

Mid Devon District Council

Scrutiny Committee

Monday, 19 April 2021 at 2.15 pm
Virtual Meeting

Next ordinary meeting
Monday, 24 May 2021 at 2.15 pm

Important - this meeting will be conducted and recorded by Zoom only. Please do not attend Phoenix House. The attached Protocol for Remote Meetings explains how this will work.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92877955455?pwd=VkJEVzdVWXdndGZPaUJhcnByTjhBUT09>

Meeting ID: 928 7795 5455

Passcode: 477578

One tap mobile

08000315717,,92877955455#,,, *477578# United Kingdom Toll-free

08002605801,,92877955455#,,, *477578# United Kingdom Toll-free

Dial by your location

0 800 031 5717 United Kingdom Toll-free

0 800 260 5801 United Kingdom Toll-free

0 800 358 2817 United Kingdom Toll-free

Meeting ID: 928 7795 5455

Passcode: 477578

Membership

Cllr F W Letch

Cllr G Barnell

Cllr E J Berry

Cllr W Burke

Cllr Mrs F J Colthorpe

Cllr L J Cruwys

Cllr J M Downes

Cllr Mrs S Griggs

Cllr S J Penny

Cllr R L Stanley

Cllr B G J Warren

Cllr A Wilce

AGENDA

Members are reminded of the need to make declarations of interest prior to any discussion which may take place

1 **APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**

To receive any apologies for absence and notices of appointment of substitute Members (if any).

2 **REMOTE MEETINGS PROTOCOL** *(Pages 5 - 12)*

Members to note the Remote Meetings Protocol.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

Councillors are reminded of the requirement to declare any interest, including the type of interest, and reason for that interest, either at this stage of the meeting or as soon as they become aware of that interest.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

To receive any questions relating to items on the Agenda from members of the public and replies thereto.

Note: A maximum of 30 minutes is allowed for this item.

5 **MEMBER FORUM**

An opportunity for non-Cabinet Members to raise issues.

6 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** *(Pages 13 - 18)*

Members to consider whether to approve the minutes as a correct record of the meeting held on 15th March 2021.

The Committee is reminded that only those members of the Committee present at the previous meeting should vote and, in doing so, should be influenced only by seeking to ensure that the minutes are an accurate record.

7 **DECISIONS OF THE CABINET**

To consider any decisions made by the Cabinet at its last meeting that have been called-in.

8 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive any announcements that the Chairman of Scrutiny Committee may wish to make.

9 **CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE** *(Pages 19 - 22)*

To receive an update from the Cabinet Member for Finance

10 **PERFORMANCE AND RISK** *(Pages 23 - 80)*

To provide Members with an update on performance against the

corporate plan and local service targets for 2020-2021 as well as providing an update on the key business risks.

11 **MOTION 564 - (Councillors: Miss Wainwright and Miss J Norton – 24 February 2020) (Pages 81 - 84)**

Scrutiny Committee Group to consider point 4 of the following Motion agreed by Council on 24th February 2021 and to discuss the Scrutiny Proposal form.:

This Council affirms its role in helping to create an equal and inclusive society for all, and recognises that sexism, racism, bigotry, discrimination, intolerance and bad behaviours in any form play no part in this. This Council also acknowledges that language is a powerful tool for change, inclusion and inspiration, as well as a cause of ignorance and damaged relationships -- it should be used thoughtfully and respectfully, and language and behaviour should be challenged where it is not respectful or conducive to good outcomes for the Council and its residents.

In order that the Council can play its part locally in building a more understanding and inclusive society, it resolves:

1. To review all our relevant policies and conventions, and identify any additional Member and Officer training needs, so as to actively promote diversity, engagement and inclusivity.
2. That the Equality Forum and Community Policy Development Group be tasked with exploring opportunities to increase inclusivity, engagement and representation at Mid Devon District Council, including by identifying hard to reach or underrepresented communities, and considering how best to engage with them.
3. To review and update the MDDC equalities policy and create a diversity and inclusion strategy, seeking input from residents and local organisations that have expertise where necessary, so as to ensure the council is more socially inclusive in its recruitment, member representation and service provision.
4. That the Scrutiny committee be tasked to consider and make any recommendations to the council regarding the findings of the Fawcett Society/LGiU report: 'Does Local Government Work for Women?' (see footnote 1).

(1) The Fawcett Society and Local Government Information Unit report, 'Does Local Government Work for Women?' found that structural and cultural barriers hold back women's participation in local government. The practices and protocols of local government create unnecessary barriers to participation particularly for women with caring responsibilities. <https://www.fawcettsociety.org.uk/does-local->

- 12 **UPDATE ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE WORKING GROUP** *(Pages 85 - 90)*
To receive an update on the progress of recommendations from the Customer Experience Working Group
- 13 **FORWARD PLAN** *(Pages 91 - 98)*
Members are asked to consider any items within the Forward Plan that they may wish to bring forward for discussion at the next meeting.
- 14 **SCRUTINY OFFICER UPDATE**
To receive an update from the Scrutiny Officer.
- 15 **CHAIRMAN'S DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT** *(Pages 99 - 104)*
To receive the Chairman's draft annual report on the work of the Committee since May 2020
- 16 **IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**
Members are asked to note that the following items are already identified in the work programme for the next meeting:
- Election of Vice Chairman
 - Start Time of Meetings
 - Options for Accelerating Affordable Housing Delivery

Note: - this item is limited to 10 minutes. There should be no discussion on items raised.

Stephen Walford
Chief Executive
Friday, 9 April 2021

Covid-19 and meetings

The Council will be holding some meetings in the next few weeks, but these will not be in person at Phoenix House until the Covid-19 crisis eases. Instead, the meetings will be held remotely via Zoom and you will be able to join these meetings via the internet. Please see the instructions on each agenda and read the Protocol on Remote Meetings before you join.

If you want to ask a question or speak, email your full name to Committee@middevon.gov.uk by no later than 4pm on the day before the meeting. This will ensure that your name is on the list to speak and will help us ensure that you are not missed – as you can imagine, it is easier to see and

manage public speaking when everyone is physically present in the same room. Notification in this way will ensure the meeting runs as smoothly as possible

If you would like a copy of the Agenda in another format (for example in large print) please contact Carole Oliphant on:

E-Mail: coliphant@middevon.gov.uk

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