt an interim Delegation Scheme to Officers during the transitional and implementation period of the new Transformation Programme.

In discussion, it was noted that, whilst the Interim Delegation Scheme would come into effect immediately, the remaining Parts of the Constitution would be presented to the Annual Council meeting in May.

It was then moved by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr M V L Ewings and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **“RESOLVED** that:

1. the interim Delegation Scheme (as attached at Appendix 1 of the presented agenda report) be adopted; and
2. authority be delegated to the Head of Paid Service and the Monitoring Officer to amend the Delegation Scheme to ensure continuity during the implementation of the T18 structure.”

#### **CM 82**

#### **APPOINTMENT OF ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER AND RETURNING OFFICER**

Consideration was given to a report that sought approval for the appointment of the Executive Director (Strategy and Commissioning) as the Electoral Registration Officer and the Returning Officer, in accordance with the Representation of the People Act 1983.

It was then moved by Cllr R F D Sampson, seconded by Cllr R E Baldwin and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **“RESOLVED** that:

1. the Executive Director – Strategy and Commissioning (Steve Jordan) be appointed as the Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer for West Devon Borough Council; and

2. the Executive Director – Service Delivery and Commercial Development (Sophie Hosking) be appointed as the Deputy Electoral Registration Officer for West Devon Borough Council.”

**CM 83**

**APPOINTMENT OF A NEW INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL**

A report was considered that sought Council approval to appoint a new Independent Remuneration Panel and that endorsed the next Review being undertaken before May 2015.

In discussion, reference was made to:-

- (a) reviewing the Scheme before May 2015. On balance, a number of Members felt that, despite the new governance arrangements not taking effect until May 2015, it was appropriate for the new Council to inherit a revised Scheme upon its election. Whilst expressing this view, these Members also acknowledged that a further Review into the scheme would be required once the new governance arrangements had been given the opportunity to settle down;
- (b) additional cost implications arising from this Review. Whilst an additional £28,000 had been built into the Budget for Members Allowances, some Members felt that, unless absolutely impossible, the Review should result in a cost neutral outcome for the Council.

It was then moved by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr R E Baldwin and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **“RESOLVED** that:

1. with immediate effect, the proposed appointments (as outlined at paragraph 2.3 of the presented agenda report) be made to the Independent Remuneration Panel; and
2. the next review of the Scheme of Members’ Allowances be completed before the new Council be elected in May 2015.”

**CM 84**

**MEMBERS’ MEETING ATTENDANCE STATISTICS**

Members considered a report that presented the recommendations of the Member Group that was tasked with reviewing the subject of Members’ attendance at public meetings of the Council and its Committees.

In discussion, the following points were raised:-

- (a) A Member requested that the published record should include an explanatory sentence for instances when Members had suffered a long term illness;
- (b) Since it would be so difficult to monitor attendance at Outside Bodies, it was proposed that these should not be included on the published record;

- (c) To also provide a more accurate record of Member attendance, it was agreed that, with effect from May 2015, minutes of the Council and its Committees should include the arrival and leave time of Members during each meeting;
- (d) Whilst a number of Members expressed their support for the principle of publishing attendance statistics on the website, they also had a number of reservations in respect of imposing sanctions on what was considered to be such a limited barometer of performance. A lengthy debate ensued on this matter, after which the majority of Members concluded that the Council should trial this proposal before then undertaking a review into the process in twelve months time.

It was then moved by Cllr C R Musgrave, seconded by Cllr R E Baldwin and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **“RESOLVED** that:

1. with immediate effect, the principle of publishing Members’ meeting attendance statistics on the Council website on a quarterly and annual basis be agreed;
2. the meetings (as outlined at paragraph 2.1 of the presented agenda report) be included on the published record, with an attendance threshold being set at 75% of those meetings to which a Member had been appointed;
3. the process for sanctions (as outlined at paragraph 2.6 of the presented agenda report) be adopted to come into effect during the 2015/16 Municipal Year and be reviewed twelve months thereafter; and
4. the importance of Members appointed to Outside Bodies providing regular feedback to the Council be reinforced.”

## **CM 85**

### **PLANNING OBLIGATIONS THRESHOLD**

Consideration was given to a report that was produced in response to a change in government policy on the use of S106 obligations, which had been introduced through a Ministerial Statement published on 28 November 2014.

