

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at
Knowle, Sidmouth, on Wednesday, 27 February 2013

Present:

Councillors:

Peter Halse (Chairman)
Frances Newth (Vice Chairman)

Mike Allen	Stuart Hughes
David Atkins	Douglas Hull
Ray Bloxham	John Humphreys
Roger Boote	Ben Ingham
Peter Bowden	John Jeffery
Graham Brown	Stephanie Jones
Peter Burrows	Sheila Kerridge
Bob Buxton	Jim Knight
Geoff Chamberlain	Andrew Moulding
Trevor Cope	John O'Leary
David Cox	Helen Parr
Deborah Custance Baker	Geoff Pook
Alan Dent	Ken Potter
Paul Diviani	Pauline Stott
Christine Drew	Peter Sullivan
Vivien Duval Steer	Ian Thomas
Jill Elson	Graham Troman
Martin Gammell	Phil Twiss
Steve Gazzard	Mark Williamson
Roger Giles	Tim Wood
Graham Godbeer	Eileen Wragg
Steve Hall	Claire Wright
Tony Howard	Tom Wright

Hon Aldermen:

Bernard Hughes

Officers:

Mark Williams, Chief Executive
Richard Cohen, Deputy Chief Executive
Denise Lyon, Deputy Chief Executive
Simon Davey, Head of Finance
Rachel Pocock, Corporate Legal & Democratic Services Manager
John Tippin, Licensing Manager
Alethea Thompson, Democratic Services Officer
Diana Vernon, Democratic Services Manager

Apologies

Councillors:

Derek Button
David Chapman
Maddy Chapman
Iain Chubb
Pat Graham
Mike Howe
David Key
Philip Skinner
Brenda Taylor
Chris Wale
Steve Wragg

Honorary Aldermen:

Vivienne Ash
Bob Peachey
Margaret Rogers
David Scott
Dr Waterworth

The Chairman introduced John Fairweather - retired vicar of Exwick who also served as the Lord Mayor of Exeter's chaplain - and invited him to say a prayer.

The meeting then started at 6.35 pm and ended at 9.15 pm.

***53 Public question time**

The Chairman welcomed members of the public to the meeting and invited their questions.

Diana Bowerman (Chief Executive) of Kennaway House, Sidmouth, referred to the application to the Council for a £20,000 grant for the next 3 years. The sum had not been included in the Council's 2013/14 budget. Copies of Kennaway House accounts had been sent to Councillors in advance of the meeting for their information. Diana Bowerman outlined the background of Kennaway House, how it had been restored through fundraising and opened as a valued art facility in 2009. She said that costs involved with running the building had been cut as far as possible. She asked the Council to waive the interest payment on its loan to Kennaway House Limited and to reconsider its decision to cut the funding and help secure the facility for the people of Sidmouth and East Devon.

In response the Leader advised that donations and grants to individual bodies had been discussed at length during the budget process and difficult choices had been made. He said that the Council would do all it could to put Kennaway House Limited in touch with organisations that might be able to assist.

Kelvin Dent referred to advice on personal interests given to members of the Development Management Committee in respect of the Knowle application. He suggested that it was in the public interest to ask the Secretary of State to determine the application.

The Chief Executive confirmed that legal advice had been given to different Members based on their roles within the Council. He emphasised that Members had been given advice and not direction. Therefore he was not in a position to say who would be present at Friday's Development Management meeting which would determine the Knowle application.

Councillor Mark Williamson, Chairman of Development Management, advised that Councillors had sought advice to ensure that they did not have a perceived interest in the application.

Mr R E Beardsall, Chairman of the West Hill Residents' Association referred to the recent Development Management Committee which discussed the Five Year Land supply. Members of the public had not been given an opportunity to speak. He said that the Council could learn from public insight and that the Constitution should be changed to allow the public to speak on all issues at Development Management Committee meetings and not just planning applications. He asked the Council to do all it could to change the Government's current stance in respect of housing numbers and the Five Year Land supply.

The Chief Executive advised that changes to the Constitution could be considered at the annual meeting of the Council. He added that the recent Inspector's decisions at appeal emphasised the need to provide sound planning reasons for refusing an application rather than relying solely on a disaggregated 5 year land supply.

***53 Public question time (continued)**

Mike Temple read out a question prepared by Ted Todd who was unable to attend the meeting. Mr Todd emphasised the importance of transparency within local government and of well informed debate. He said that East Devon District Council should set up a working party to include members of the public to improve its clarity, openness and accountability.

