

## MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of a **MEETING** of the **COMMUNITY POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP**  
held on 22 November 2022 at 2.15 pm

### **Present**

#### **Councillors**

Mrs M E Squires (Chairman)  
W Burke, R J Dolley, B Holdman, S Pugh, Mrs E J Slade  
and S J Clist

### **Apologies**

#### **Councillor(s)**

Mrs C Collis and L J Cruwys

### **Also Present**

#### **Councillor(s)**

J Buczkowski, Mrs C P Daw, R M Deed and D J Knowles

### **Present**

#### **Officer(s):**

Jill May (Director of Business Improvement and Operations), Andrew Busby (Corporate Manager for Property, Leisure and Climate Change), Paul Deal (Corporate Manager for Finance), Lisa Lewis (Corporate Manager for Business Transformation and Customer Engagement), Lee Chester (Operations Manager Leisure Services), Carole Oliphant (Member Services Officer) and Jessica Rowe (Member Services Apprentice)

### **32 Apologies and Substitute Members (0.02.53)**

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs C Collis and Cllr L J Cruwys who was substituted by Cllr S J Clist

### **33 Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct (0.03.20)**

Members were reminded of the need to make declarations where appropriate

### **34 Public Question Time (0.03.27)**

There were no members of the public present.

### **35 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (0.03.46)**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022 were approved as a correct record and **SIGNED** by the Chairman.

### **36 Chairmans Announcements (0.04.40)**

The Chairman had no announcements to make

### **37 Access to Information - Exclusion of Press and Public (0.04.47)**

The Chairman indicated that discussion with regard to the next item, may require the Committee to pass the following resolution to exclude the press and public having reflected on Article 12 12.02(d) (a presumption in favour of openness) of the Constitution. This decision may be required because consideration of this matter in public may disclose information falling within one of the descriptions of exempt information in Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The Committee would need to decide whether, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption, outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

**38 Medium Term Financial Plan - General Fund (GF), Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Programme (0.04.47)**

The Group had before it and **NOTED**, a \*report from the Deputy Chief Executive providing the Medium Term Financial Plan.

The Corporate Manager for Finance stated that the report was a slimmed down version which had been presented to the Cabinet on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022. The Council was looking at a budget gap of £2.1m for 2023/2024 and the Cabinet wanted the Community PDG to have discussions on the options available. He explained that the Governments recent allowed increase in Council Tax from 2% to 3% would only generate an additional £60k of income which would not close the budget gap.

The Leader explained that the Cabinet were looking to increase fees and charges in the first instance to close the budget gap rather than reductions in services.

**RESOLVED** that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the next item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 respectively of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

(Proposed by the Chairman)

Members then reviewed the options included within the Part 2 appendices and made recommendations to the Cabinet on the options preferred.

(Proposed by the Chairman)

The meeting then returned to open session and:

The Community PDG **RESOLVED** that delegated authority be given to the Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing to set the Leisure Pricing Strategy for the remainder of 2022 and 2023/2024.

(Proposed by the Chairman)

Note:

- \*report previously circulated and attached to the minutes
- Cllr R J Dolley requested that his abstention from voting be recorded

39 **Work Programme (0.23.46)**

The Group had before it, and **NOTED**, the \*Community Policy Development Group Work Plan for 2022-2023.

Note: \*Work Plan previously circulated and attached to the minutes

(The meeting ended at 3.08 pm)

**CHAIRMAN**