

Date: 18 February 2013
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Our Reference: DV



To: Members of the Council
Honorary Aldermen
Chief Executive
Deputy Chief Executives

East Devon District Council
Knowle
Sidmouth
Devon
EX10 8HL

Dear Sir/Madam

DX 48705 Sidmouth

**Meeting of the Council of the District of East Devon on
Wednesday 27 February 2013 at 6.30 pm**

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You are called upon to attend the above meeting to be held in the Council Chamber, Knowle, Sidmouth. It is proposed that the matters set out on the agenda below will be considered at the meeting and resolution or resolutions passed as the Council considers expedient.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting which will start at 6.30 pm.

- **A period of 15 minutes has been provided at the beginning of the meeting to allow members of the public to raise questions.**
- **All individual contributions will be limited to 3 minutes – where there is an interest group of objectors or supporters, a spokesperson should be appointed to speak on behalf of group.**
- **The public is advised that the Chairman has the right and discretion to control questions to avoid disruption, repetition - to make best use of the meeting time.**

Should anyone have any special needs or require any reasonable adjustments to assist them in making individual contributions, please contact Diana Vernon. Contact details are at the top of this page.)

A hearing loop system will be in operation in the Council Chamber.

Written Questions by Members: Please note that under Procedure Rule 9.2, Councillors may submit written questions to Council Leader or specific Portfolio Holders.

Councillors and members of the public are reminded to switch off mobile phones during the meeting. If this is not practical due to particular circumstances, please advise the Chairman in advance of the meeting.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Williams".

Chief Executive

Prior to the formal start of the meeting, the Chairman will invite John Fairweather, (retired Vicar of Exwick who also served as the Lord Mayor of Exeter's chaplain - now lives in Honiton), to say a prayer.

AGENDA

- 1 Public question time – standard agenda item (15 minutes)

Members of the public are invited to put questions to the Council through the Chairman. (The process is set out on the front of the agenda).

Councillors also have the opportunity to ask questions of the Leader and/or Portfolio Holders during this time slot whilst giving priority at this part of the agenda to members of the public.

- 2 To confirm as a true record the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 5 December 2012.
- 3 Apologies.
- 4 To receive any declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda.
- 5 To consider any items, which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be dealt with as matters of urgency because of special circumstances.
(Note: Such circumstances need to be identified in the minutes).
- 6 To receive any announcements from the Chairman.
- 7 To agree any items to be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded. There are no items which Officers recommend should be dealt with in this way.
- 8 The Chairman to introduce Wendy Loades, of the Trading Standards Illegal Money Lending Team to address the Council on illegal money lenders (Loan Sharks), steps being taken to tackle this problem and proposed future action.
- 9 **Revenue Estimates, Capital Programme and Council Tax 2013/14**
 - To consider the report of the Council's Section 151 Officer, Head of Finance, **(to follow when all precepts have been confirmed)** and the recommendations contained therein which include approval of the recommendations of the Cabinet on 30 January 2013 relating to the Council's Revenue and Capital Estimates for 2013/14 and precept details of the parish and town councils, Devon County Council, Devon and Cornwall Police Authority and the Devon and Somerset Fire Authority.
 - To approve the calculations for setting the Council Tax in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by the Localism Act 2011. These calculations form the basis of the formal setting of the Council Tax for the District. The report will be circulated when the major preceptors have confirmed their precepts; County meet on February and Police and Fire on February 2013.
- 10 To answer questions asked by Members of the Council pursuant to Procedure Rules No 9.2 and 9.5.
- 11 To consider reports from the Cabinet and the Council's Committees and to receive questions and answers on any of those reports:-

Cabinet	Minutes	128-148, 149-166
†Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Minutes	36-45, 46-48, 49-56
†Housing Review Board	Minutes	45-58
Development Management Committee	Minutes	35-37, 38-44, 45-48, 49-53
Planning Inspections Committee	Minutes	6-8, 9-11
Audit and Governance Committee	Minutes	17-32, 33-40
Standards Committee	Minutes	16-22
Licensing and Enforcement Sub Committee	Minutes	30-34, 35-36

†The recommendations of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Housing Review Board have already been referred to the Cabinet for consideration.

