

NORTH DEVON COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of NORTH DEVON COUNCIL held at Virtual - Online meeting on Wednesday, 7th October, 2020 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT: Members:

Councillor Biederman (Chair)

Councillors Barker, Bulled, Bushell, Chesters, Davis, Davies, Fowler, Gubb, Henderson, Hunt, Jenkins, Knight, Lane, Leaver, Lovering, Ley, Mack, Mackie, Orange, Patrinos, Pearson, Prowse, Roome, Saxby, D. Spear, L. Spear, Topham, Tucker, Turton, Walker, Wilkinson, Worden, Yabsley and York

Officers:

Chief Executive, Head of Resources, Senior Solicitor/Monitoring Officer and Head of Place

139. VIRTUAL MEETINGS PROCEDURE - BRIEFING AND ETIQUETTE

The Chair outlined the virtual meeting procedure and etiquette to Council and attendees.

The Senior Corporate and Community Services Officer confirmed the names of those Councillors and officers present and advised that members of the public and press were also in attendance.

140. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Campbell, Cann, Lofthouse, Phillips and Topps.

141. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22 JULY 2020 (ATTACHED)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2020 (circulated previously) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

142. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Councillor Will Topps

The Chair congratulated Councillor Will Topps and his wife Selina on the birth of their baby daughter yesterday.

(b) Business Grants

The Chair provided Council with an update on Business Grants. He advised that Members will recall that the business grant scheme announced by the Chancellor back in March 2020 and that Local Authorities would be responsible for the administration and payment of these much needed grants to support local businesses. North Devon Council were allocated the largest allocation of grant funding in Devon and had one of the largest number of eligible businesses who could apply, including all the unitary Councils. North Devon's online form went 'live' on 9 April for businesses to access, just 2 weeks after the guidance was announced. The scheme had now finished and as of today; the Council had paid out £43million to 3800 businesses and have therefore paid out to 96% of those eligible businesses that could apply. In addition, Government announced a "Discretionary Business Grant" fund. The Council ran this scheme through our Economic Development team as they had close links to local businesses and especially those that had fallen outside the scope of the original grant scheme. The scheme was launched on 1 June 2020; and have fully allocated the £2.25million fund. To summarise, the Council had paid out a total of £45.3million in Business Grants. The Council had also allocated in addition; £20million Expanded Retail discount off business rate bills to a further 1100 businesses. Overall financial assistance to support North Devon businesses of over £65million through the pandemic. Bearing in mind the context of the speed and pressure from Government to 'support businesses' quickly; the Council have delivered under exceptional circumstances an enormous amount of financial assistance to support local businesses in North Devon and we should be extremely proud of our officers in what they have achieved.

143. REPLIES TO ANY QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY THE PUBLIC AND/OR TO RECEIVE PETITIONS UNDER PART 4, COUNCIL PROCEDURES RULES, PARAGRAPHS 8 AND 9 OF THE CONSTITUTION

There were no questions and/or Petitions submitted by the Public under Part 4, Council Procedure Rules, Paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Constitution.

144. TO CONSIDER MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 4, COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES, PARAGRAPH 11 OF THE CONSTITUTION

(a) To consider the following notice of motion from Councillor Prowse

Councillor Prowse presented his notice of motion to Council.

It was moved by Councillor Prowse and seconded by Councillor Biederman:

"That this Council work with other stakeholders across Devon to draft and promote an alternative structure of local government that best reflects the needs of the differing communities and local economies in Devon."

Council noted that Councillor Bushell raised concerns of a repeat of when Borough Councils were removed and local authorities lost the assets from their area.

RESOLVED that this Council work with other stakeholders across Devon to draft and promote an alternative structure of local government that best reflects the needs of the differing communities and local economies in Devon.

(b) To consider the following notice of motion from Councillor Roome

Councillor Biederman declared a personal interest as a Member of Devon County Council.

Councillor Roome presented his notice of motion to Council.

It was moved by Councillor Roome and seconded by Councillor Tucker that “we request DCC review the maintenance programme of gully drains immediately and that South West Water review their drains in light of the recent flooding, and work with District Council Members to identify areas that need more regular maintenance; and that comparison information be requested from DCC regarding the savings that have been made following the reduction of maintenance and clearance of drains against the costs of the reactionary work required following flooding”.

