

MINUTES of a **MEETING** of the **COUNCIL** held on 7 May 2025 at 6.00 pm

**Present
Councillors**

G Czapiewski (Vice-Chair), C Adcock,
N Bradshaw, D Broom, E Buczkowski,
J Buczkowski, J Cairney, S Chenore,
S J Clist, L J Cruwys, G Cochran, C Connor,
F J Colthorpe, A Cuddy, G Duchesne,
B Fish, M Fletcher, A Glover, C Harrower,
B Holdman, M Jenkins, S Keable,
L G J Kennedy, L Knight, N Letch, J Lock,
J Poynton, R Roberts, S Robinson, M
Stratton, A Stirling, L Taylor, H Tuffin,
N Woollatt, G Westcott, A White, J Wright
and D Wulff

**Apologies
Councillors**

M D Binks and J M Downes and M Farrell (online)

**Also Present
Officer(s):**

Stephen Walford (Chief Executive), Andrew Jarrett (Deputy
Chief Executive (S151)), Maria De Leburne (Director of
Legal, People & Governance (Monitoring Officer)) and
Laura Woon (Democratic Services Manager)

318 CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr L Taylor nominated Cllr G Czapiewski for the election as Chair of the District Council for the year 2025/2026: This nomination was seconded by Cllr J Buczkowski.

Upon a vote being taken it was then:

RESOLVED that Cllr G Czapiewski be elected Chair of Mid Devon District Council for the Municipal year 2025/2026.

In accordance with Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972, Cllr G Czapiewski then made a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

319 RETIREMENT OF THE CHAIR

The Chair thanked the retiring Chair, Mr Frank Letch MBE for the way in which he had carried out the duties. There had been many tributes to Frank. His wit, resilience and his humanity would set the bar high as an example to others. There would be a memorial service at 2 p.m. on Friday 16th May in Crediton.

320 CHAIR'S ADDRESS

The Chair addressed the Council and thanked the Members for electing him as Chair.

The Chair had the following announcements to make:

- He had been awarded the privilege of serving as the Chair of Council and he committed to uphold the high standards of office, supporting and representing the residents of Mid Devon and the Council.
- He looked forward to meeting and working with volunteers who provided invisible support within the communities.
- Today, 80 years ago, the war in Europe was ended by the signing of peace agreements. The following day was declared a public holiday in this Country. Tomorrow, across the land, ceremonies would be held to commemorate this event. Flags would be raised, bells pealed, lanterns lit. Whilst there were celebration tomorrow, we should recognise the events that led to the conflagration and learn from history and strive to ensure that the manipulation of truth and tyranny were not allowed to affect us again. The war continued in the Far East, with service personnel returning from Europe being sent to the Far East, and it was not until Friday 15th August 1945 that hostilities ended in that theatre. We would also commemorate VJ Day on Friday 15th August.

321 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors: M Binks, J Downes and M Farrell (online)

Apologies were received from Councillor J Downes as he represented the Council an afternoon tea at Buckingham Palace.

322 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Members were reminded of the need to declare any interests when appropriate.

Cllr P Colthorpe referred to item 9 the appointments to outside bodies and declared she was the Chair of INVOLVE – Voluntary Action in Mid Devon.

323 MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 April were **AGREED** as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

324 VICE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr J Lock nominated Cllr S Chenore for the election as Vice- Chair of the District Council for the year 2025/2026: This nomination was seconded by Cllr S Clist.

Upon a vote being taken it was then:

RESOLVED that Cllr S Chenore be elected Vice- Chair of Mid Devon District Council for the Municipal year 2025/2026.

In accordance with Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972, Cllr S Chenore then made a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

325 **CHAIR OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Cllr E Buczkowski nominated Cllr S Robinson for election as Chair of Scrutiny. The nomination was seconded by Cllr A Cuddy.

Upon a vote being taken, it was then:

RESOLVED that Cllr S Robinson be elected Chair of Scrutiny for the Municipal Year 2025/2026.

Those voting **AGAINST**: Councillor: P Colthorpe, B Holdman, R Roberts, and N Woollatt.

326 **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE, SUB COMMITTEE, WORKING GROUPS AND OTHER INTERNAL BODIES**

The Council had before it a table * setting out the revised allocation of seats on Committees and other Council bodies.

Arising thereon:

Appointment of Committees and Allocation of Seats on Committees and other Council Bodies

The Chair **MOVED**:

(a) That the Council approved the allocation of seats on Committees and other Council Bodies as shown on the schedule;

(b) That Members be appointed to Committees in accordance with the names notified to the Chief Executive by each of the Political Groups represented on the Council, to give effect to the approved allocation of seats in (a) above;

(c) That Members also be appointed to Working Groups and other Internal Bodies in accordance with the names notified to the Chief Executive by each of the Political Groups represented on the Council, to give effect to the approved allocation of seats in (a) above;

(d) That the Chief Executive be authorised to make changes to membership of Committees, Working Groups and other Internal Bodies as may be notified to him from time to time by the relevant Political Group to which those seats had been allocated by the Council.

(e) That the appointments to seats remaining to be filled by ungrouped Members should be made at this meeting.

Cllr N Woollatt **MOVED** seconded by Cllr L Taylor to take up the Ungrouped seat on the Standards Committee.

Upon a vote being taken, the **MOTION** was declared to have been **CARRIED**.

Note: *table previously circulated.