In response, the Leader said that the Council aimed to be open, transparent and easy to contact and everyone involved was trying to get this right. He said that some members of the public were generating misinformation and correcting this was using significant Council resources. He advised that he would put the suggestion of a working party to the new Council communications team.

In response to Mike Temple's suggestion about second homes in the district, the Leader confirmed that owners were already charged the maximum 100% Council Tax.

Barry Curwen said that the planning report being considered by the Development Management Committee at its Special Meeting on Friday was flawed and would be challenged through judicial review. He said that the principle of an office move should have been thoroughly debated by full Council before any expense in determining the viability of the move was incurred. The cost of refurbishing the current offices should have been fully assessed at an early stage. He believed that the Council's role was to support the social and economic viability of the community and the impact of an office move from Sidmouth should not be underestimated.

In response, the Leader confirmed that the Council needed to conduct its business in the best location. The meeting on Friday was to determine a planning application. The Council was still in the process of testing the viability of a move to a new premises.

Robert Crick, Sidmouth Vision Group, reminded Council of an agreement to set up a meeting to discuss the needs of the town and the Council. This would help establish mutual respect and could help contain costs.

The Leader confirmed that such a meeting would be set up.

***54 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 5 December 2012 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

***55 Declarations of interest**

Councillor/ Officer	Minute number	Type of interest	Nature of interest
Jill Elson	58	Personal	Community Transport Chairman
Trevor Cope	58	Personal	Community Transport Trustee

56 Chairman/Leader notices/announcements*a) Obituary – Barry Nicholson**

The Chairman advised the Council that former councillor Barry Nicholson had passed away earlier this month and that his funeral service was on Friday. Barry had represented Honiton St Michaels from 1999 until 2011 and had also been a Devon County Councillor. Barry had served on a range of Committees, including the Executive Board as Deputy Environment Portfolio Holder, Sub Committees and Panels. He had been appointed as Council representative to a number of Outside Bodies, particularly those in respect of Honiton. The Chairman invited Members to stand in silence as a mark of respect.

b) Motion to lower the voting age

The Chairman reported that following the December meeting of the Council, a letter had been written to the Local Government Association (LGA) on behalf of the Council asking for the motion to lower the voting age to be included on their agenda for debate by Councils across the country. The intention was to form a strong lobby to put to Parliament to influence policy.

The Chairman advised that the Council now had a response from the LGA saying that they were pleased to receive East Devon's motion and that it would be considered with all other motions received for the Association's General Assembly. The LGA Executive decides whether notices of motion are submitted to the General Assembly or receive consideration by an appropriate Board or Panel of the Association. The LGA will advise the Council on the course of action agreed at the Executive meeting on 16 May and Members will be informed of their decision.

c) Axminster Carpets

The Chairman invited Axminster Mayor Andrew Moulding to make a statement to the Council. Axminster Carpets Ltd had announced its intention to enter into Administration but this step had yet to be taken; currently Axminster Carpets was still trading and was hopeful that a solution could be found. Axminster Carpets was an international brand producing high quality carpets and its order books were still full.

The business employed 300 people in Axminster and the surrounding area. Councillor Moulding spoke of the importance of the business to the town and the impact its loss would have on the community. The Council was already in negotiations with Devon County Council, the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership and other agencies to see what help could be given to deliver practical assistance to the company, its workforce and others affected by recent developments.

Councillor Moulding praised the efforts of Officers, particularly Nigel Harrison, Economic Development Manager and Richard Cohen, Deputy Chief Executive.

***57 Stop Loan Sharks project**

The Chairman introduced Wendy Loades, of the Trading Standards Illegal Money Lending Team and invited her to address the Council on illegal money lenders (Loan Sharks), steps being taken to tackle this problem and proposed future action.

Wendy showed a hard-hitting film which clearly illustrated the effect of money lenders on their victims and victims' families. With national austerity and benefit cuts there was a danger that more vulnerable people would turn to loan sharks who targeted areas of deprivation. She emphasised the importance of publicity to highlight the dangers of loan sharks and to offer alternatives including credit unions. The publicity included a hot line which people could use anonymously to report unlicensed money lenders or to seek help and budget advice. Wendy advised that a local awareness week had been held in East Devon and thanked Councillor Stephanie Jones, Deputy Sustainable Homes and Communities Portfolio Holder, for her positive involvement throughout the week. East Devon District Council's Housing and Council Tax teams were already working proactively to reach people who were in arrears.