RESOLVED that it be requested that DCC review the maintenance programme of gully drains immediately and that South West Water review their drains in light of the recent flooding, and work with District Council Members to identify areas that need more regular maintenance; and that comparison information be requested from DCC regarding the savings that have been made following the reduction of maintenance and clearance of drains against the costs of the reactionary work required following flooding”.

(c) To consider the following notice of motion from Councillor Worden

Councillor Worden presented his notice of motion to Council. Councillor Worden advised that a special meeting of the Strategy and Resources Committee would be held on 19 October 2020 and that any Member was welcome to attend and address the Committee.

The Chief Executive advised that the consultation response to the White Paper on changes to the current planning system had been submitted and a copy would be circulated to all Members. The notice of motion would be automatically referred to the Strategy and Resources Committee and therefore did not need to form part of the notice of motion.

It was moved by Councillor Worden and seconded by Councillor Biederman that “the Council take part in the consultation in the planning proposals, and to make representations against the proposals as outlined in this motion, write to our Member of Parliament, expressing the Council’s concerns and to circulate her reply to

members and highlight its concerns over these proposals with the public and local residents.”

RESOLVED:

- (i) the Council take part in the consultation in the planning proposals, and to make representations against the proposals as outlined in this motion;
- (ii) write to our Member of Parliament, expressing the Council’s concerns and to circulate her reply to Members; and
- (iii) highlight its concerns over these proposals with the public and local residents.

(d) **To consider the following notice of motion from Councillor Walker**

Councillor Walker presented her notice of motion to Council.

It was moved by Councillor Walker and seconded by Councillor York that “we ask that this Council responds to the consultation on pavement parking stating they wish to control such parking and can issue fines for breaches.”

RESOLVED that we ask that this Council responds to the consultation on pavement parking stating they wish to control such parking and can issue fines for breaches.

Council noted that the notice of motion would be referred to the Policy Development Committee for consideration.

145. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declaration of interest was announced:

Councillor Biederman Item 12 – personal interest as an employee of the Royal Mail

146. CHAIR'S REPLIES TO ANY QUESTIONS TO COUNCIL BY MEMBERS SUBMITTED UNDER PART 4, COUNCIL PROCEDURES RULES, PARAGRAPH 10 OF THE CONSTITUTION

(a) **To consider the following question from Councillor Ley to the Leder:**

“For the first time I have been unable to resolve Ward issues. The primary reason for this, (again for the first time) is that in exercising their delegated powers, officers have either informed me after a decision has been made, or not at all. The

Constitution is crystal clear on Page 10. IN EXERCISING THEIR DELEGATED POWERS OFFICERS WILL CONSULT WITH ANY APPROPRIATE MEMBER. To date officers at the most senior level have refused to acknowledge any mistakes. If you do not acknowledge when a mistake has been made, you cannot learn from them and move on.

So the question is: How do you ensure such incidents are not repeated. Or alternatively, what mechanism can be put in place to safeguard a Ward member(s) community role from being overridden.”

Councillor Worden’s response “Thank you Councillor Ley for your question and I am sorry that you have felt uniformed resulting in not been able to resolve a Ward issue. As you are aware the constitution sets out a whole range of decisions which are delegated to officers to take. Every Council operates in this way and in effect, it would be very difficult to operate on a day to day basis without that approach. Our constitution states that before exercising delegated powers, an officer will consult with any appropriate member which may include the Leader, Ward Councillors or the Chair of a relevant Committee. I am sure that this provision was included so that councillors would be involved in important decisions. The wording of this provision does however leave room for misinterpretation as what one person deems appropriate may be different to another person. The powers that are delegated to officers are wide and range from decisions such as approving a planning application through to minor matters such as ordering equipment. It is fair to say that councillors would not expect to be consulted on every decision as to do so in some cases would not be seen as “appropriate”. The alternative approach would be to specify each power that would be subject to prior consultation which would be extremely difficult as there are even differences between the level of information or consultation expected by individual councillors. The issue raised by Councillor Ley, which related to a planning issue in his ward, has already been discussed with officers and the Head of Place has made a suggestion to Councillor Ley that will hopefully ensure that this situation does not arise again.” In response to a supplementary question, Councillor Worden advised that a meeting with Councillor Ley, himself, the Chief Executive and Head of Place would be arranged to resolve the issue.

147. REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Council noted a report by the Leader of the Council (circulated previously) regarding work that had been undertaken since the last Council meeting.

