

## **EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held at Council Chamber, Blackdown House, Honiton on 30 October 2019**

#### **Attendance list at end of document**

The meeting started at 5.32 pm and ended at 6.31 pm

#### **74 Public speaking**

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

#### **75 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of Cabinet held on 2 October 2019 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

#### **76 Declarations of interest**

None

#### **77 Matters of urgency**

There were no matters of urgency.

#### **78 Confidential/exempt item(s)**

There were no items officers recommended should be dealt with in this way.

#### **79 Forward Plan**

Members agreed the content of the forward plan for key decisions for the period 1 December 2019 to 31 March 2020.

#### **80 Minutes of Housing Review Board held on 19 September 2019**

Members received and noted the Minutes of Housing Review Board held on 19 September 2019.

**RESOLVED** that the following recommendation be agreed:

##### **Minute 37 HMO update and expenditure**

1. the update provided,
2. further expenditure by the Strategic Lead for Housing, Health and Environment to ensure that the property recently acquired in Morton Road, Exmouth was fit for purpose using available budgets, and
3. the further expenditure be approved, subject to available budgets by the Service Lead for Housing.

#### **81 Minutes of Strata Joint Executive Committee held on 24 September 2019**

Members received and noted the Minutes of Strata Joint Executive Committee held on 24 September 2019.

82 **Minutes of Scrutiny Committee held on 3 October 2019**

Members received and noted the Minutes of Scrutiny Committee held on 3 October 2019.

83 **Minutes of the Budget Working Party held on 16 October 2019**

Members received and noted the Minutes of the Budget Working Party held on 16 October 2019.

**RESOLVED** that the following recommendations be agreed:

**Note 6 Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and Transformation Savings 2020 - 2029 update**

to review and consider the current position of the Council's plans to prepare future balanced budgets.

84 **Council Plan 2020-2024**

The Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services presented the first draft of the new Council Plan for 2020-2024. The council plan set out the strategic direction of the council over the next few years. The plan looked at the priorities and actions to guide the effective use of all council resources.

The four priority areas contained in the plan are as follows:

- Outstanding place and environment
- Outstanding homes and communities
- Outstanding level of economic growth, productivity and prosperity
- Outstanding council and council services

The priorities and actions had been drawn up by all councillors within the Cabinet. These had had further oversight and input by the Strategic and Service Leads and specifically Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

The Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services identified changes to the wording in relation to poverty to address the resolution of Council on 23 October 2019. There were further discussions around changes to wording and more clarification to certain objectives within the Plan itself as well as some typographical changes which the Strategic Lead for Organisational Development took note of.

**RESOLVED** that

1. the draft of the new Council Plan 2019-2024 taking into account the feedback from Overview and Scrutiny Committee was considered and feedback and changes provided on the priorities and actions.
2. the commitments in the Plan would need to be assessed to determine financial and people resources required.

**REASON**

to assist with the ongoing development of the new Council Plan.

## 85 **Careful choices consultation**

The Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services outlined the proposed consultation to support the 'careful choices' the council would need to make in the coming years. She reminded Members that this helped to inform the council's decision-making process as well as raising awareness to the public of the financial constraints the council was facing. The council had a £2.7m budget deficit which needed to be dealt with over the next 2-3 years in order to be able to produce a balanced budget. The council's strategy includes developing a strategy for commercialisation, ensuring the council was 'fit for purpose' to deliver the Council Plan and additionally making 'careful choices' about the services it provided.

It was proposed that a consultation be sent to 3000 residents on a random basis, to Town and Parish Councils and placed on-line. This would provide a statistically reliable body of feedback which could then be extrapolated to be representative of the views of the district. Other feedback would also help support the findings.

**RESOLVED** that  
the detail of the consultation be agreed with the consultation to commence on 12 January 2020.

**REASON**  
to help engage residents and businesses in the financial issues facing the council.

## 86 **Sid Valley Neighbourhood Plan ('the Plan') to be formally made**

The Plan has now passed referendum and must be formally made by East Devon District Council in order to form part of the development plan.

**RESOLVED** that

1. the Plan was made so it forms part of the development plan, and
2. the Council congratulates the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on all their hard work and advise them that once made the Plan would carry full weight in the planning decision making process.

**REASON**  
the Plan received a majority 'yes' vote in their referendum as required by the regulations and there was no substantive reason not to make the Plan.

### **Attendance List**

#### **Present:**

#### **Portfolio Holders**

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| B Ingham    | Leader   |
| S Bond      | Deputy Leader  |
| M Armstrong | Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Homes and Communities |
| J Bailey    | Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services                |
| K Blakey    | Portfolio Holder for Economy                           |
| P Faithfull | Deputy Portfolio Holder for Environment                |
| G Jung      | Portfolio Holder for Environment                       |
| G Pook      | Portfolio Holder for Asset Management                  |

I Thomas

Portfolio Holder for Finance

**Cabinet apologies:**

**Also present (for some or all the meeting)**

Councillor Paul Arnott  
Councillor Bruce De Saram  
Councillor Alan Dent  
Councillor Dan Ledger  
Councillor Andrew Moulding  
Councillor Philip Skinner  
Councillor Tom Wright

**Also present:**

**Officers:**

Richard Cohen, Deputy Chief Executive  
Simon Davey, Strategic Lead Finance  
John Golding, Strategic Lead Housing, Health and Environment  
Henry Gordon Lennox, Strategic Lead Governance and Licensing  
Karen Simpkin, Strategic Lead Organisational Development and Transformation  
Amanda Coombes, Democratic Services Officer

Chairman .....

Date: .....