

NORTH DEVON COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of NORTH DEVON COUNCIL held at Brynsworthy Environment Centre, Barnstaple on Wednesday 25th July 2018 at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Members:

Councillor Moore (Chair)

Councillors Barker, Biederman, Bonds, Brailey, J. Cann, R. Cann, Chesters, Chugg, Croft, Davis, Edgell, Edmunds, Greenslade, Gubb, Haywood, Hunt, Jones, Lane, Leaver, Ley, Lovering, Luggar, Mackie, Manuel, Mathews, Meadlarkin, Moores, Patrinos, Prowse, Roome, Spear, Webber, White and Yabsley.

Officers:

Chief Executive, Head of Resources, Head of Corporate and Community and Senior Corporate and Community Services Officer (BT).

9 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bradford, Campbell, Flynn, Fowler, Tucker, Wilkinson and Worden.

10 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 27th March 2018 and 4th April 2018 (circulated previously) be approved as correct records subject to the inclusion of Councillor Flynn as being recorded as giving her apologies under minute 94 for the meeting held on 27th March 2018.

11 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Welcome to Councillor Mackie

The Chair congratulated Councillor Jayne Mackie on her recent election and welcomed her to her first meeting of Council.

(b) Order of Agenda

Councillor Moore reported the receipt of a request from Superintendent Davies to consider item 12 earlier on the agenda due to a prior engagement.

It was moved by Councillor Brailey and seconded by Councillor Biederman that "item 12 be considered before item 10 on the agenda".

RESOLVED that item 12 be considered before item 10 on the agenda.

12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest announced.

13 MERGER OF DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE WITH DORSET POLICE

Council received a presentation by Superintendent Davies regarding the proposed exploration of a merger between Devon and Cornwall Police with Dorset Police. The Police and Crime Commissioner was undertaking consultation and inviting views on the consultation of the proposed merger. Devon and Cornwall Police already had a strategic alliance with Dorset. This was the first occasion whereby two forces were voluntarily exploring merging. He explained that the reasons for exploring a merger with Dorset was that both forces had a similar culture, geography and style of policing. There would be significant benefits in terms of economies of scale by sharing resources and re-investing back in to the front line. If the merger went ahead, the force would become one of the largest forces in the country and therefore have a greater voice nationally. There would be a need for less senior officers and one less Police and Crime Commissioner. The survey was available on the Police and Crime Commissioner's website. He would provide a policing update at a future meeting following the summer period.

A question and answer session then followed.

Councillor Greenslade declared a personal interest as his son-in-law was a Police Officer for Devon and Cornwall Police.

14 EXECUTIVE REPORTS

- (a) Executive Leader Report

Council noted a report by the Leader of the Council (circulated previously) regarding the work of the Executive.

- (b) Executive Members reports, as required

There were no Executive Member reports.

- (c) Questions to Executive reports, as required

The following questions were submitted in advance of the meeting and responses provided by the Leader were tabled:

- (i) Question to Councillor Brailey from Councillor Flynn "Does the Leader agree with me that this Council should commend the achievements of the five individuals from Northern Devon who were awarded Honours for services to their communities and

charities on the Queen's birthday Honours list this year? They are namely Rev. Colin Hodgetts awarded the MBE : Arnold Bradbury, Joan Dixon, Roger Pullen and Anne Tattersall awarded the BEM.” Councillor Brailey’s response “Councillor Flynn thank you for your question. I whole heartedly agree with you that we as a Council should congratulate the individuals who were honoured in the recent Queens Birthday Honours List. Honours and awards are often hard won yet not sought.”

- (ii) Question to Councillor Brailey from Councillor Greenslade “In view of the public position on Brexit recently adopted by the Cabinet would the Leader agree that the Council ought to consider the ramifications for North Devon and what representations we should be making?” Councillor Brailey’s response “Councillor Greenslade thank your question. Naturally many people are concerned, whether they voted for or against leaving the EU. However, I believe your question is premature, we do not know what the outcome might be. Yes, we know what the Government are suggesting but the EU will have a view and until we know what the proposals might be, this is premature. Rest assured we are all watching the situation because the final outcome will impact on us all.” In response to a supplementary question from Councillor Greenslade regarding not waiting until the Government’s final proposals to make representations, Councillor Brailey advised that it was premature at this stage for the Council to make representations.
- (iii) Question to Councillor Brailey from Cllr Worden “I understand that Councillor Meadlarkin has been made a member of the Executive. Would the leader likely explain why at this late stage it was felt necessary to increase the number on the Executive and secondly what his specific role is to be.” Councillor Brailey’s response “Councillor Worden thank you for your question. I have not increased the numbers on Executive but as you know, sadly we lost Councillor Michael Harrison last year. I moved Councillor Lane to Resources and Asset Utilisation to fill Councillor Harrison’s old post. I moved Cllr Meadlarkin into Councillor Lane’s former post Service Delivery and Performance Management including Access to Services and Customer Interaction. For some time I have been concerned that there was no representative for the Ilfracombe area and the sad situation allowed me to rectify this.”