Councillor Worden advised that he would write a letter to Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust on behalf of the Council asking them to reconsider their current maternity restrictions with urgency, and allow women to have their partners with them for all pregnancy scans and at all stages of labour. Torridge District Council had written a similar letter.

Councillor Roome declared a personal interest as an employee of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust.

Councillor Lovering declared a personal interest as employee of the maternity unit at the North Devon District Hospital.

148. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

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

- (a) Question to Councillor Worden from Councillor Luggar “It appears North Devon Council has lodged a High Court Claim against the Royal Mail for Value Added Tax. Please could it be explained who authorised the legal action against the Royal Mail and an indication of the costs and risks of taking our case to the High Court? (Page 115, point 44. Council meeting agenda).” Councillor Worden’s response “The Royal Mail has historically treated certain services as exempt from VAT, where the view is that the correct treatment should have been standard rated VAT. The argument being that we have been prevented from reclaiming input VAT embedded in these supplies. The initial value of the claim, subject to verification and updating as the litigation progresses, amounts to £500,000. As receipt of the claim is uncertain we have not included within the Council’s accounts but have shown as a Contingent Asset highlighting the claim is outstanding. Our claim was submitted in 2015, approved by the Section 151 officer in consultation with Legal Services and to date the total cost incurred is circa £16,000 including tax advice, legal fees, and after the event insurance which have all been covered from within existing budgetary resources. There are almost 300 participants in the Group Litigation Order, including a great number of other Local Authorities, with Leicester City Council being one of the lead cases. The Council has also taken out After The Event Insurance that would cover Royal Mail’s legal and related costs should they be successful, so that none of the participants would be exposed to these fees, thereby reducing the risk to this Council.”

- (b) Question to Councillor Worden from Councillor Luggar “Has the council reviewed its investment strategy, supply chains and procurement models to give due consideration to climate change impacts as time is of the essence, before an officer for climate change is appointed?” Councillor Worden’s response “The Council does take into consideration climate change impacts as part of the Environment corporate priority theme. The forthcoming Service Plans that Heads of Service produce will have the environment theme running through them to ensure that projects and future service delivery has this embedded within.”

- (c) Question to Councillor Worden from Councillor Luggar “Why is the assurance framework (on page 141 of Council meeting agenda) out of date and based on a former constitutional arrangement at North Devon Council?” Councillor Worden’s response “Thank you Councillor

Luggar you are correct. The diagram at the back of the Annual Governance Statement reflects the old Executive Committee system. The detail of function within the assurance diagram is correct we just need to amend the Committee names to reflect the new structure which came into force April 2019 and this has now been completed and has been published as a supplementary document as part of your agenda.”

- (d) Question to Councillor Worden from Councillor Lofthouse ““The leader mentioned in his report that Torridge are debating a motion at their Full Council urging NDDH to remove the restrictions that cause pregnant women to sit alone in hospital rooms with partners locked out of scans and labour. What is the latest situation regarding this?” Councillor Worden’s response “NDDH has changed its regulations and from Friday 2 October 2020: • One partner or designated individual is able to attend the dating scan (at approx 12 weeks) and the anomaly scan (at 20 weeks), they are not able to stay for any subsequent appointments with a doctor or midwife. • All other scans, such as growth scans, should be attended alone, though exceptions can be made if we anticipate having to break bad news • If a woman is being induced, they can have a partner or designated individual attend with them between the hours of 10am and 6pm. Outside of these hours our staff will continue to contact partners and ask them to attend the unit if, due to pain or distress, support is required. • One partner or designated individual may make an appointment with ward staff to visit Bassett Ward between the hours of 10am and 6pm. As throughout the whole of the COVID-19 pandemic, if a woman is being cared for in labour ward or in theatre, they can have one birth partner with them. This is usually when they are in labour, having a caesarean or in the immediate postnatal period. The hospital appreciates that these restrictions may still be difficult for mums-to-be and their partners, but they would like to reiterate that if a mum-to-be is being induced and is in pain or distress, they will contact their partner and ask them to attend, regardless of what time of day it is. Torridge District Council discussed the situation on Monday evening and unanimously agreed to write to NDHT thanking them for introducing this and supporting the changes that have been made. I think that it would be a good thing for us to do the same.”
- (e) Question to Councillor Worden from Councillor Derrick Spear “Back in June our CEO, Ken Miles wrote as Chair of a SW Chief Executive Working Group looking at leisure provision and the impact of the Covid-19 crisis to the Minister for Sport, Tourism and Heritage and Minister for Local Government. Did we ever receive a response to this letter?” Councillor Worden’s response “A number of letters have now been written to central government on the subject of support for the leisure industry. Two letters have been written in conjunction with the South West CEX Group. A final letter has been written just recently setting out the current position of this authority. Copies of examples of the letters are tabled and attached to this reply. The first letter was

