

MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

A MEETING of the MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL will be held virtually on Wednesday, 28 October 2020 at 6.00 pm

ALL MEMBERS of the COUNCIL are summoned to attend for the purposes of transacting the business specified in the Agenda which is set out below:

[The next meeting is scheduled to be held in Tiverton on Wednesday, 6 January 2021 at 6.00 pm]

STEPHEN WALFORD

Chief Executive

20 October 2020

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.

To join this meeting, please click the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/95637552668?pwd=Um03QUxsRHdpOXdlMG94c3kxWXdrZz09>

Meeting ID: 956 3755 2668

Passcode: 963467

One tap mobile

08002605801,,95637552668#,,,,,0#,,963467# United Kingdom Toll-free

08003582817,,95637552668#,,,,,0#,,963467# United Kingdom Toll-free

Dial by your location

0 800 260 5801 United Kingdom Toll-free

0 800 358 2817 United Kingdom Toll-free

0 800 031 5717 United Kingdom Toll-free Meeting ID: 956 3755 2668

Passcode: 963467

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/afuiR0z2B>

AGENDA

1 Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 Protocol for Remote Meetings (Pages 7 - 12)

To note the protocol for remote meetings.

3 Public Question Time

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

4 **Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct**

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

5 **Minutes** (*Pages 13 - 36*)

Members to consider whether to approve the minutes as a correct record of the meeting held on 26 August 2020.

Members to consider whether to approve the minutes as a correct record of the extraordinary meeting held on 30 September 2020.

The Council is reminded that only those Members 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.

6 **Chairman's Announcements**

To receive any announcements which the Chairman of the Council may wish to make.

7 **Petitions**

To receive any petitions from members of the public.

8 **Notices of Motions**

(1) **Motion 564 (Councillors: Miss Wainwright and Miss J Norton – 15 October 2020)**

The Council has before it a **MOTION** submitted for the first time:

Council resolves to:

1. Practice equality, fairness and inclusion, and to play its part in creating an equal society for all. There is no place for sexism, racism, bigotry, discrimination or intolerance of any form in our society.
2. Acknowledge that language is a powerful tool for change and inspiration, as well as ignorance, oppression and damaged relationships, and should be used thoughtfully and respectfully. Many people who do not have a voice in the public domain have to suffer the consequences of inaccurate or insulting language.
3. Review and, if needed, update member training, to equip all

members with the language and tools needed to actively promote diversity and inclusivity.

4. Ask that the Chair of Scrutiny request a report detailing the options for how Mid Devon District Council can implement the relevant recommendations for Local Authorities (where not already in place) listed in the Fawcett Society/LGiU report: 'Does Local Government Work for Women?' (1). (The population of Mid Devon is around 80,600, and is 49% male and 51% female. This proportion is not reflected in the makeup of MDDC).
5. Ask that the Chairs of the Equality Forum and Community PDG identify and discuss approaches to reaching hard-to-reach communities in Mid Devon.
6. Show leadership by creating a diversity and inclusion strategy, and seek input from residents and local organisations that have expertise, to ensure the council is inclusive towards diverse and hard-to-reach communities in its recruitment, member representation and service provision. As part of this, review and update the MDDC equalities policy.
7. Explore further opportunities to increase inclusivity, diversity and representation in Mid Devon District Council, including but not limited to amongst women, minority ethnic communities, young people, and carers.

(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-government-work-for-women-final-report-of-the-local-government-commission>

In accordance with Procedure Rule 14.4, the Chairman of the Council has decided to allow this motion (if moved and seconded) to be dealt with at this meeting.

9 **Reports** (Pages 37 - 168)

To receive and consider the reports, minutes and recommendations of the recent meetings as follows:

(1) Cabinet

- 3 September 2020*

** the recommendation in Minute 228 (Tiverton Eastern Urban Extension (Area B) Masterplan) will not be moved, and the papers which support it have not been included in the agenda – an explanation will be given.*

- 1 October 2020
- 2) Scrutiny Committee
 - 14 September 2020
 - 12 October 2020
- (3) Audit Committee
 - 22 September 2020
- (4) Environment Policy Development Group
 - 8 September 2020
 - 19 October 2020 – to follow
- (5) Homes Policy Development Group
 - 15 September 2020
- (6) Economy Policy Development Group
 - 10 September 2020
- (7) Community Policy Development Group
 - 22 September 2020
- (8) Joint (Community, Environment and Homes) Policy Development Group
 - 20 October 2020 – to follow
- (9) Planning Committee
 - 9 September 2020
 - 23 September 2020
 - 7 October 2020
- (10) Licensing Committee
 - 15 October 2020
- (11) Regulatory Committee
 - 15 October 2020

10 **Questions in accordance with Procedure Rule 13**

To deal with any questions raised pursuant to Procedure Rule 13 not already dealt with during the relevant Committee reports.

11 **Special Urgency Decisions**

Decisions taken under Rule 16 (of the Constitution) Special Urgency – since the previous meeting.

There have been no such decisions in this period.

12 **Governance Working Group Update** (*Pages 169 - 170*)

To receive and consider a briefing paper from the Chairman of the Governance Working Group. In particular, Members should note the request made on behalf of the Working Group for more time to undertake its review and may wish to resolve accordingly.

13 **Allocation for Other Bodies** (*Pages 171 - 172*)

Following consideration of the revised allocation of seats reflecting the current membership of the Council at the previous meeting, it was agreed that the allocation of other bodies be brought to this meeting for further consideration. Members will see that there are options, but are reminded that the primary consideration is one of political balance in accordance with the statutory duty.

14 **Questions to Cabinet Members**

Cabinet Members will answer questions from Members on their Portfolios.

15 **Members Business**

To receive any statements made and notice of future questions by Members.

Note: the time allowed for this item is limited to 15 minutes.

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 require any further information, or

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

E-Mail: sgabriel@middevon.gov.uk