(d) Recommendations of the Executive

Council considered the recommendations of the Executive held on 8th May 2018, 4th June 2018 and 2nd July 2018 (circulated previously).

It was moved by Councillor Chesters and seconded by Councillor Mathews that “minutes 15 (e) of the meeting held on 8th May 2018, minutes 27 (b) and 28 (d) of the

meeting held on 4th June 2018 and minute 36 (b) of the meeting held on 2nd July 2018 be adopted.”

RESOLVED that the following minutes of the Executive be adopted:

- (i) **8th May 2018**
(A) Minute 15 (e): Tarka Tennis Centre Artificial Grass Pitch.
- (ii) **4th June 2018**
(A) Minute 27 (b): Approval and Release of Section 106 Funds – Pilton Park and Princess Avenue Play Areas.
(B) Minute 28 (d): Approval and Release of Section 106 Public Open Space Funds (Barnstaple, Croyde and Fremington).
- (iii) **2nd July 2018**
(A) Minute 36 (b): Approval and Release of Section 106 Open Space Funds – Combe Martin.

15 #2MINUTEBEACHCLEAN

Council received a presentation by Martin Dorey regarding the #2minutebeachclean campaign. The campaign had been started due to the amount of litter, plastic, rubbish and crisis of the oceans. In 2013, the #2minutebeachclean was introduced on social media whereby people started to take responsibility for keeping clean their own area. An app was available to record the amount of waste that people collected. There had been a recent television programme Blue Planet 2 which highlighted the crisis of the oceans due to plastic. Blue Planet’s website identified the #2minutebeachclean campaign as one of the top ways that people could help. In 2014, beach boards were introduced which were placed on beaches and contained litter pickers and bags for people to borrow and fill with waste collected. This was initially trialled in eight areas, which included Croyde and proved to be very successful in North Devon. There were now over 400 boards in the UK and Ireland. Every blue flag beach in Ireland had a board to help with retaining the blue flag status. The boards were made in Devon. A new campaign had commenced to encourage 2 minute litter picks on open spaces. 5 part time people were employed. Anyone could purchase a board which cost £330 +vat. The group received a percentage of the sales from the boards and grants from organisations such as Costa and Greggs and was in the process of becoming a charity.

The Head of Corporate and Community advised Council that as part of the Community Councillor role, Councillors could work with Parish Councils regarding obtaining boards for their areas and could use their Community Councillor Grants to fund the purchase of a board.

16 **PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT QUARTER 4 OF 2017/18**

(a) Report of meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Mathews, Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee presented the Committee's report on the Performance and Financial Management for Quarter 4 of 2017/18 (tabled).

Councillor White advised that he had given his apologies for the meeting of the Committee held on 12th July 2018, however this had not been recorded in the minutes.

(b) Report of meeting of the Executive

Councillor Brailey reported the recommendations of the Executive on the Performance and Financial Management for Quarter 4 of 2017/18 (circulated previously).

It was moved by Councillor Brailey and seconded by Councillor Barker "that the recommendation in minute 23 (g) of the meeting of the Executive held on 4th June 2018 in relation to the Performance and Financial Management for Quarter 4 of 2017/18 be adopted".

RESOLVED that the recommendation in minute 23 (g) of the meeting of the Executive held on 4th June 2018 in relation to the Performance and Financial Management for Quarter 4 of 2017/18 be adopted.

17 **ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2017/18**

(a) Report of meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Mathews, Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee presented the Committee's report on the Annual Treasury Management report 2017/18 (tabled).

(b) Report of meeting of the Executive

Councillor Brailey reported the recommendations of the Executive on the Annual Treasury Management report 2017/18 (circulated previously).

It was moved by Councillor Brailey and seconded by Councillor Chesters "that the recommendation in minute 34 of the meeting of the Executive held on 2nd July 2018 in relation to the Annual Treasury Management report 2017/18 be adopted".