The Chairman thanked Wendy for her presentation and invited Councillors to take Loan Shark posters to display in their Wards. Copies would also be sent to local councils.

***58 Revenue Estimates, Capital Programme and Council Tax**

Members were asked to consider the report, up-dated at the meeting, of the Section 151 Finance Officer and the recommendations of the Cabinet from its meeting on 30 January 2013 relating to the Revenue and Capital Estimates.

The precepts from Devon County Council, Devon & Cornwall Police Authority, Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority and town and parish councils (preceptors) had been added to EDDC's Council Tax requirement. The Council was now in a position to set the Council Tax for the area to include all the amounts to be collected.

The Chairman invited the Leader of the Council to present the Revenue Estimates and Capital Programme together with proposals for the Council Tax for 2013/14.

The Leader, Councillor Diviani, referred to the pressures on the Council budget and in particular the reduction in Council formula grant settlement for a third consecutive year and the Council's decision to freeze the Council Tax for the fourth year running. He set out gross expenditure and how that was funded. In order to continue to deliver front line services for the benefit of its customers the Council had to make difficult decisions. The Leader thanked Officers for their work in preparing the draft budget and the positive involvement of Members in the difficult budget setting process.

Actions proposed included:

- freezing Members' allowances for a further year,
- making Council assets work harder
- Use of New Homes Bonus
- Increasing recycling performance
- Continuing to improve communications to ensure that local people were kept informed and engaged.
- Shared services
- Supporting employment growth across the district

Revenue Estimates, Capital Programme & Council Tax (continued)

- Continued support of the New Growth Point
- Adoption of Local Plan following required steps
- Look for further opportunities to increase the housing stock
- Manage public expectations in the light of the Localism Act

Areas of continued uncertainty included:

- Level and longevity of the New Homes Bonus
- Changes to Business Rate arrangements
- Number of houses actually built
- Impact of the localism of Council Tax Benefits

The Leader advised that the Council had significant further work to do to meet the £3m funding gap over the next 3 years. He referred to the importance of the budget and of closer working with others to reduce running costs, share services and systems and how to achieve the best service delivery.

The Leader recommended that the budget be agreed as presented in the Council papers and thanked Councillors for their co-operation and support. He moved the printed recommendations set out in Appendix A to the report.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor David Cox, Portfolio Holder – Finance who said that the 2013/14 would fund the current service levels. However the cumulative reduction in funding over the years coupled with disproportionate fall in formula grant compared with urban areas and increased demand for services meant that the Council needed to find new ways of working to address the shortfall going forward. A report would be referred to the April meeting of the Council and a Budget Working Party would be set up to prepare for future budgets.

Councillor Eileen Wragg, Leader of the Liberal Democrats, thanked Officers and Members who had the difficult task of drawing up budgets in the light of cuts to Government funding. She said that there had been fair and effective scrutiny of the draft budgets and the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had been taken into account. She said that there needed to be continual pressure on Central Government to highlight the particular difficulties of rural areas.

Councillor Ray Bloxham also referred to the unfair financial settlement from the Government and the particular impact on rural authorities. He called on the Council to help achieve fair allocation. He advised that local MP Neil Parrish had raised this in Parliament and was fighting to achieve a fairer balance.

Councillor Claire Wright put forward an amendment, seconded by Councillor Ben Ingham to use the budget allocated to up-grade the website towards something which would directly benefit local people, such as recycling cardboard. The Portfolio Holders of Corporate Business and Corporate Services advised that the intention was to up-grade the website to enable the Council to change the way it delivered its services using the Transformation Budget/Invest to Save. The public would be given the added option of modern digital service delivery.

The amendment was put to the vote and lost.

***58 Revenue Estimates, Capital Programme & Council Tax (continued)**

Further issues raised:

- Concern that the Right to Buy Scheme was counteracting the efforts to increase Council housing stock.
- Freezing Council tax for a further year was a lost opportunity.

The proposal as printed in Appendix A to the report was put to the vote and carried.

