

## **MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**A MEETING** of the **MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL** will be held in the Phoenix Chambers, Phoenix House, Tiverton on Wednesday, 25 April 2018 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 (the Annual Meeting) is scheduled to be held in Tiverton on Wednesday, 9 May 2018 at 6.00 pm]**

### **STEPHEN WALFORD**

Chief Executive

17 April 2018

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

Reverend Godfrey Bell will lead the Council in prayer.

### **AGENDA**

#### **1 Councillor Miss Clarissa Slade**

In memory of Councillor Miss Clarissa Slade, a minute's silence will take place.

#### **2 Apologies**

To receive any apologies for absence.

#### **3 Declaration of Interests 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 - 32)**

Members to consider whether to approve the minutes as a correct record of the meeting held on 21 February 2018

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 **Public Question Time**

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

7 **Petitions**

To receive any petitions from members of the public.

8 **Notices of Motions**

**(1) Motion 541 (Councillor Mrs J Roach - 30 November 2017)**

The following motion had been referred to the Standards Committee for consideration and report:

This Council reconsiders the time and times that it allows ward members to speak at the planning committee. The present system gives many opportunities to speak but allows the local member only one opportunity. At the very least Council should give elected Councillors the opportunity to correct incorrect statements, something that exists within standing orders but not allowed at the planning committee. At the last planning committee the situation that exists at the moment prevented me as the elected Councillor for Silverton for pointing out that the Highways advice was inconsistent with previous advice given on the same site.

The Standards Committee at its meeting on 14 March 2018 considered the Motion and recommended that it not be supported as the matters raised within the Motion had been adequately covered and surpassed by a recommendation to the Planning Committee.

**(2) Motion 545 (Councillor L Taylor – 10 April 2018)**

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

That this Council considers the use of British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS) stickers on all Mid Devon grass cutting machinery, requesting that all users check the area to be cut before using the equipment. The stickers are free and are being used by other Councils such as East Devon District Council, Derbyshire County Council and Manchester City Council to name but a few.

In accordance with Procedure Rule 14.4, the Chairman of the

Council has decided that this Motion (if moved and seconded) will be referred without discussion to the Environment Policy Development Group.

**(3) Motion 546 (Councillor Mrs J Roach – 11 April 2018)**

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

This Council agrees to clarify the rules in the constitution relating to who can speak at working groups and to non planning application agenda items at the planning committee. This motion seeks to establish the right in law of Councillors to participate in the democratic process without relying on a Chairman's discretion.

In accordance with Procedure Rule 14.4, the Chairman of the Council has decided that this Motion (if moved and seconded) will be referred without discussion to the Standards Committee.

**(4) Motion 547 (Councillor Mrs J Roach – 11 April 2018)**

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

This Council agrees to amend the constitution by removing the right of a Chairman to use a casting vote.

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

**(5) Motion 548 (Councillor Mrs J Roach – 12 April 2018)**

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

This Council regrets that at the last Council meeting Cllr Mrs J Roach was given incorrect and misleading answers to some of her questions.

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 **Committee Reports** (*Pages 33 - 208*)

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

(1) Cabinet

- 8 March 2018
- 5 April 2018

2) Scrutiny Committee

- 12 March 2018
- 16 April 2018 (to follow)

- (3) Audit Committee
  - 20 March 2018
- (4) Environment Policy Development Group
  - 6 March 2018
- (5) Homes Policy Development Group
  - 13 March 2018
- (6) Economy Policy Development Group
  - 8 March 2018
- (7) Community Policy Development Group
  - 27 March 2018
- (8) Planning Committee
  - 28 February 2018
  - 21 March 2018
  - 18 April 2018 (to follow)
- (9) Standards Committee
  - 14 March 2018

10 **Annual Reports of Audit Committee, Scrutiny Committee and the Policy Development Groups** (*Pages 209 - 228*)

To receive the Annual reports (attached) of the Audit Committee, Scrutiny Committee and the four Policy Development Groups.

11 **Special Urgency Decisions**

Decisions taken under Rule 16 (of the Constitution) Special Urgency – January to March 2018.

There have been no such decisions in this period.

12 **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.

13 **Questions to Cabinet Members**

Cabinet Members will answer questions from Members on their Portfolios.

14 **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.

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 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 Sally Gabriel on:

Tel: 01884 234229

Fax:

E-Mail: [sgabriel@middevon.gov.uk](mailto:sgabriel@middevon.gov.uk)

Public Wi-Fi is available in all meeting rooms.