RESOLVED that the recommendation in minute 34 of the meeting of the Executive held on 2nd July 2018 in relation to the Annual Treasury Management report 2017/18 be adopted.

18 REVIEW OF GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Council considered a report by the Head of Corporate and Community (circulated previously) regarding the Review of Governance arrangements.

It was moved by Councillor Edmunds and seconded by Councillor Webber that “the recommendations in the report be adopted subject to the cross party working group being comprised of two members from each political group”.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the report and the options set out be noted;
- (b) that Council form a Cross Party Working group being comprised of two members from each political group to take forward the consideration of options with further reports to come back to full Council with a view to implementation of any changes prior to Annual Council 2019.

19 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Council considered a report by the Head of Corporate and Community (circulated previously) regarding the Community Governance Review.

It was moved by Councillor Brailey and seconded by Councillor Spear that “the recommendations in the report be adopted”.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that a Community Governance Review be commenced limited in scope to cover the matters set out in the report;
- (b) that the terms of reference set out in the Appendix be approved;
- (c) that delegated power be given to the Head of Corporate and Community, in consultation with the Chair of Ethics Committee and the Group Leaders, to take such decisions as are necessary in order to progress the Community Governance Review.

20 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND MEMBER TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2018/19

It was moved by Councillor Spear and seconded by Councillor Biederman “that Councillor J. Cann be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2018/19 to fill the Liberal Democrat vacancy”.

RESOLVED that Councillor J. Cann be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2018/19 to fill the Liberal Democrat vacancy.

It was moved by Councillor Spear and seconded by Councillor Edmunds “that Councillor Patrinos be appointed Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2018/19.”

RESOLVED that Councillor Patrinos be appointed Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2018/19.

21 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF THE HARBOUR BOARD

Council considered a report by the Harbour Master (circulated previously) regarding the appointment of Independent Members of the Harbour Board.

It was moved by Councillor Meadlarkin and seconded by Councillor Edmunds “that the recommendations in the report be adopted.”

RESOLVED:

- (a) That Mr Martin Cleary be appointed as an Independent Member on the Ilfracombe Harbour Board for a four year period until 24th July 2022;
- (b) That Mr Colin Knill be appointed as an Independent Member on the Ilfracombe Harbour for a second term of four year period until 24th July 2022.

22 APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES 2018/19

It was moved by Councillor Spear and seconded by Councillor Room “that Councillor Hunt be appointed to the Licensing Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2018/19.”

RESOLVED that Councillor Hunt be appointed to the Licensing Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2018/19.”

Council noted that due to a typographical error at Annual Council on 4th April 2018, that Councillor Worden had been appointed to the Planning Committee in place of Councillor Wilkinson.

23 URGENT DECISIONS TAKEN DURING THE PERIOD 23RD MARCH 2018 – 16TH JULY 2018

Council noted the urgent decisions taken during the period 23rd March 2018 to 16th July 2018 (circulated previously).

24 **MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**

(a) **Audit Committee**

RESOLVED that the following minutes of the Audit Committee (circulated previously) be noted and adopted as follows:

- (i) 12th June 2018
 - (A) Minute 7: Annual Governance Statement 2017/18 (NOTE: Council noted that this recommendation will be considered by Extraordinary Council on 14th August 2018).
 - (B) Minute 9: Statement of Accounts 2017/18. (NOTE: Council noted that this recommendation will be considered by Extraordinary Council on 14th August 2018).

(b) **Ilfracombe Harbour Board**

RESOLVED that the following minutes of the Ilfracombe Harbour Board (circulated previously) be noted and adopted as follows:

- (i) 8th May 2018
- (ii) 3rd July 2018
 - (A) Minute 14: Ilfracombe Harbour Safety Management System

(c) **Licensing Committee**

RESOLVED that the following minutes of the Licensing Committee (circulated previously) be noted and adopted as follows:

- (i) 17th April 2018
- (ii) 12th June 2018
- (iii) 10th July 2018

(d) **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

RESOLVED that the following minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (circulated previously) be noted and adopted as follows:

- (i) 26th April 2018
- (ii) 12th July 2018 (tabled)

(e) **Planning Committee**

RESOLVED that the following minutes of the Planning Committee (circulated previously) be noted and adopted as follows:

- (i) 14th March 2018
- (ii) 11th April 2018
- (iii) 8th May 2018
- (iv) 13th June 2018

Chairman

The meeting ended at 6.57 p.m.

NOTE: These minutes will be confirmed as a correct record at the next meeting of Council.