

MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of a **MEETING** of the **MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 3 July 2013 at 6.00 pm

Present

Councillors: E J Berry (Chairman)
Mrs H Bainbridge, M D Binks, R J Chesterton,
D R Coren, N V Davey, W J Daw, R M Deed, J
M Downes, C J Eginton, R Evans, Mrs S M Fox,
A V G Griffiths, Mrs S Griggs, P J Heal, Mrs L J
Holloway, T G Hughes, Mrs B M Hull, D J
Knowles, M R Lee, M A Lucas, R F Radford,
Mrs J R Rendle, Mrs J Roach, F J Rosamond,
C R Slade, T W Snow, J D Squire, Mrs M E
Squires, R L Stanley, K D Wilson, Mrs N
Woollatt and R Wright

Apologies

Councillors: Mrs D L Brandon, Mrs F J Colthorpe, P H D
Hare-Scott, E G Luxton, Mrs M E Turner, P F
Williams and N A Way

11 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 8 May 2013 were approved as a correct record and **SIGNED** by the Chairman.

12 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(1) **Long Service Awards**

The Chairman reported that prior to the meeting he had presented a Long Service Award to Mr Leslie Greenslade (Grounds Maintenance) who had completed 25 years with the District Council. He had also made a presentation to the Head of Finance following his completion of the Strategic Leadership in Modern Local Government Programme

(2) **Civic Service**

The Chairman reminded Members that this year's Civic Service would take place at St Disen Church in Bradninch on Sunday 22 September 2013.

(3) **Simon Coombs**

The Chairman informed Members that after 27 years of service Simon Coombs the Member Services Manager was retiring, Members recorded their appreciation for his continued support to the Council and wished him a happy and healthy retirement.

13 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions from members of the public present.

14 **PETITIONS**

There were no petitions from members of the public.

15 **NOTICES OF MOTION**

(1) **Motion No. 470 (Councillor Mrs J Roach – 6 March 2013)**

The following motion had been referred to the Audit Committee for consideration and report:-

“This Council resolves to

- a) Include a provision for a shadow cabinet in the new constitution; or
- b) Include a provision for members of the opposition to appoint lead members.”

The Audit Committee had considered the proposal and recommended that it be rejected.

Following debate, and upon a vote being taken, the **MOTION** was declared to have **FAILED**.

(2) **Motion No. 472 (Councillor Mrs J Roach – 9 April 2013)**

The following motion had been referred to the Community Well-Being Policy Development Group for consideration and report:-

“This Council supports the National Pensioners Convention (NPC) Dignity Code and agrees to become a signatory.”

The Community Well-being Policy Development Group had considered the proposal and recommended that it be supported

Upon a vote being taken, the **MOTION** was declared to have been **CARRIED**.

16 **CABINET – REPORT – MEETING HELD ON 9 MAY 2013**

The Deputy Leader presented the report of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 9 May 2013

Arising thereon:-

(1) **Community Infrastructure Levy (Minute 5)**

The Deputy Leader **MOVED**, seconded by Councillor R J Chesterton:-

“**THAT** the recommendation of the Cabinet as set out in Minute 5a be **ADOPTED**”

Following debate and upon a vote being taken, the **MOTION** was declared to have been **CARRIED**.

17 **CABINET – REPORT – MEETING HELD ON 9 JUNE 2013**

The Deputy Leader presented the report of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 9 June 2013.

Arising thereon:-

(1) Policy Framework (Minute 16)

The Deputy Leader **MOVED**, seconded by Councillor R J Chesterton:-

“**THAT** the recommendation of the Cabinet as set out in Minute 16 be **ADOPTED**”

Upon a vote being taken, the **MOTION** was declared to have been **CARRIED**.

18 **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – REPORT – MEETING HELD ON 20 MAY 2013**

The Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee presented the report of the meeting of the Committee held on 20 May 2013.

19 **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – REPORT – MEETING HELD ON 17 JUNE 2013**

The Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee presented the report of the meeting of the Committee held on 17 June 2013.