327 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The following appointments to outside bodies in accordance with the list as follows were **AGREED** and to remove representation on Tiverton Town Centre Partnership:

Outside Body	Current Representative/s	Representative/s 2025/2026	Appointment Length
Armed Forces Partnership	Cllr C Harrower	Cllr C Harrower	4 years until May 2027
Blackdown Hills National Landscape	Cllr N Bradshaw	Cllr N Bradshaw	Annual
Broadpath Landfill & Hillhead Liaison Committee	Cllr A Glover	Cllr A Glover	Annual
Building Control Joint Committee	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Housing, Assets & Property Services Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Housing, Assets & Property Services Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration	Annual
Business Forum Mid Devon	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration	Annual
Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Housing, Assets & Property Services	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Housing, Assets & Property Services	4 years until May 2027
Churches Housing Action Team Management Board	Cllr G Cochran	Cllr G Cochran	4 years until May 2027

Culm Garden Village Delivery Board	The Leader Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration	The Leader Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration	Annual
Citizens Advice Torridge, North, Mid & West Devon	Vacancy	Cllr A Stirling	4 years until May 2027
Community Safety Partnership	Cabinet Member for Quality of Living, Equalities and Public Health	Cabinet Member for Quality of Living, Equalities and Public Health	4 years until May 2027
Cullompton HAZ / Town Centre Regeneration Partnership	Cllr S Robinson	Cllr S Robinson	4 years until May 2027
Cullompton Town Team 2 Members	Cllr L Knight Cllr S Robinson	Cllr L Knight Cllr S Robinson	Annual
Dartmoor National Park Authority Forum 2 Members	Cllr C Connor Cllr J Downes	Cllr C Connor Cllr J Downes	4 years until May 2027
Devon and Torbay Housing Advisory Group	Cabinet Member for Housing, Assets and Property Services	Cabinet Member for Housing, Assets and Property Services	4 years until May 2027
Devon Armed Forces Community Well-Being Partnership	Cllr G Cochran	Cllr G Cochran	4 years until May 2027
Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee (formally known as 'Devon Authorities Waste Reduction & Recycling Committee')	Cabinet Member for Service Delivery & Continuous Improvement (plus a deputy)	Cabinet Member for Service Delivery & Continuous Improvement (plus a deputy)	4 years until May 2027
Devon Countryside Access Forum	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for	4 years until May 2027

	Housing, Assets & Property Services	Housing, Assets & Property Services	
Devon Districts Forum	Leader	Leader	Annual
Devon Rail Forum	Cllr J Downes	Cllr J Downes	Annual
Devon & Somerset Metro Board	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration	Annual
LGA General LGA Assembly / Annual Conference	Leader	Leader	4 years until May 2027
Gypsy and Traveller Forum	1. Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration 2. Cabinet Member for Housing, Assets & Property Services 3. Cllr A Glover	Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration Cabinet Member for Housing, Assets & Property Services 4. Cllr A Glover	Annual
INVOLVE – Voluntary Action in Mid Devon	Cllr S Robinson	Cllr S Robinson	Annual
Mid and East Devon Children's Centres Advisory Board (2 Members)	Cllr S Robinson Cllr F Letch MBE	Cllr S Robinson Cllr S Chenore	4 years until 2027
Mid Devon Highways and Traffic Orders Committee (hosted by DCC) (2 Members)	Cllr J Poynton Cllr J Cairney	Cllr J Poynton Cllr L Cruwys	Bi-annual
Mid Devon Locality (County) Committee (hosted by DCC) 2 Members	Cllr N Letch Cllr S Keable	Cllr N Letch Cllr S Keable	4 years until May 2027

Mid Devon Mobility (previously known as Tiverton and District Community Transport Association)	Cllr G DuChesne	Cllr G DuChesne	4 years until May 2027
Most Sparsely Populated Councils Group (part of the RSN Rural Services Network)	Cllr G Czapiewski Cllr S Robinson (substitute member)	Cllr G Czapiewski Cllr S Robinson (substitute member)	4 years until May 2027
OkeRail Forum	Cllr J Downes	Cllr M Jenkins	Annual
PATROL (Parking & Traffic Regulations outside of London)	Cllr G Cochran	Cllr G Cochran	4 years until May 2027
PCC Councillor Advocate Scheme	Cllr L Kennedy	Cllr L Kennedy	4 years until 2027
Plastic Free Tiverton	Cllr B Fish	Cllr B Fish	4 years until 2027
Police and Crime Panel for Devon and Cornwall	Cllr G Czapiewski	Cllr G Czapiewski	4 years until May 2027
South West Councils	The Leader	The Leader	Annual
South West Councils Employers Panel	Cabinet Member for People, Development and Deputy Leader	Cabinet Member for People, Development and Deputy Leader	Annual
Team Devon	The Leader	The Leader	Annual
Tiverton Adventure Playground Committee	Cllr B Holdman	Cllr B Holdman	4 years until May 2027
Tiverton Museum of Mid Devon Life	Cllr L Cruwys	Cllr L Cruwys	4 years until May 2027
Tiverton Town Centre Partnership (3 Tiverton Town Members)	Cllr D Wulff Cllr L Cruwys Cllr A Cuddy		Annual

Westleigh Group	Quarry	Liaison	Cllr J Lock	Cllr J Lock	4 years until May 2027
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328 **SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

The Chair **MOVED** that the Council agree the existing scheme of delegations as set out in Part 3 of the Constitution.

Upon a vote being taken the **MOTION** was declared to have been **CARRIED**.

329 **PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS**

The Chair **MOVED** that the following programme of ordinary meetings of the Council for the year 2025/26 be approved:

23 July 2025
24 September 2025
29 October 2025
17 December 2025
18 February 2026
22 April 2026
6 May 2026

Upon a vote being taken the **MOTION** was declared to have be **CARRIED**.

(The meeting ended at 6.45pm)

CHAIR