

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held at Knowle, Sidmouth on Wednesday, 14 July 2004

Present:

Councillors:

Mrs A E Liverton (Chairman)
Mrs K J Bamsey (Vice-Chairman)

Miss V Ash	S C Luxton
Mrs M J Boote	Ms S M Merritt
P W Burrows	A T Moulding
D G Button	R Mudge
G P Chamberlain	B Nicholson
B H Clark	Mrs H E Parr
T A Cope	A S Pascoe
D J Cox	R C Peachey
R H H Cross	Miss S M Randall Johnson
A E J Dinnis	A W J Reed
P A Diviani	T G Reeves
Lt Col A J M Drake	Mrs L A Roden
Mrs C E Drew	Mrs M A Rogers
Miss J M Elson	N Rogers
J E D Falby	N J Spence
A R Giles	Mrs P A Stott
J H Glanvill	Mrs B O Taylor
Mrs P A Graham	P C Townsend
J P Halse	A J Toye
Mrs M L Hardy	B J Toye
S Hughes	C H Wale
D R H Hull	Dr H W Waterworth
B O Ingham	A J Wilkinson
H J Jeffery	Mrs E E Wragg
D R A Key	S C Wragg
G K Liverton	

The meeting started at 6.30 pm and ended at 7.50 pm.

*1 **Minutes**

The minutes of the annual meeting of the Council held on 19 May 2004 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

*2 **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs R E Burrow, R G Franklin, K W George, M J L Green, B C J Hughes, P J Skinner.

***3 Questions**

The Leader of the Council, pursuant to Procedure Rule 8.2 answered a question by Councillor P Burrows regarding the sanctions taken as a result of the current overspend in the budget.

The Economy Portfolio Holder, pursuant to Procedure Rules 8.2 and 8.5 answered a question by Councillor Burrows regarding the actual cost of re-issuing car park charge notices and confirmed that administrative costs had not been doubled as a result.

The Communities Portfolio Holder, pursuant to Procedure Rules 8.2 and 8.5 answered questions by Councillor Giles regarding the 'Operation Gate It' scheme, litter and dog fouling fixed-penalty notices, and fines imposed for graffiti writing. Councillor Miss Elson acknowledged the litter problem but questioned whether activating a programme of fines was the most practical and cost effective solution.

***4 Minutes of Executive Board and Committees**

RESOLVED (1) that the following minutes be received and the recommendations approved:

Executive Board	Minutes	227-241,1-21
Development Control	Minutes	57-66, 1-9
Planning Inspections	Minutes	37-43, 1-4
General Licensing Sub	Minutes	42-57, 1-12
Housing Allocations	Minutes	20-23, 1-4
Employment Appeals Committee	Minutes	13-15
Economy Overview	Minutes	*1-10

*due to limited time scale, only minute 11 was considered as an urgent item by the Executive Board

(2) that the following minutes be received; their recommendations having been referred to the Executive Board (Min No 6 refers) for decision, when the Board noted or approved the recommendations contained in the minutes without amendment:-

Communities Overview	Minutes	40-45, 1-6
Environment Overview	Minutes	1-12
Strategic Overview	Minutes	1-5
Economy Overview	Minute	11

Arising from consideration of the above Minutes:

(a) Service revenue budget prioritisation (Executive Board Minute 233)

On behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group, Councillor D G Button stated that the Group welcomed the setting up of the Leader's Service Prioritisation Group and being given the opportunity to take a full part in this review process. If appropriate, the Group would promote alternative policies to address any of its concerns.

- (b) Parliamentary Constituencies in Devon, Plymouth and Torbay (Executive Board Minute 11)

The Leader confirmed that it was appropriate to provide a detailed response to the Boundary Commission for England in respect of the proposed changes.

(All Members of the Liberal Democratic Group who were present at the meeting asked for their vote against recommendation 2 of this minute to be recorded).

- (c) Revenue and Capital Outturn Report for 2003/04 and Treasury Management Performance 2003/04 (Executive Board Minutes 12 and 13).

