

Mid Devon District Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Thursday, 17 December 2015

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
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Part A – Items considered in public

94.	Apologies	
95.	Public Question Time	
96.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	
97.	Play Areas in Mid Devon (00-23-52)	<p>Arising from a report of the Head of Housing and Property Services, the Managing the Environment Policy Development Group had recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The recommendations within Annex 2 of the report be approved; b) The contributions from Town and Parish Councils towards the running and maintenance cost be noted; c) The Head of Housing and Property Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for the Environment, be given delegated authority to negotiate acceptable terms for the transfer of selected play area in Willand to the Parish Council by the end of December 2015. <p>RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Policy Development Group be approved with the inclusion of the wording “Parish Field (Gables Lea) in (c) and the addition of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) The Head of Housing and property Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for the Environment, be given delegated authority to negotiate acceptable terms for the transfer of Tufty Park and Headweir Road plays areas in Cullompton to the Town Council by 31 January 2016.

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		(e) Any sites identified for managed decline or closure could be leased to the Parish/Town Councils by negotiation.
98.	Planning Guidance for Waste Storage (1-02-18)	<p>Arising from a *report of the Head of Housing and Property Services, the Managing the Environment Policy Development Group had recommended that the design guidance be agreed and that officers develop the guidance as a supplementary planning document.</p> <p>RESOLVED that subject to the words “may” to be replaced with “must” and “should” to be replaced with “would” on paragraph 4 on page 33, the recommendation of the Policy Development Group be approved.</p>
99.	Grounds Maintenance and Grass Cutting (1-09-31)	<p>Arising from a report of the Head of Housing and Property Services, the Managing the Environment Policy Development Group had recommended that this authority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Continues to provide grass verge cutting on Devon County Council highway land in Town and Parishes that have contributed funding based on the 2015/16 budget as detailed in 3.3 and Option 1. b) Negotiates with those Town and Parishes Councils who have resolved on Option 1 for a reduction of one cut per annum or to contribute towards one additional cut per annum with reference to 3.4 and 5.5. c) Withdraws from the Devon County Council grass verge cutting agreement,

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		<p>where the Town and Parish Councils have resolved to accept funding directly from Devon County Council as detailed in 3.3 /Option 2.</p> <p>d) Withdraws from our grass verge cutting agreement with Devon County Council where Town and Parish Councils have resolved to accept Option 3 due to the financial shortfall forecast in Annex A.</p> <p>e) Reviews the ongoing service provision of grass verge cutting in response to the reduction of funding as detailed at 5.6 by March 2016.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the recommendation of the Policy Development Group be approved.</p> <p>.</p>
100.	Car Parking Charging Proposals (1-19-53)	<p>Arising from a *report of the Head of Finance, the Managing the Environment Policy Development Group had recommended that the pricing proposals within the report be approved, along with the recommendations in section 3.2 of the report.</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>a) subject to: the parking charges in the Multi-Storey Car Park in Tiverton, and the car parks in Station Road, Cullompton and St Saviours Way, Crediton being raised to £2 for 24 hours or part of; the recommendations of the Policy Development Group be approved.</p>

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		<p>b) These recommendations will form the basis of the new Off Street Parking Places Order (Road Traffic Act 1984) which will be advertised and consulted upon and therefore delegated authority be given to the Head of Finance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for the Environment to act on feedback from this consultation process and agree any necessary amendments required before finalising the 2016/17 car park charges to be incorporated into the final order.</p>
101.	Grants (1-51-53)	<p>Arising from a *report of the Head of Communities and Governance, the Community Well-Being Policy Development Group had recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The grant for the Grand Western Canal be removed from the grants budget and be paid from the New Homes Bonus; b) The revised grants for 2016/17 be approved; c) The authority put in place procedures to ensure that monitoring of activity and finances of those in receipt of grants takes place in the future; and d) The Community Well Being Policy Development Group Grants Working Group be involved in any initial discussions regarding the setting of proposed cuts to future grants. <p>RESOLVED that subject to a further reduction of £5K to the Citizens Advice Bureau grant, the recommendations of the Policy Development Group be approved.</p>
102.	Housing Revenue Account Budget	

