

Mid Devon District Council

Scrutiny Committee

Monday, 16 February 2015 at 2.15 pm
Exe Room, Phoenix House

Next ordinary meeting
Monday, 16 March 2015 at 2.15 pm

Those attending are advised that this meeting will be recorded

Membership

Cllr Mrs J Roach
Cllr E J Berry
Cllr Mrs J Rendle
Cllr T W Snow
Cllr Mrs M E Turner
Cllr N A Way
Cllr A V G Griffiths
Cllr Mrs S Griggs
Cllr T G Hughes
Cllr M R Lee

A G E N D A

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 **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.
- 3 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** (*Pages 5 - 12*)
To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the last meeting (attached).

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.

4 **DECISIONS OF THE CABINET**

To consider any decisions made by the Cabinet at its meeting on 5 February 2015 that have been called-in.

5 **MEMBER FORUM**

An opportunity for non-Cabinet Members to raise issues.

6 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

7 **CALL IN PROCEDURE** (*Pages 13 - 20*)

The Chairman has requested that the Committee discuss the 'Call in' procedure.

8 **CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING** (*Pages 21 - 36*)

The Cabinet Member for Housing will update the Committee regarding areas covered by this remit.

9 **COMMUNICATION WORKING GROUP UPDATE** (*Pages 37 - 38*)

The Chairman has requested that the Committee revisit the report of the Communications Working Group.

10 **PROCEEDINGS AGAINST COUNCILLOR WILSON - RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY COUNCILLOR PUGSLEY** (*Pages 39 - 80*)

The Committee to receive a report which was requested at the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 19 January 2015, to answer a series of questions raised by Members on the successful prosecution of Councillor Wilson in February 2014.

11 **COUNCILLOR D F PUGSLEY HAS REQUESTED THAT THE COMMITTEE DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING:**

"Progress report on the steps taken to ensure that the Council actually has a powerful and effective system for holding decision-makers to public account (Minute 98)."

12 **UPDATES AND ITEMS TO NOTE REGARDING OUTSTANDING ITEMS**

- Planning Committee Procedures: – Members are asked to note that there has been a delay in the issue of this report which will be considered by the Planning Committee. Following this, the report will be further considered by the Scrutiny Committee at the next available meeting.
- Safeguarding: -The Devon Safeguarding Childrens Board (DSCB) is currently completing its annual Section 11 audit.

Section 11 of the Childrens Act provides that:

Each person and body to whom this section applies must make arrangements for ensuring that—

(a) their functions are discharged having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; and

(b) any services provided by another person pursuant to arrangements made by the person or body in the discharge of their functions are provided having regard to that need.

As part of the section 11 audit we are required to complete a survey and return this to the DSCB. This has been completed.

Over the last few weeks articles to raise awareness of safeguarding have gone out in the weekly staff newsletter

The Head of Communities and Governance will be attending the Districts Safeguarding meeting on the 9th February 2015 where she will receive an update from the DSCB and also the Chairman of the Devon Safeguarding Adults Board (DSAB) will be attending. The Head of Communities and Governance will provide an update from this meeting at the next Scrutiny Committee on the 16th March.

13 **IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

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

Kevin Finan
Chief Executive
Friday, 6 February 2015

Anyone wishing to film part or all of the proceedings may do so unless the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting or there is good reason not to do so, as directed by the Chairman. Any filming must be done as unobtrusively as possible from a single fixed position without the use of any additional lighting; focusing only on those actively participating in the meeting and having regard also to the wishes of any member of the public present who may not wish to be filmed. As a matter of courtesy, anyone wishing to film proceedings is asked to advise the Chairman or the Member Services Officer in attendance so that all those present may be made aware that is happening.

Members of the public may also use other forms of social media to report on proceedings at this meeting.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and listen to discussion. Lift access to the Council Chamber on the first floor of the building is available from the main ground floor entrance. Toilet facilities, with wheelchair access, are also available. There is time set aside at the beginning of the meeting to allow the public to ask questions.

An induction loop operates to enhance sound for anyone wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter. 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 Julia Stuckey on:

Tel: 01884 234209

Fax:

E-Mail: jstuckey@middevon.gov.uk

Public Wi-Fi is available in all meeting rooms.