written fairly early in the crisis to highlight some general concerns. The second letter added more detail to these concerns. Since those two letters were written, leisure centres were allowed to re-open but it is important that central government realise that this is not the complete answer. Most leisure centres and providers are experiencing an approximate 3040% drop in subscription levels and the additional costs of operating with social distancing requirements in place mean that they are no longer profitable. Virtually every leisure provider is now having to be supported financially by their partner councils and where that support can not be provided, leisure centres have not reopened. In many councils, that support runs to figures in excess of £1,000,000. Some councils have also been asked to effectively underwrite all extra costs incurred by the leisure provider. Even with that support, facilities have had to be scaled back and redundancies have been made. Within our own leisure centres, 14 staff have unfortunately been made redundant and this is replicated across the country. The third letter seeks to reflect the position locally to central government and a further letter will shortly be written on behalf of the South West CEX Group as well. Council provided leisure facilities are vital to communities and are also vital to the recovery process. It is well known now that underlying health is a crucial factor in recovery from the virus and so facilities such as ours are needed to assist with the government's targets to reduce obesity and increase health. The second letter sets out what impacts council provided facilities have on various hard to reach groups, groups which generally have been the hardest hit by the virus. Whilst no direct reply has been provided to any of the letters, we are aware of discussions that are now taking place between DCMS, MHCLG, national bodies such as Sport England and the Treasury. Councils are still hopeful that funding will be provided to support this sector and we are working with those national bodies to help in any way that we can. As a council we will also continue to lobby and will continue to take an active role in the SW response." In response to a supplementary question, Councillor Worden confirmed that he would keep Members informed of the Government's position for funding of the leisure industry.

- (f) Question to Councillor Worden from Councillor Yabsley "Would the Leader update Members on the EA's progress with their work on Barnstaple Flood Resilience Scheme's". Councillor Worden's response "I should perhaps start with explaining that flooding in urban areas can be from a number of causes. NDC has been working with the Environment Agency on a plan to address river flooding in Barnstaple. This is the flooding that results from the rivers overflowing their banks due to rainfall over an extended period and an extended area. For a tidal area such as in Barnstaple this can be made significantly worse if the high rainfall coincides with high and spring tide events. This is different from the urban flooding that was experienced in August and subsequently which was due to a lack of drainage in the urban area. The lack of drainage can be because there is too little capacity or what capacity there is, is reduced by

blockages/damage. High intensity rainfall as we had in August can cause flooding when the town's sewage system and draining canals do not have the necessary capacity to drain away the amounts of rain that are falling. Water may even enter the sewage system in one place and then get deposited somewhere else in the town on the streets. With regard to river flooding in Barnstaple the EA is not able to fully fund flood schemes, therefore, the plan is to gain a pot of partnership funding from the various developments in Barnstaple; of the total of £7.44m, local partnership funding of £1.53m will be required. The local funding will have to be secured through S106 agreements associated with planning permissions. These figures were initial estimates but do give an indication of the proportion of extra funding required. The general plan is to allow new development in the flood risk area, but deal with residual flood risks in a different way to other recent developments. For example, Anchorwood raised the whole area of residential units and car parking and provided a safe access and egress route. The impact on third parties is being offset by upgrading the rest of the flood cell around Severn Brethren. This cannot be achieved in the other areas of Barnstaple, hence why a different method is needed. To make development acceptable in term of the flood risks, the development sites in the River Yeo area still need to raise finished floor levels to a safe height, and the developments need to deal with safe access and egress by having the residential buildings connected, if technically possible, to the area of the new defences or high ground, to form a safe route. A number of work stages must now be gone through, including:

1. Production of a Strategic Outline Case, approximately 2023-2024
2. Production of Outline Business Case approximately 2024-25
3. Full Business Case in 2025 with a start on physical construction in 2025, two years after we start.