Following debate and voting, it was agreed that a review of the Council's pension arrangements would not be carried out at this time.

- (d) Outdoor swimming pool redevelopment site, Exmouth (Executive Board Minute 21)

In calling this minute, Members were reminded that this item was an exempt information report and that if it was necessary to discuss details, it would be taken in Part B.

In response to a comment from Councillor Mudge, the Leader confirmed that, as far as possible, the Ward Members and Town Council would be kept fully informed in respect of the proposed redevelopment of this site.

- (e) CCTV Task and Finish Forum (Economy Overview Committee Minute 6)

Councillor S C Luxton confirmed that Officers were in consultation with the Police concerning the use of the mobile CCTV van to ensure that the vehicle was used much more frequently and widely throughout the whole of East Devon. He confirmed that the results of those negotiations would be reported back to the Overview Committee.

- (f) East Devon Economic Development Issues Report (Economy Overview Committee Minute 8)

In reply to a question, Councillor S C Luxton stated that establishing a task and finish forum to review the East Devon Economic Development Issues report was justified and would allow adequate time to be taken to fully consider this matter.

- (g) Work Programme for 2004/05 (Environment Overview Committee Minute 6)

Councillor G K Liverton confirmed that a review of public conveniences would be incorporated within the future work programme and that the comments in respect of the state of the Lace Walk car park toilets were noted.

- (h) Byelaws Task and Finish Forum (Environment Overview Committee Minute 7)

Mrs P A Graham had attended the above meeting and not Mrs P A Wragg.

- (i) Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman (Strategic Overview Committee Minutes 1 and 2)

In response to a suggestion that the Council was not paying heed to the comments in the CPA report, Councillor Dr H W Waterworth confirmed that the Chairman and Vice Chairman had been properly and democratically elected to those posts.

*9 **MOTION – Exeter and Salisbury railway line - dualling**

The following motion (in the names of Councillors A R Giles, D G Button, J E D Falby, M J L Green and Mrs H E Parr) was proposed by Councillor A R Giles and seconded by Councillor D G Button:

“This Council acknowledges the vital economic and social importance of the Exeter to Salisbury railway line in East Devon in particular, and Devon in general. This Council believes that the line should be used to its full potential but regrets that this is not possible at present because of the mainly single-track line. This Council reiterates its previous position and calls on the Strategic Rail Authority to agree a programme of dualling the Exeter to Salisbury railway line together with essential signalling works at the earliest opportunity. To help bring about these improvements at an early date the Council asks the local Members of Parliament to use their best endeavours in support of achieving improvements at an early date.”

Amendments to the wording were moved by Councillors D J Cox and Mrs H E Parr and seconded by the Leader of the Council.

“This Council acknowledges the vital economic and social importance of the Exeter to Salisbury railway line in East Devon in particular, and Devon in general. This Council believes that the line should be used to its full potential **and** regrets that this is not possible at present because of the mainly single-track line. This Council reiterates its previous position and calls on **the Right Honorable Alistair Darling, Secretary of State for Transport, Network Rail and** the Strategic Rail Authority to agree a programme of dualling the Exeter to Salisbury railway line together with essential signalling works at the earliest opportunity. To help bring about these improvements at an early date the Council asks **all interested parties including** the local Members of Parliament to use their best endeavours in support of achieving improvements at an early date.”

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

The motion as amended was then put to the vote and carried unanimously.

*10 **MOTION – Seaton – allocation of amenities funding**

The following motion (in the names of Councillors Mrs M A Rogers, N Rogers, D G Button, Mrs E E Wragg, J H Glanvill) was proposed by Councillor Mrs M A Rogers and seconded by Councillor D G Button:

“In order to remedy the inequalities in Amenities Funding across East Devon District, this Council resolves, in respect of Capital Receipts that might be obtained from assets in Seaton, such funds as remain after replacing industrial accommodation in Seaton, be applied to the provision of facilities for health and community purposes in the town.”

Following discussion, the motion was put to the vote and lost.

Chairman Date.....