

## **EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at Knowle, Sidmouth, on Wednesday, 26 April 2017**

**Attendance list at the end of document.**

The meeting started at 6.30pm and ended at 7.05pm.

#### **\*63 Honorary Alderman Margaret Rogers – obituary**

The Chairman advised that it was with great sadness that he formally reported the death of Honorary Alderman Margaret Rogers earlier in the month.

Margaret, a Liberal Democrat, had first been elected to East Devon District Council in 1982. She had served for 4 years and was re-elected in 1995 and served as Seaton Ward Member until her resignation in 2010 – a total of 19 years.

Margaret had served on a range of Committees including the Policy, Tourism and Transportation, Amenities and Scrutiny Committees and had been a member of the Executive Board from 2003-2005. During her time as Member of EDDC, Margaret had been particularly active in promoting Seaton and sustainability issues. She had been committed to serving the local area and was held in high regard by the community that she served at both district and county levels. She often spoke up for the most vulnerable in society. Margaret was not afraid to debate, raise controversial issues or challenge the status quo.

The Council unanimously voted for Margaret to be conferred with the title of Honorary Alderman in July 2010 because of her invaluable service and dedication. In accepting the honour, Margaret said that she accepted it on behalf of herself and her late husband, Noel, with whom she had served along-side for many years.

In retirement, Margaret moved to a new life in Harrogate to be closer to her family but never completely cut ties with East Devon and retained a special affection for Seaton and Branscombe.

The Chairman invited Councillor Douglas Hull to say a few words. Cllr Douglas Hull spoke fondly of Margaret, remarking that she had always enjoyed a challenge and been robust in putting across her point of view. He said that she had a heart of gold and spoke of the people she had helped and assisted over the years. She would be greatly missed.

The Chairman invited Members to stand as a mark of respect.

#### **\*64 Public speaking**

The Chairman welcomed those present. There were no members of the public that wished to speak.

#### **\*65 Minutes**

The minutes (with Council Tax Schedules 1, 2 and 3) of the meeting of the Council held on 22 February 2017 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

#### **\*66 Declarations of interest**

There were none.

**\*67 Chairman/Leader notices/announcements**

There were none.

**\*68 Leisure East Devon (LED) Community Engagement - presentation**

Cllr Steve Hall, Council nominated representative on LED Leisure Management Limited, introduced Lottie Edwards, Leisure East Devon's Community Engagement Manager, to the Members.

Lottie presented an overview of the large number of community sports and health development projects that LED supported, created and promoted within East Devon. She advised that these projects were often delivered through partnership working which helped to ensure that a wide range of activities were provided for all ages and abilities. She highlighted a number of successes, including being a Devon Sports Award finalist for East Devon Walk This Way, a silver National Sport England Award for the disability rounders' project and a County Sports Partnership Network Impact Award for Physical Wellbeing for the Active Mums' project.

Looking forward to the future, LED would continue to look for more funding opportunities from Sport England, introduce a new LED Innovation Group with the input from Public Health Leads from the three East Devon areas and continue to promote healthy lifestyles and wellbeing through sports and health development projects and initiatives.

In response to the presentation, Cllr Tom Wright spoke of the enthusiasm, support and encouragement offered by the staff of LED and how the Council's association with the Company was one to be proud of.

On behalf of Members, the Chairman thanked Lottie for taking the time to come and talk to them about her valuable and inspirational work within the District.

**\*69 Questions (Procedure Rules 9.2 and 9.5)**

Four questions had been submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 9.2 - the printed [questions and answers](#) were circulated at the meeting. Councillors submitting questions are entitled to put a related supplementary question (Procedure Rule 9.5). The response to the supplementary question asked is set out below.

- a) Question 1 – In response to the supplementary question by Cllr Cathy Gardener about the membership and reporting lines of the Housing Company Sub-Committee, the Chief Executive advised that the membership would be five Cabinet members (as set out in the Cabinet minutes, 8 March 2017); the Sub-Committee would report to Cabinet.
- b) Question 2 – In response to the supplementary question about resources for developing the Business Plan for the Local Housing Company, the Chief Executive advised that existing staff would develop the Business Plan, however as and when projects came forward, resourcing would be reviewed.

