

South Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the South Somerset District Council on Thursday 21 July 2016

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
A7	Heart of the South West Formal Devolution Bid	<p>RESOLVED: That Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Agreed to endorse the current approach to devolution as set out in the Prospectus for Prosperity and for this to be used as the basis for negotiation with Government towards a Devolution Deal for the area; b) Noted that this endorsement only commits the Council to take part in further discussions; c) Noted that entering into a Devolution Deal or becoming a member of a Heart of the South West Combined Authority will be subject to future debate and agreement by the Council and subject to negotiations with Government. <p>Reason: To obtain authority to pursue solutions that help the Council maximise the opportunities of devolution.</p> <p align="center"><i>(Voting: 44 in favour, 2 against, 1 abstention)</i></p>
A8	SSDC Annual Performance Report 2015/16	<p>RESOLVED: That Council noted the 2015/16 performance information at Appendices A, B and C.</p> <p>Reason: The Council is accountable for its performance to the local community and performance data is published to demonstrate achievements against targets.</p>
A9	2015/16 Treasury Management Activity Report	<p>RESOLVED: That Council agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the Treasury Management Activity for the 2015/16 financial year; • Note the position of the individual prudential indicators for the 2015/16 financial year; • Note the outlook for the investment performance in 2016/17. <p>Reason: To review the treasury management activity and the performance against the Prudential Indicators for the 2015/16 financial year.</p>

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A10	Membership of Committees - Appointment of new Councillor to the Scrutiny Committee and Income Generation Board	<p>RESOLVED: That Council, in accordance with Section 16 (1) Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the duty therein to give effect to the wishes of the political group to which seats on any committee are allocated, confirmed that:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Councillor Neil Bloomfield be appointed to the Scrutiny Committee. 2. Councillor Graham Middleton be appointed to the Income Generation Board. <p>Reason: To confirm a change of members appointed to the Scrutiny Committee and the Income Generation Board.</p>
A11	Increase in Councillors on Brympton Parish Council - Community Governance Review (CGR)	<p>RESOLVED: That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted the receipt of the request from Brympton Parish Council to increase the number of Parish Councillors and its validity; 2. Agreed to undertake a Community Governance Review of the Parish of Brympton; 3. Agreed the Terms of Reference of the review as detailed in Appendix A, including the timetable and arrangements for public consultation; 4. Agreed that the review will be carried out by the Democratic Services Manager, in consultation with Ward Members, Assistant Director (Communities) and the Area South Committee; 5. Noted that further reports will be brought to Council in order that decisions may be made in respect of draft proposals and final recommendations of the Review. <p>Reason: To commence a Community Governance Review of Brympton parish Council to increase the size of the Parish Council from 11 to 12 Councillors (under the provisions of Part 4 of the Local Government and Public</p>

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		<p align="center">Involvement in Health Act 2007). <i>(Voting: Unanimous)</i></p>
A15	Motions	<p>Proposal - In the wake of the recent killing of Jo Cox MP and the less savoury rhetoric of some in the referendum campaign, this council wishes to make it clear that we, the councillors, are proud to represent a vibrant and diverse community. We totally condemn any form of racism, intolerance, bigotry or xenophobia. Hate crimes have no place in our society and we will do all we can to prevent them. The residents of South Somerset, whatever their race, creed, age, colour or sexuality are equal and shall be treated as such.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Council supported the motion with minor amendments to the wording, and agreed the actions as follows:</p> <p>In the wake of the recent killing of Jo Cox MP and the less savoury rhetoric of some in the referendum campaign, this Council wishes to make it clear that we, the councillors, are proud to represent a vibrant and diverse community. We totally condemn any form of racism, intolerance, bigotry or xenophobia. Hate crimes have no place in our society and we will do all we can to prevent them. The residents of South Somerset, whatever their gender, race, creed, age, colour or sexual orientation are treated equally.</p> <p>And further, that the Council wish to send a clear message stating that:</p> <p>“We are proud to live in a diverse and tolerant society. Racism, xenophobia and hate crimes have no place in our country. Our council condemns racism, xenophobia and hate crimes unequivocally. We will not allow hate to become acceptable. We will work to ensure that local bodies and programmes have the support and resources they need to fight and prevent racism and xenophobia. We reassure all people living in this area that they are valued members of our community.”</p>

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		<p>SSDC will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit a press release stating the above – to be put on all social media and in the papers • Send a letter to all Parishes and Councils within South Somerset confirming our commitment to this statement – asking them to do the same at their next council meetings • Confirm in our statement the increase in hate crimes across South Somerset • Work with SARI (Stand Against Racism and Inequality), local migrant groups, charities and support groups so we can agree the help they require from the Council in tackling hate crimes • Set up a training session for Councillors with SARI to help us understand the signs of hate crimes and put us in a better position to help tackle this unacceptable problem. <p align="right"><i>(Voting: Unanimous)</i></p>