Devon County Council have been looking at the surface water flood risks in Barnstaple, and potential solutions - they appear to be requesting funding to tackle surface water issues on similar timeframes to that for the EA/NDC scheme, to the tune of £935,000 total estimated cost, with £625,000 coming from the EA and £310,000 further required. This could easily be designed to work with the funding the EA have already been identified and as the EA have a good working relationship with DCC they are confident the two initiatives can be married up. There was the possibility some months ago, as part of the Covid19 response, that the flood works might be fully funded, however, this was not achieved, though the EA and NDC continue to seek additional funding to help fully secure the project finances as opportunities arise. In summary, our proposed scheme with the EA will not help prevent the flooding Barnstaple had in August and since then, that was due to surface water flooding (DCC remit), however, both EA and DCC aim to seek if possible improvements to the surface water system as part of the EA river flood works."

149. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2019/20

The Chair advised that items 13 (a), 13 (b) and 13 (c) would be considered and debated together and that a single vote would be taken on the three recommendations.

(a) **Report by Chief Financial Officer (attached)**

Council considered a report by the Chief Financial Officer (circulated previously) regarding the Statement of Accounts for 2019/20. The Chief Financial Officer advised that the draft Statement of Accounts for year ended 31 March 2020 was signed by the Chief Financial Officer on 22 July 2020. Normally, the final date for published, audited accounts was 31 July, however this year due to Covid-19 this was extended to 30 November 2020. The Covid-19 pandemic only started to make a notable impact upon the public and businesses in the last two weeks of March; and thus not had a dramatic impact upon these draft financial statements for period to 31 March 2020; the real budgetary impact of Covid affects the financial position of the Council post April 2020. The External Audit of Accounts started on 8 Sept 2020. The Audit Findings Report was presented to the Governance Committee which gave an Unqualified Opinion on Financial Statements/Value for Money Conclusion and four recommendations following Key Findings which had been accepted by management and responses built into the Action Plan. The Accounts were required to be formally signed off at Council. He outlined the narrative report which set out the challenges the Council faced, how those challenges would be met and reviewed the last financial year 2019/20; the main statements; accounting policies; notes to the Accounts. He advised of an amendment to Note 4 "Accounting Standards that have been issued but not yet been adopted" as follows: "In response to the Covid 19 pandemic, CIPFA/LASAAC deferred the implementation of IFRS 16 Leases in the public sector until 1 April 2021. This will require lessees to recognise assets subject to leases as right-of-use assets on their balance sheet, along with corresponding lease liabilities (there are exceptions for low-value and short-term leases)." He outlined the Auditors report as detailed on page 123 following the conclusion of the audit and presentation of their audit findings report to Governance Committee on 5 October 2020. He advised that the Medium Term Financial Plan would be presented to the next meeting of Council.

Councillor Roome presented the recommendations of the Governance Committee held on 8 September 2020 and 5 October 2020 (circulated previously).

It was moved by Councillor Roome and seconded by Councillor Biederman that the recommendation in the report be adopted.

RESOLVED that the Statement of Accounts 2019/20 be approved, and that the Chairman of the Council sign and date the Statement of Accounts as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

(b) **Annual Governance Statement 2019/20 (attached)**

Council considered the Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20 (circulated previously). The Monitoring Officer advised that the flowchart on page 11 had now been updated to reflect the committee arrangements and a copy had been published as a supplementary document. He advised that the Governance Committee at its meeting on 8th September 2020 had recommended approval.

Councillor Roome reported the recommendations of the Governance Committee held on 8th September 2020 and advised that it had been a challenging year for all Local Authorities and in particular thanked the Finance team for its hard work in administering grants to support the economy.

It was moved by Councillor Roome and seconded by Councillor Biederman “that the Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20 be approved”.

RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20 be approved.

(c) **Letter of Representation on behalf of the Council (attached)**

The Chief Financial Officer advised Council that the Letter of Representation on behalf of the Council was the final part of the Statement of Accounts and conclusion of the audit.

Councillor Roome reported the recommendation of the Governance Committee held on 5 October 2020 (circulated separately).

It was moved by Councillor Roome and seconded by Councillor Biederman that “that the letter of representation on behalf of the Council be approved and signed by the Chief Financial Officer”.

RESOLVED that the letter of representation on behalf of the Council be approved and signed by the Chief Financial Officer.

150. PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT QUARTER 4 2019/20

Council considered the Performance and Financial Management report Quarter 4 2019/20 to the Strategy and Resources Committee on 3 August 2020 (circulated previously).

(a) **Report of the Policy Development Committee**

Councillor Spear, Chair of the Policy Development Committee presented the Committee's report on the Performance and Financial Management for Quarter 4 of 2019/20 (circulated previously).