- c) Question 3 – In response to the supplementary question about an ongoing police investigation relating to undue influence being placed on a site allocation within the Villages Plan, the Leader responded by saying that the Villages Plan was subject to examination by an Inspector and that he reserved judgement as to what, if any, action would be taken.
- d) Question 4 – No supplementary question was asked.

**\*70 Minutes of Cabinet and Committees**

**RESOLVED**

1. that the under-mentioned minutes be received and the recommendations approved

**Cabinet**

Minutes 154 – 181, 182 - 214

**Strategic Planning Committee**

Minutes 40 - 47

**Development Management Committee**

Minutes 39 – 42, 43 - 46

**Audit and Governance Committee**

Minutes 46 - 57

**Licensing and Enforcement Sub Committee**

Minutes 16 – 18, 19 - 23

that the under-mentioned minutes be received.

Cabinet (minutes 162, 191 & 193) had noted or accepted the following Overview/Scrutiny Committees' recommendations with or without amendment.

**Scrutiny Committee**

Minutes 33 - 40, 41 - 46

**Audit and Governance, Overview and Scrutiny Committees – Joint meeting**

Minutes 1 - 4

**Housing Review Board**

Minutes 37 - 58

Arising from consideration of the above minutes:-

➤ **Cabinet, 8 March – Minute \*166 – Establishing a Local Housing Company for East Devon District Moulding**

Cllr Douglas Hull asked for the membership of the Housing Company Sub-Committee to be reviewed to include, when necessary, input from ward members as he felt it was important to have the involvement of those with a good knowledge of the areas where development was proposed. He also spoke of the importance of Building Control being able to monitor any development to ensure it was of the highest quality and something the Council could be proud of. In response, the Leader advised Cllr Hull that he welcomed his comments and they had been noted. It was a fantastic initiative and was crucial that it was done properly.

- **Audit and Governance, Overview, and Scrutiny Committees – joint meeting, 18 April**  
**RESOLVED:** that Council agrees the minutes of the joint meeting of the Audit and Governance, Overview, and Scrutiny Committees subject to the inclusion of the following declaration of interest:  
**Councillor Bruce de Saram:** minute 4; personal interest; member of Exmouth Town Council

**\*71 Councillor resignations**

The Chairman formally reported the resignations of Peter Bowden and Maria Hale from the Council. The by-elections for the two seats would be held at the same time as the County elections on 4 May 2017.

**Attendance list**

**Councillors present:**

Stuart Hughes (Chairman)

Mike Allen  
Megan Armstrong  
Brian Bailey  
Dean Barrow  
Susie Bond  
Colin Brown  
Jenny Brown  
Peter Burrows  
Paul Carter  
Maddy Chapman  
Iain Chubb  
Alan Dent  
Paul Diviani  
Bruce de Saram  
Peter Faithfull  
Cathy Gardner  
Steve Gazzard  
Roger Giles  
Graham Godbeer  
Pat Graham  
Simon Grundy  
Ian Hall  
Steve Hall  
Marcus Hartnell  
John Humphreys  
Ben Ingham  
Geoff Jung  
David Key  
Jim Knight  
Rob Longhurst  
Andrew Moulding  
Bill Nash

Cherry Nicholas  
John O'Leary  
Christopher Pepper  
Geoff Pook  
Val Ranger  
Marianne Rixson  
Pauline Stott  
Brenda Taylor  
Ian Thomas  
Phil Twiss  
Mark Williamson  
Eileen Wragg  
Tom Wright

**Honorary Aldermen:**

Christine Drew  
Frances Newth  
Steve Wragg

**Officers:**

Richard Cohen, Deputy Chief Executive  
Simon Davey, Strategic Lead - Finance  
John Golding, Strategic Leader – Housing, Health and Environment  
Henry Gordon Lennox, Strategic Lead – Governance and Licensing  
Jay Lambe, Service Lead – Regeneration and Property  
Steve Pratten, Relocation Manager  
Julia Waddington, Project and Facilities Manager  
Mark Williams, Chief Executive  
Hannah Whitfield, Democratic Services Officer

**Councillor apologies:**

David Barratt  
Matt Booth  
John Dyson  
Jill Elson  
Mike Howe  
Dawn Manley  
Darryl Nicholas  
Helen Parr

**Honorary Aldermen apologies:**

Trevor Cope  
Stephanie Jones  
Bob Peachey  
Ken Potter  
Tim Wood

Chairman ..... Date .....