

Agenda for Council

Wednesday, 24th February, 2021, 6.00 pm

To: All elected Members of the Council; Honorary Aldermen

Venue: Online via the Zoom App. All Councillors and registered speakers will have been sent an appointment with the meeting link.

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**Important - this meeting will be conducted online and recorded by Zoom only.
Please do not attend Blackdown House.
Members are asked to follow the [Protocol for Remote Meetings](#)**

This meeting is being recorded by EDDC for subsequent publication on the Council's website and will be streamed live to the Council's Youtube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmNHQruge3LVI4hcgRnbwBw>

Public speakers are now required to register to speak – for more information please use the following link: <https://eastdevon.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/have-your-say-at-meetings/all-other-virtual-public-meetings/#article-content>

Dear Sir/Madam

**Meeting of the Council of the District of East Devon on
Wednesday, 24th February, 2021 at 6.00 pm**

You are called upon to attend the above meeting to be held online. 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.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "M. Howl", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Chief Executive

1 **Public speaking**

Information on [public speaking](#) is available online

2 **Minutes of the previous meetings** (Pages 6 - 24)

3 **Apologies**

4 **Declarations of interest**

Guidance is available online to Councillors and co-opted members on making [declarations of interest](#)

5 **Matters of urgency**

Information on [matters of urgency](#) is available online

6 **Announcements from the Chair and Leader**

7 **Confidential/exempt item(s)**

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, but if confidential minutes from Cabinet and/or the Council's Committees are being discussed, Officers may recommend consideration in the private part of the meeting.

8 **To answer questions asked by Members of the Council pursuant to Procedure Rules No. 9.2 and 9.5** (Pages 25 - 34)

9 **Revenue Estimates, Capital Programme and Council tax Resolution 2021/22** (Pages 35 - 45)

- a) To consider the report of the Council's Section 151 Officer, Strategic Lead - Finance, and the recommendations contained therein which include approval of the recommendations of the Cabinet on Wednesday 3 February 2021 relating to the Council's Revenue and Capital Estimates for 2021/22 and precept details of the parish and town councils, Devon County Council, Devon and Cornwall Police & Crime Commissioner and the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority.
- b) 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.

Note 1 A recorded vote will be taken of the vote on this item so that there is a record of how Members have voted in budget setting (legislation which came into force on 25 February 2014 - The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014).

Note 2 Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 precludes councillors from voting on the setting of the Council's budget / council tax where there is an outstanding council tax debt of over two months. It is also a requirement, where you attend any meeting to set the budget and this

preclusion applies, that you must declare the fact you are precluded from voting. A failure to do this is a criminal offence.

10 Reports from the Cabinet and the Council's Committees and questions on those reports (Pages 46 - 48)

- a) Minutes of Cabinet held on 2 December 2020 Minute numbers 267 - 271 (Pages 49 - 52)
- b) Minutes of Cabinet held on 6 January 2021 Minute numbers 272 - 302 (Pages 53 - 66)
- c) Minutes of Cabinet held on 20 January 2021 Minute numbers 303 - 309 (Pages 67 - 72)
- d) Minutes of Cabinet held on 3 February 2021 Minute numbers 310 - 331 (Pages 73 - 84)
- e) Minutes of the Scrutiny Committee held on 10 December 2020 Minute numbers 95 - 107 (Pages 85 - 92)
- f) Minutes of the Joint Scrutiny & Overview Committees Budget meeting held on 13 January 2021 Minute numbers 108 - 114 (Pages 93 - 101)
- g) Minutes of the Joint Scrutiny & Overview Committees Budget meeting held on 14 January 2021 Minute numbers 115 - 121 (Pages 102 - 109)
- h) Minutes of the Scrutiny Committee held on 4 February 2021 Minute numbers 122 - 130 (Pages 110 - 117)
- i) Minutes of the Housing Review Board held on 21 January 2021 Minute numbers 85 - 101 (Pages 118 - 127)
- j) Minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee held on 15 December 2020 Minute numbers 89 - 102 (Pages 128 - 141)
- k) minutes of the Planning Committee held on 6 January 2021 Minute numbers 186 - 193 (Pages 142 - 147)
- l) Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 7 January 2021 Minute numbers 194 - 202 (Pages 148 - 153)
- m) Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 10 February 2021 Minute numbers 203 -121 (Pages 154 - 159)

- n) Minutes of the Audit & Governance Committee held on 26 November 2020 Minute Numbers 51 - 61 (Pages 160 - 163)
- o) Minutes of the Audit & Governance Committee held on 28 January 2021 Minute numbers 62 - 74 (Pages 164 - 168)
- p) Minutes of the Standards Committee held on 19 January 2021 Minute numbers 27 - 34 (Pages 169 - 172)

11 **Changes to governance arrangements** (Pages 173 - 176)

12 **Motion: Future High Streets Funding**

This Council resolves to write to Simon Jupp MP and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government Robert Jenrick to express our disappointment that Exmouth was not, as promised on December 8th 2019, given the opportunity to engage with the bidding process for the Future High Streets Fund, and asks:

- 1) Why the announcement four days before a General Election ([appendix a](#)) was not followed with any communication, a firm process and confirmation of the next steps to be announced to East Devon District Council (the responsible authority for submitting such bids)?
- 2) Why no reply was received to the letter sent by the former Leader of the Council in January 2020 ([Appendix B](#))?
- 3) If there will be future iterations of Future High Street funding, even though the previous process was described as 'once in a lifetime' and a spokeswoman from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government has stated that the rest of the funding has been transferred elsewhere? ([appendix C](#))
- 4) Was a unilateral decision taken by the Secretary of State anywhere else in the country to subvert the bidding process?

Should there be confirmation that the Future High Streets funding is to continue, the Council resolves to request a meeting with Mr Jupp to work together cross-party to prepare a bid.

Should there be confirmation of no further Future High Streets funding, that this Council agrees to take independent legal advice to establish whether there is a basis for making a complaint to the Electoral Commission about possible election fraud

Proposed by; Cllr Joe Whibley

Seconded by; Cllr Paul Millar

Supported by Cllrs; Paul Arnott, Olly Davey, Tony Woodward, Eileen Wragg.

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