- RESOLVED:**
- (1) that the Revenue and Capital Estimates be amended to reflect additional income of £38,624 to the General Fund Budget with the result of an additional £38,624 of New Homes Bonus grant being transferred to fund the Capital Budget in future year,
 - (2) that the Cabinet recommendation (Minute 157 of 30.01.13 refers) in respect of calculating the Council Tax Base 2013/14 as follows be approved:
 - (a) for the whole Council area as 52,962 (Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the 'Act'), and
 - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as in Appendix C to the report.
 - (3) that, as a preliminary step, the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2013/14 (excluding Parish precepts) is £6,449,710.
 - (4) that the following amounts be calculated for the year 2013/14 in accordance with Sections 30 to 36 of the Act;
 - (a) £87,830,159 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
 - (b) £79,415,251 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - (c) £8,414,908 being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
 - (d) £158.89 being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
 - (e) £1,965,198 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per Appendix C attached to the report).

Revenue Estimates, Capital Programme & Council Tax (continued)

- (f) £121.78 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.
- (g) The amounts stated in column 5 of the Schedule 1 (attached) given by adding to the amount at 3(f) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area specified in column 1 of Schedule 1 divided in each case by the amount at 1(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area set out in column 1 of Schedule 1 (attached) to which one or more special items relate.
- (h) The amounts set out in Schedule 2 (attached) given by multiplying the amounts at 3(g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.
- (5) that it be noted that for the year 2013/2014 Devon County Council, Devon and Cornwall Police Authority and Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the District Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands	Devon County Council	Devon & Cornwall Police Authority	Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue
A	£744.24	£108.61	£50.26
B	£868.28	£126.72	£58.64
C	£992.32	£144.82	£67.01
<u>D</u>	<u>£1,116.36</u>	<u>£162.92</u>	<u>£75.39</u>
E	£1,364.44	£199.12	£92.14
F	£1,612.52	£235.33	£108.90
G	£1,860.60	£271.53	£125.65
H	£2,232.72	£325.84	£150.78

***58 Revenue Estimates, Capital Programme & Council Tax (continued)**

6. that, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3 (h) and 4 above, the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts set out in Schedule 3 (attached) as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2013/2014 for each of the categories of dwellings shown in Schedule 3.
7. The Council has determined that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2013/14 is **not** excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.
As the billing authority, the Council has **not** been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2013/14 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- (8) that the amended version of the Council Tax Technical Reforms (as set out in App B to the report) be approved.

***59 Questions (Procedure Rules 9.2 and 9.5)**

Four questions had been submitted and these with printed answers had been circulated at the meeting.

In reply to a supplementary question about the Local Plan, the Leader confirmed that the Council was required to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework and produce a Local Plan. Applications would continue to be determined on their own merits and in compliance with sound planning policy.

In reply to a supplementary question about 'starred' and 'unstarred' minutes, the Chairman of Development Management Committee advised that committees made decisions within the remit set out in the Council's Constitution; giving an opportunity for all Councillors to challenge every decision made was unworkable.

In reply to a supplementary question about who may speak at Development Management Committee meetings, the Leader said that this change to the Constitution could be considered at the annual meeting in May.

***60 Minutes of Cabinet and Committees**

RESOLVED (1) that the under-mentioned minutes be received and the recommendations approved

Cabinet	Minutes	128-148, 149-166
Development Management	Minutes	35-37, 38-44, 45-48, 49-53
Audit and Governance	Minutes	17-32, 33-40
Standards Committee	Minutes	16-22
Licensing & Enforcement	Minutes	30-34, 35-36
Sub		

***60 Minutes of Cabinet and Committees (continued)**

- (2) that the under-mentioned minutes be received.

The Cabinet (minutes 155 and 156) had noted or accepted the following Overview/Scrutiny Committees' recommendations with or without amendment.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Minutes	36-45, 46-48, 49-56
Housing Review Board	Minutes	45-58

Arising from consideration of the above minutes:-**a) Norman Lockyer Observatory**

After presenting the minutes of the Housing Review Board, Councillor Pauline Stott reminded Members that the Norman Lockyer Observatory had invited Members (with partners/spouses) to an open evening on 21 March 2013 (7.00 pm for 7.30 pm) – and for those wishing to attend should advise by 10 March.

b) Five Year Land Supply in East Devon (Development Management Minute 51)

Councillor Claire Wright said that the Council could be in a better position in respect of appeals against planning decisions if its disaggregated approach to the 5-year land supply was included within policy.

Councillor Roger Giles added that Councillors not on the Development Management Committee and members of the public should have been allowed to speak when this matter was being debated. He believed this contribution would have been invaluable. He had attended the appeal hearings in respect of the Feniton and Ottery St Mary cases and believed that the Inspectors would have taken account of the Council's disaggregated approach had this been included within Council policy. A number of Councillors supported this suggestion and a motion was put to suspend Standing Orders but, when put to the vote, this was lost.