12 **Appointments to Outside Body – South West Audit Partnership (SWAP) Limited**

Following changes to the South West Audit Partnership (SWAP) governance arrangements (Audit and Governance Minute 36 of 17.1.13 refers), to agree the following appointments to South West Audit Partnership Limited:

SWAP Ltd Shareholder – Audit and Governance Chairman
SWAP Ltd Director – Section 151 Officer

13 **Motion – Fuel Poverty**

‘The Council signals its support for the Consumer Focus Local Authority campaign to end fuel poverty and adopt the Local authority fuel poverty commitment.

We propose this on the basis that we have already signalled our commitment to this course of action in the Council Plan (page 13) “improving the energy efficiency of homes through investing in insulation and energy saving technologies.”

Our Homes and Communities Plan provides more detail of our existing commitment with one of our ten aims being “improve the sustainability and energy efficiency of housing and eliminate fuel poverty” (page 27) with a list of actions saying what we are doing.

The Private Sector Renewal Strategy agreed by Cabinet on 31 October 2012 contains a section on affordable warmth; fuel poverty; Green deal etc with several actions directly linking with affordable warmth.

Our Housing Revenue Account Business Plan prioritises investment in our own stock (we have done most of the basic insulation, window renewal programmes over the last few years) and looks at new technologies now through retro fitting.

In March the Head of Housing will be bringing a report on the Home Energy Conservation Act which is a strategy Government requires to be in place by the end of March. This will focus on improving the energy efficiency of residential properties with the aim of reducing energy costs for the residents and refer to the Consumer Focus campaign.”

Proposed by Councillor Jill Elson, Seconded by Councillor Ray Bloxham, and supported by Councillors Paul Diviani, Stephanie Jones and Andrew Moulding.

Decision making and equality duties

The Council will give due regard under the Equality Act 2010 to the equality impact of its decisions. An appropriate level of analysis of equality issues, assessment of equalities impact and any mitigation and/or monitoring of impact will be addressed in committee reports. Consultation on major policy changes will take place in line with any legal requirements and with what is appropriate and fair for the decisions being taken. Members will be expected to give reasons for decisions which demonstrate they have addressed equality issues.

Members and co-opted members remember!

- ❑ You must declare the nature of any disclosable pecuniary interests. [Under the Localism Act 2011, this means the interests of your spouse, or civil partner, a person with whom you are living with as husband and wife or a person with whom you are living as if you are civil partners]. You must also disclose any personal interest.
- ❑ You must disclose your interest in an item whenever it becomes apparent that you have an interest in the business being considered.
Make sure you say what your interest is as this has to be included in the minutes. [For example, 'I have a disclosable pecuniary interest because this planning application is made by my husband's employer'.]
- ❑ If your interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest you cannot participate in the discussion, cannot vote and must leave the room unless you have obtained a dispensation from the Council's Monitoring Officer or Standards Committee.

Getting to the Meeting – for the benefit of visitors



The entrance to the Council Offices is located on Station Road, Sidmouth. **Parking** is limited during normal working hours but normally easily available for evening meetings.

The following **bus service** stops outside the Council Offices on Station Road: **From Exmouth, Budleigh, Otterton and Newton Poppleford – 157**

The following buses all terminate at the Triangle in Sidmouth. From the Triangle, walk up Station Road until you reach the Council Offices (approximately ½ mile).

From Exeter – 52A, 52B

From Honiton – 52B

From Seaton – 52A

From Ottery St Mary – 379, 387

Please check your local timetable for times.

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The Committee Suite has a separate entrance to the main building, located at the end of the visitor and Councillor car park. The rooms are at ground level and easily accessible; there is also a toilet for disabled users.

For a copy of this agenda in large print, please contact the Democratic Services Team on 01395 517546