

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT
COUNCIL HELD AT FOLLATON HOUSE, TOTNES ON THURSDAY 5 NOVEMBER
2015**

MEMBERS

* Cllr I Bramble – Chairman

* Cllr P C Smerdon – Vice-Chairman

∅ Cllr K J Baldry	* Cllr T R Holway
* Cllr N A Barnes	* Cllr D Horsburgh
* Cllr H D Bastone	* Cllr D W May
* Cllr J I G Blackler	* Cllr J A Pearce
* Cllr J Brazil	* Cllr J T Pennington
* Cllr D Brown	* Cllr K Pringle
* Cllr B F Cane	* Cllr R Rowe
∅ Cllr P K Cuthbert	* Cllr M F Saltern
* Cllr R J Foss	* Cllr R C Steer
* Cllr R D Gilbert	* Cllr R J Tucker
* Cllr J P Green	* Cllr R J Vint
* Cllr J D Hawkins	* Cllr L A H Ward
* Cllr M J Hicks	* Cllr K R H Wingate
∅ Cllr P W Hitchins	* Cllr S A E Wright
* Cllr J M Hodgson	

* Denotes attendance

∅ Denotes apology for absence

Officers in attendance and participating:

For all items: Head of Paid Service, Executive Director (Service Delivery and Commercial Development), Monitoring Officer and Senior Specialist – Democratic Services

36/15 WELCOME

On behalf of all Members, the Chairman welcomed Cllr J P Green to his first Council meeting since being elected on to the Council.

37/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Cllr N A Barnes declared a personal interest in Item 5: 'Appointment to Council Bodies and Independent Persons' (Minute 39/15 below refers) by virtue of being a neighbour of one of the proposed Independent Persons and remained in the meeting and took part in the vote thereon.

OUR PLAN UPDATE

A report was considered that updated Members on the status of Our Plan, in particular the Development Plan element of the Plan. The report made recommendations for next steps, which involved an adapted approach focused around the Housing Market Area (HMA) and a strengthened Duty to Co-operate arrangement.

The report was also considered by the Executive on 15 October 2015, with the recommendations being endorsed (subject to inclusion of some minor additions) at this meeting (Minute E.31/15 refers).

In discussion, the following points were raised:-

- (a) Some Members confirmed their support for the Executive recommendations and emphasised the need for the Council to make swift progress in this regard.
- (b) Two additional recommendations were separately **PROPOSED** and **SECONDED** as follows:-
 - That 'Our Plan' be re-named 'Our Plan: South Hams'; and
 - That a specific Duty to Co-operate arrangement be put in place with neighbouring authorities in immediately adjacent Housing Market Areas.

When voted upon individually, both proposals were subsequently declared **CARRIED** and added to the substantive motion.

It was then:

RESOLVED

1. That Option 2 for progression of *South Hams Our Plan* (as set out at section 4 of the presented agenda report) be pursued recognising that this will need a plan period to 2032 or 2033 or alignment with neighbouring authorities;
2. That a detailed Duty to Co-operate protocol, or similar agreement, be established with neighbouring planning authorities within the Housing Market Area. This would address joint approaches to strategic planning relating to timetable, evidence, policies, strategic allocations, governance, staffing, scope of Housing Market Area, viability and infrastructure amongst other matters;
3. That the Local Development Scheme be reviewed and re-issued in line with point 1 (above);
4. That further evidence work (joint or specific) be procured as required;
5. That the response to the Our Plan Topic Papers public consultations be published (as set out at section 4 of the presented agenda report);

6. That the remaining Strategic Housing Land Availability assessment work be published (as set out in section 4 of the presented agenda report) and options for additional sites be explored;
7. That a budget provision for 2016/17 of £75,000 be made for Our Plan examination anticipated to be met from the *Planning Policy and Major Development Reserve*.
8. That guidance for Neighbourhood Plan Groups be issued to inform their work as it relates to Our Plan
9. That a refreshed Our Plan Engagement Strategy be issued
10. That regular updates be provided to the Strategic Planning Working Group
11. That further monitoring reports be submitted to the Executive every three months and the Council as and when required making specific proposals for future consultation, consideration and submission of Our Plan
12. That those specific details to be agreed under recommendations 2,3,6,8 and 9 be delegated to the Lead Specialist – Place and Strategy in consultation with the Chairman of the Strategic Planning Working Group and the Leader of Council;
13. That 'Our Plan' be re-named 'Our Plan: South Hams'; and
14. That a specific Duty to Co-operate arrangement be put in place with neighbouring authorities in immediately adjacent Housing Market Areas.

39/15

APPOINTMENTS TO COUNCIL BODIES AND INDEPENDENT PERSONS

The Council considered a report that sought to serve two purposes:

- to appoint Cllr J P Green to serve on the Overview and Scrutiny Panel for the remainder of the 2015/16 Municipal Year; and
- to re-appoint Messrs George Barnicott and Mike Fowkes as the Council's Independent Persons for the period until the Annual Council meeting in May 2019.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That with immediate effect:-

1. Cllr J P Green be appointed to serve on the Overview and Scrutiny Panel for the remainder of the 2015/16 Municipal Year; and
2. Messrs George Barnicott and Mike Fowkes be appointed as the Council's Independent Persons for the period until the Annual Council meeting in May 2019.

(Meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 2.20 pm)

Chairman