(b) **Report of meeting of the Strategy and Resources Committee**

Councillor Worden, Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee reported the recommendations of the Strategy and Resources Committee on the Performance and Financial Management for Quarter 4 of 2019/20 (circulated previously).

It was moved by Councillor Worden and seconded by Councillor Bushell that "minute 159 (f) of the Strategy and Resources Committee held on 3 August 2020 be adopted".

RESOLVED that minute 159 (f) of the Strategy and Resources Committee held on 3 August 2020 be adopted.

151. PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT QUARTER 1 OF 2020/21

Council considered the Performance and Financial Management report for Quarter 1 of 2020/21 to the Strategy and Resources Committee on 1 September 2020 (circulated previously).

(a) **Report by the Policy Development Committee**

Councillor Spear, Chair of the Policy Development Committee presented the Committee's report on the Performance and Financial Management for Quarter 1 of 2020/21 (circulated previously).

(b) **Report of meeting of the Strategy and Resources Committee**

Councillor Worden, Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee reported the recommendations of the Strategy and Resources Committee on the Performance and Financial Management for Quarter 1 of 2020/21 (circulated previously).

It was moved by Councillor Worden and seconded by

Councillor D. Spear that “minute 175 (f) of the Strategy and Resources Committee held on 1 September 2020 be adopted”.

RESOLVED that minute 175 (f) of the Strategy and Resources Committee held on 1 September 2020 be adopted.

152. TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

Council considered the Treasury Management Annual report for 2019/20 to the Strategy and Resources Committee on 1 September 2020 (circulated previously)

(a) **Report of the Policy Development Committee**

Councillor Spear, Chair of the Policy Development Committee presented the Committee’s report on the Treasury Management Annual Report 2019/20 (circulated previously).

(b) **Report of meeting of the Strategy and Resources Committee**

Councillor Worden, Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee reported the recommendations of the Strategy and Resources Committee on the Treasury Management Annual Report 2019/20 (circulated previously).

It was moved by Councillor Worden and seconded by Councillor Jenkins that “minute 176 of the meeting of the Strategy and Resources Committee on 1 September 2020 be adopted”.

RESOLVED that minute 176 of the meeting of the Strategy and Resources Committee on 1 September 2020 be adopted.

153. APPOINTMENT TO THE STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Councillor Worden thanked Councillor Leaver for her work on the Strategy and Resources Committee and advised that she had to step down from the Committee owing to work commitments.

It was moved by Councillor Worden and seconded by Councillor Tucker “that Councillor Knight be appointed to replace Councillor Leaver as a member of the Strategy and Resources Committee for the municipal year 2019/20”.

In response to a question, the Senior Corporate and Community Services Officer confirmed that it was still the 2019/20 municipal year as a meeting of Annual Council had not been held this year.

RESOLVED that Councillor Knight be appointed to replace Councillor Leaver as a member of the Strategy and Resources Committee for the municipal year 2019/20.

154. REPORT BY CHAIR OF GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Council considered and noted the half yearly report by the Chair of Governance Committee (circulated previously).

155. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

(a) **Building Control Joint Committee**

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

(i) 6 August 2020

(b) **Governance Committee**

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

(i) 8 September 2020

(A) Minute 90: Recommendations to Update the Member Code of Conduct

(c) **Harbour Board**

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

(i) 11 August 2020

(A) Minute 58: Three Month Waiver of Harbour Fees 2021-2022

(d) **Licensing and Community Safety Committee**

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

(i) 14 July 2020

(ii) 8 September 2020

(e) **Planning Committee**

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

(i) 8 July 2020

(ii) 12 August 2020

(iii) 9 September 2020

(f) **Policy Development Committee**

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

(i) 16 July 2020

(ii) 10 September 2020

(g) **Strategy and Resources Committee**

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

(i) 3 August 2020

(A) Minute 164 (b): Approval and Release of Section 106 Public Open Space Fund – Bickington

(B) Minute 165 (b): Approval and Release of Section 106 Funds – South Molton

(ii) 1 September 2020

(A) Minute 177 (c): Approval and Release of Section 106 Public Open Space Funds – South Molton and Combe Martin

(B) Minute 179: Seven Brethren - Agreeing a Way Forward (Council noted that due to a typographical error, the minute will be amended to state “RESOLVED” and not “RECOMMENDED” at the meeting of the Committee on 5 October 2020).

Chair

The meeting ended at 8.24 pm

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