20 **AUDIT COMMITTEE – REPORT – MEETING HELD ON 14 MAY 2013**

The Chairman of the Audit Committee presented the report of the meeting of the Committee held on 14 May 2013.

21 **AUDIT COMMITTEE – REPORT – SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 25 JUNE 2013**

The Chairman of the Audit Committee presented the report of the special meeting of the Committee held on 25 June 2013.

Arising thereon:-

(1) Constitution Update (Minute 27)

The Chairman of the Audit Committee **MOVED**, seconded by Councillor F J Rosamond:-

“**THAT** the recommendation of the Committee as set out in Minute 27 be **ADOPTED**”

Upon a vote being taken, the **MOTION** was declared to have been **CARRIED**.

22 **MANAGING THE ENVIRONMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP – REPORT – MEETING HELD ON 14 MAY 2013**

The Chairman of the Managing the Environment Policy Development Group presented the report of the meeting of the Group held on 14 May 2013.

23 **DECENT AND AFFORDABLE HOMES POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP – REPORT – MEETING HELD ON 21 MAY 2013**

The Chairman of the Decent and Affordable Homes Policy Development Group presented the report of the meeting of the Group held on 21 May 2013.

24 **COMMUNITY WELL BEING POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP – REPORT – MEETING HELD ON 28 MAY 2013**

The Chairman of the Community Well Being Policy Development Group presented the report of the meeting of the Group held on 28 May 2013.

25 **PLANNING COMMITTEE – REPORT – MEETING HELD ON 22 MAY 2013**

The Chairman of the Planning Committee presented the report of the meeting of the Committee held on 22 May 2013.

26 **PLANNING COMMITTEE – REPORT – MEETING HELD ON 19 JUNE 2013**

The Chairman of the Planning Committee presented the report of the meeting of the Committee held on 19 June 2013.

27 **PLANNING COMMITTEE – REPORT – SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 26 JUNE 2013**

The Chairman of the Planning Committee presented the report of the special meeting of the Committee held on 26 June 2013.

28 **MID DEVON LOCALITY COUNTY COMMITTEE**

The Chairman indicated that following agreement at the Annual Meeting in respect of appointments to Outside Bodies, there was a need to appoint two Members to the Devon County Council Mid Devon Locality Committee which had not been included on the list as it was thought that this Committee had been disbanded.

The Chairman then **MOVED**

“THAT Councillors W J Daw and D J Knowles be appointed to the Mid Devon Locality County Committee”

Upon a vote being taken, the **MOTION** was declared to have been **CARRIED**.

29 **QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS**

Councillor Mrs J Roach asked the Cabinet Member for Community Well-Being whether it was possible for him to look into the provision of

hydrotherapy pools at the Leisure Centres. The Cabinet Member stated that he would certainly look into the idea.

Councillor M A Lucas asked the Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration if he had any information regarding the work being progressed to improve broadband speed in the rural areas. The Cabinet Member stated that a meeting had taken place with Devon County Council who were working with Somerset County Council on this project; the phase 1 survey was taking place and areas of Mid Devon had been included within the first phase. Councillors voiced their concerns regarding coverage in the district.

Councillor T W Snow congratulated the Cabinet Member for Housing on his work with solar panels on Council property and asked if any energy use results had been received from the air source heat pumps placed in properties in Willand. The Cabinet Member stated that the pilot scheme had not been evaluated as yet but that the Authority continued to encourage the green agenda across all its properties and highlighted the recent work that had taken place at Lords Meadow Leisure Centre.

Councillor F J Rosamond highlighted the fact that in some areas where ground mounted solar PV arrays had been erected, sheep could not graze underneath them and therefore the field looked like an industrial site, he asked the Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration if business rates could be levied on such sites. The Cabinet Member stated that he would look into this.

30 **MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

Councillor R M Deed reminded Members that he had been appointed to the Mid Devon Transport Group at the Annual Meeting, having attended a meeting; he informed Council that the Mid Devon Transport Group had now been disbanded. The Members of the Group would continue to communicate by email.

(The meeting ended at 7.03pm)

CHAIRMAN