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	2016/17 (2-16-35)	
103.	Meeting Management (2-19-46)	
104.	Corporate Plan (2-20-14)	<p>The Cabinet had before it a *report of the Head of Communities and Governance setting out the strategic direction and aspirations of the Council for the next four years.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the contents of the draft Corporate Plan be approved for consultation.</p>
105.	Anaerobic Digesters (2-35-18)	<p>Arising from a report of the Head of Planning and Regeneration, the Scrutiny Committee had recommended that:</p> <p>a) A request be made to the Environment Agency for the opportunity for MDDC to feed into the environmental permitting regime and that a copy of the approved permit be given to this authority.</p> <p>b) Where enforcement issues were raised with an AD plant, that related to more than one agency, coordination take place between relevant agencies and that MDDC take a lead role in that coordination.</p> <p>c) a review of the scope of planning conditions to control AD plants be undertaken in order to develop best practice for future applications.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the recommendation of the Scrutiny Committee be approved.</p>
106.	Leasehold Management (including service charge policy) (2-47-38)	<p>Arising from a report of the Head of Housing and Property Services, the Decent and Affordable Homes Policy Development Group had recommended the revised</p>

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		<p>Leasehold Management Policy be approved.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the recommendation of the Policy Development Group be approved.</p>
107.	Supply and Demand Policy (2-49-14)	
108.	Void Policy (2-50-42)	
109.	Allocations Policy (Band E - Devon Home Choice) (2-54-12)	<p>Arising from a *report of the Allocations Policy Working Group, the Decent and Affordable Homes Policy Development Group had recommended that: Band E be retained only on the following assumptions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All applicants to be reviewed annually on Devon Home Choice, this will also include contacting applicants to remind them that they may not have logged onto the Devon Home Choice system or have never placed a bid on the system. This will take out some of the “<i>dead wood</i>” on the system and remove those who have moved and not notified Devon Home Choice of their changes. Applicants will be given 21 days in which to respond. Should they not reply then the application will be suspended. 2. Contact applicants who have not logged onto the system to ascertain the reasons behind this. 3. Applicants who have refused 3 properties will be investigated as to the reasons for the refusal, to determine if they should remain in their current band or

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		<p>suspended.</p> <p>4. Mid Devon goes out for consultation on its Housing Allocation Policy proposing that the policy be rewritten to include the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants will be removed from the Devon Home Choice waiting list if they do not bid for properties over a 12 month period*. (*subject to review of available & suitable properties) • Applicants will be removed from the waiting list if they refuse 3 <i>suitable</i> offers of accommodation subject to availability or properties within their required location or adjacent parish. • Whilst carrying out a consultation, the working group may wish to include other elements to the review. • That there be a review in June 2016. <p>(These changes can be implemented ready for the 1st April 2016. This would allow for the consultation period of 6 weeks (as recommended by DCLG), a new allocation policy to be written and sent to the PDG for agreement).</p> <p>RESOLVED that the recommendation of the Policy Development Group be approved.</p>
110.	Abolition of the Cash Incentive Scheme (2-57-26)	Arising from a *report of the Head of Housing and Property Services, the Decent and Affordable Homes Policy Development Group had recommended that the cash

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		incentive scheme whereby downsizing tenants are given payments for giving up larger homes be discontinued. RESOLVED that the recommendation of the Policy Development Group be approved.
111.	Improvements to Council Properties policy	Arising from a *report of the Head of Housing and Property Services, the Decent and Affordable Homes Policy Development Group had recommended: that the revised Improvements to Council Properties Policy be approved. RESOLVED that the recommendation of the Policy Development Group be approved.
112.	Severe Weather Emergency Protocol and Extended Winter Provision Protocol (3-00-05)	
113.	Council Tax Reduction Scheme (3-01-45)	
114.	Tax Base Calculation (3-02-41)	
115.	Financial Monitoring (3-03-42)	
116.	Notification of Key Decisions (3-08-00)	
A1		
A2		