In introducing the report, the Leader informed of his intention to propose an additional recommendation whereby the Council should write a letter to the Department for Communities and Local Government and West Berkshire and Reading District Councils in support of their legal challenge.

It was then moved by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr R E Baldwin and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **“RESOLVED** that:

1. the following thresholds for affordable housing be adopted in respect of new applications for planning permission:
  - a) In Tavistock and Okehampton (the towns), the Council will seek ‘on site’ provision of affordable housing on developments of 11 units or more unless the site lies within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).
  - b) In the rural areas of West Devon and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) (excluding Dartmoor National Park) , the Council will seek a financial contribution from developments of between 6 – 10 units and ‘on site’ provision of affordable housing on developments off 11 units or more.
2. the following thresholds for tariff - style infrastructure be adopted in respect of new applications for planning permission:
  - a) In Tavistock and Okehampton (the towns), the Council will seek contributions on developments of 11 units or more unless the site lies within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).
  - b) In the rural areas of West Devon and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) (excluding Dartmoor National Park), the Council will seek a financial contribution from developments of between 6 – 10 units and above.
3. the interim threshold be reviewed prior to the submission of the new Local Plan; and
4. That this authority writes a letter to the Department for Communities and Local Government and West Berkshire and Reading District Councils supporting their legal challenge.”

## **CM 86**

### **REVIEW OF PARKING CHARGES IN PRINCETOWN CAR PARK**

Members considered a report that made a recommendation in respect of the Pay and Display tariffs in Princetown Car Park.

It was agreed that Members would be notified once these changes had come into effect.

It was then moved by Cllr R F D Sampson, seconded by Cllr T G Pearce and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **“RESOLVED** that the revised parking charges in Princetown Car Park (as detailed at paragraph 2.1 of the presented agenda report) be implemented.”

**CM 87**

**PAY POLICY STATEMENT**

Consideration was given to a report that set out the Council's statutory obligation to adopt a pay policy statement in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act.

It was then moved by Cllr P R Sanders, seconded by Cllr R E Baldwin and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and "**RESOLVED** that the pay policy statement for 2015/16 be adopted."

**CM 88**

**PAYMENT OF COUNCILLOR EXPENSES**

Part 6 of the Constitution (Members' Allowance Scheme), Paragraph 9.1 stated that "no payment can be made of any travel and subsistence claim made more than three months after the meeting for which the claim was made without the authority of Council in every case".

A request had been received from Cllr J B Moody for payment of expenses dating back to October 2014.

It was subsequently moved by Cllr R F D Sampson, seconded by Cllr P R Sanders and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and "**RESOLVED** that payment could be made of the expense claims from Councillor J B Moody (backdated to October 2014)."

**CM 89**

**THE FUTURE OPTIONS FOR THE DEVON BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP**

It was moved by Cllr R F D Sampson, seconded by Cllr A Clish-Green and upon being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and "**RESOLVED** that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the Meeting for the debate that took place on this item of business on the grounds that exempt information may be disclosed under Paragraph 3 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person including the authority holding that information from Part I of Schedule 12(A) to the Act."

In discussion, the Head of Paid Service emphasised that the recommendation was only seeking approval to prepare a business case at this stage. Assuming that the recommendation was approved, a further report would be presented back to each Council and it would then be a matter for the partner authorities to see if they could agree upon the same solution as a way forward for the Partnership.

It was then proposed by Cllr T G Pearce, seconded by Cllr P R Sanders and upon being submitted to the meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **“RESOLVED** that agreement be given to the preparation of a detailed business case for the setting up of a Local Authority Trading Company (joint venture) and to explore the possibility of a joint venture with a private sector company.”

It was then proposed by Cllr R F D Sampson, seconded by Cllr M V L Ewings and upon the motion being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **“RESOLVED** that the press and public be re-admitted to the meeting.”

**CM 90**

**COMMON SEAL**

A copy of the documents signed by the Mayor during the period from 2 December 2014 to 30 January 2015 was attached to the agenda (page 95 refers) and noted by the Meeting.

It was then moved by Cllr R F D Sampson, seconded by Cllr M V L Ewings and upon the motion being submitted to the Meeting was declared to be **CARRIED** and **”RESOLVED** that the Mayor and the Monitoring Officer (or deputies appointed by them) be authorised to witness the fixing of the seal on any documents for the forthcoming year”.

(The Meeting terminated at 7.15 pm)