

MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

A **MEETING** of the **MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL** will be held in the Phoenix Chambers, Phoenix House, Tiverton on Wednesday, 27 October 2021 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, 22 December 2021 at 6.00 pm]

STEPHEN WALFORD

Chief Executive

19 October 2021

PLEASE NOTE: - this meeting will take place at Phoenix House and members of the Public and Press are encouraged to attend via Zoom wherever possible. The Protocol for Hybrid Meetings explains how this will work. Please do not attend Phoenix House without contacting the committee clerk in advance, in order that numbers of people can be appropriately managed in physical meeting rooms.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96805491803?pwd=TDRrYIJRaG1PN2dMTzUvc1Npd2Vmdz09>

Meeting ID: 968 0549 1803

Passcode: 692484

One tap mobile

08002605801,,96805491803#,,,,*692484# United Kingdom Toll-free

08003582817,,96805491803#,,,,*692484# 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: 968 0549 1803

Passcode: 692484

AGENDA

1 Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 Public Question Time

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

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 the reason for that interest, either at this stage of the meeting or as soon as they become aware of that interest.

4 **Minutes** (*Pages 7 - 14*)

Members to consider whether to approve the minutes as a correct record of the meeting held on 25 August 2021.

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.

5 **Chairman's Announcements**

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

6 **Petitions**

To receive any petitions from members of the public.

7 **Notices of Motions**

(1) MOTION 576 – (COUNCILLOR MRS N WOOLLATT – 14 OCTOBER 2021)

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

“Many councils and councillors across England have called for the ability to be able to attend and vote on line. Whilst we will always want councillors to be able to meet in person, there needs to be the provision for some members to be online, for example if they are vulnerable, self-isolating, have caring responsibilities or difficulties with transport. It is also in line with reducing carbon emissions to zero by 2030.

Our hybrid system of meetings are currently working well, but non-voting members attending online are not currently allowed to be recorded as having attended even though they can raise issues and contribute to the debate! Equally it would be very useful if voting members of a committee could have the flexibility to attend online if they find themselves in circumstances preventing physical attendance. This would help to reduce the risk of meetings not being quorate.

Northern Ireland recently agreed in its parliament to allow councils to meet and vote remotely, Wales and Scotland already allow this. England is being left behind.

Therefore:

This Council mandates the Leader to write to the new Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to call for parity across the UK and enable councillors in England to meet and vote

on line as they see fit.”

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

8 Reports (*Pages 15 - 174*)

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

- 1 Cabinet
 - 31 August 2021
 - 28 September 2021
- 2) Scrutiny Committee
 - 13 September 2021
 - 11 October 2021
- (3) Audit Committee
 - 21 September 2021
- (4) Environment Policy Development Group
 - 7 September 2021
- (5) Homes Policy Development Group
 - 14 September 2021
- (6) Economy Policy Development Group
 - 9 September 2021
- (7) Community Policy Development Group
 - 21 September 2021
- (8) Planning Committee
 - 8 September 2021
 - 22 September 2021
 - 6 October 2021
- (9) Standards Committee
 - 13 October 2021

(10) Regulatory Committee

- 27 September 2021

9 **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.

10 **Leader's 6 monthly update to Council**

The Leader will address the Council.

11 **Special Urgency Decisions**

Decisions taken under Rule 16 (of the Constitution) Special Urgency – no decisions of this kind have been made since the last meeting.

12 **Questions to Cabinet Members**

Cabinet Members will answer questions from Members on their Portfolios.

13 **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

From 7 May 2021, the law requires all councils to hold formal meetings in person. However, the Council is also required to follow government guidance about safety during the pandemic. The Council will enable all people to continue to participate in meetings via Zoom.

You are strongly encouraged to participate via Zoom to keep everyone safe - there is limited capacity in meeting rooms if safety requirements are to be met. There are restrictions and conditions which apply to those in the building and the use of the building. You must not attend a meeting at Phoenix House without complying with the requirements in the new protocol for meetings. You must follow any directions you are given.

Please read the new meeting protocol which is available here: <https://democracy.middevon.gov.uk/documents/s23135/MeetingProtocolUpdateOct2021nextreviewFeb2022.pdf>

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 Sally Gabriel on:

E-Mail: sgabriel@middevon.gov.uk

Public Wi-Fi is available in all meeting rooms.