Councillor Mark Williamson, Chairman of Development Management said that the problem for local planning authorities was that the Government's agenda was to promote economic growth and that the Inspectors were supporting this stance. He emphasised the importance of evidencing a five year land supply. He added that Councillors had a range of opportunities to influence decision making and referred to Councillors' welcome attendance at planning delegations. However due to the number of agenda items on Development Management agendas, it was impossible to open up each item to general debate.

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Minutes of Cabinet and Committees (continued)
Arising from consideration of the above minutes

c) Five year housing land supply and associated infrastructure up-date (Minute 37 Audit and Governance Committee)

Councillor Claire Wright again questioned why the views of all Councillors could not be taken into account.

Councillor Roger Giles questioned bullet point 3 on page 100 (Refusals needed to be based on sound reasons that could be supported by evidence – having a disaggregated five year housing land supply could no longer be used). He emphasised the need to embed the Council's position in policy.

In response the Chief Executive advised that to include the disaggregated approach to the Five Year Land Supply in policy would not have added weight because it would not be Supplementary Planning Guidance and would not have been out to public consultation. To proceed along this thinking would give false hope. The matter had been considered by the Audit and Governance Committee in terms of risk. The issue of a Five Year Land Supply was not new; the difference now was that through Government direction, the Inspectors were giving it greater priority. It was vital for the Council to progress the Local Plan to adoption and in the meantime to continue to use strong planning reasons in its decision making.

d) Licensing and Enforcement

In presenting his minutes, the Chairman, Councillor Steve Hall, advised that the Licensing Team had recently been re-awarded the Customer Service Excellence award following a recertification assessment in December. The team had first received this award in November 2009 and although inspected annually the standard required a recertification every three years. The assessor had complimented the standard of the team and advised that every aspect of the service was outstanding. Councillor Hall said that the award recognised the depth of knowledge of the team and their willingness to 'go the extra mile'.

On behalf of the Council, the Chairman thanked John Tippin, Licensing Manager and his team for their excellent service.

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Appointments to Outside Bodies
South West Audit Partnership (SWAP) Limited

RESOLVED that the following appointments be agreed to reflect the changes to the SWAP governance arrangements (Minute 36 of 17.1.13 refers):

SWAP Ltd Shareholder (Member of the Board):
 Audit and Governance Chairman

SWAP Ltd Director (Board of Directors):
 Section 151 Officer

*62 **Motion – Fuel poverty**

The following motion (in the names of Councillors Jill Elson, Ray Bloxham, Paul Diviani, Stephanie Jones and Andrew Moulding), was proposed by Councillor Jill Elson and Seconded by Ray Bloxham:

“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.”

The proposer, Councillor Jill Elson spoke of the proactive steps taken by the Council to improve its housing stock including improving insulation. She referred to accommodation within the district which was privately owned and how the Council was trying to improve energy efficiency of homes within the district. She made particular reference to the standard of homes in multiple occupation and fuel poverty in rural communities. A report was being referred to the next meeting of the Cabinet setting out a proposed Home Energy Conservation Action Plan.

The seconder, Councillor Ray Bloxham said that the Council’s approach was consistent with the Council Plan. The Council’s proactive work was an example of the excellent work carried out by Officers.

The Chairman said that the Council’s housing team was exemplary and gave thanks to them, the Chief Officers, Jill Elson, Stephanie Jones and Pauline Stott.

*62 **Motion – Fuel poverty (continued)**

Councillor Giles in supporting the motion advised that it was timely and reflected the efforts of the Poverty Action Campaign. He added that currently 1 in 4 households were in fuel poverty and that this statistic was predicted to rise to 1 in 3 by 2016.

He proposed an amendment to add ‘and also to support the Energy Bill Revolution Campaign’s call for carbon taxes to be spent on drastically reducing fuel poverty’ to the first sentence of the motion. This was seconded by Councillor Ben Ingham.

The amendment was put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED that the Council signals its support for the Consumer Focus Local Authority campaign to end fuel poverty and adopt the local authority fuel poverty commitment, and also to support the Energy Bill Revolution Campaign’s call for carbon taxes to be spent on drastically reducing fuel poverty.

REASONS As set out within the full motion.

Chairman

Date.....