

South Somerset District Council

Minutes of a meeting of the **South Somerset District Council** held on **Thursday 17 May 2018** in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Brympton Way, Yeovil.

(7.35 pm - 9.30 pm)

Present:

Members: Councillor Tony Capozzoli (Chairman)
Councillor Mike Best (Vice-Chairman)

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Clare Aparicio Paul | Mike Lewis | Gina Seaton |
| Jason Baker | Sarah Lindsay | Peter Seib |
| Cathy Bakewell | Mike Lock | Garry Shortland |
| Dave Bulmer | Tony Lock | Angie Singleton |
| Hayward Burt | Paul Maxwell | Alan Smith |
| John Clark | Graham Middleton | Sue Steele |
| Nick Colbert | David Norris | Rob Stickland |
| Sarah Dyke | Graham Oakes | Gerard Tucker |
| John Field | Tiffany Osborne | Andrew Turpin |
| Nigel Gage | Stephen Page | Linda Vijeh |
| Carol Goodall | Ric Pallister | Martin Wale |
| Anna Groskop | Crispin Raikes | William Wallace |
| Peter Gubbins | Wes Read | Nick Weeks |
| Henry Hobhouse | David Recardo | Colin Winder |
| Kaysar Hussain | Jo Roundell Greene | Derek Yeomans |
| Val Keitch | Dean Ruddle | |
| Andy Kendall | Sylvia Seal | |

Officers:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Alex Parmley | Chief Executive |
| Angela Watson | Monitoring Officer |
| Paul Fitzgerald | Section 151 Officer |
| Clare Pestell | Director (Commercial Services & Income Generation) |
| Martin Woods | Director (Service Delivery) |
| Angela Cox | Democratic Services Specialist |

1. Election of Chairman (Agenda Item 1)

Councillor Mike Best, seconded by Councillor Dave Bulmer nominated Councillor Tony Capozzoli as Chairman of the Council.

There being no other nominations it was:

RESOLVED: that Councillor Tony Capozzoli be elected as Chairman of the Council for the Municipal Year 2018/2019.

Following his appointment Councillor Capozzoli read and signed the formal declaration of acceptance of office, and thanked Members for their support.

2. Appointment of Vice-Chairman (Agenda Item 2)

Councillor Jo Roundell Greene, seconded by Councillor Andy Kendall, nominated Councillor Mike Best as Vice-Chairman of the Council.

Councillor Mike Lewis, seconded by Councillor Martin Wale, nominated Councillor Linda Vijeh as Vice-Chairman of the Council.

The two nominations were put to the vote and Councillor Mike Best was declared elected as Vice-Chairman of the Council (voting: Mike Best 28 votes, Linda Vijeh 21 votes). It was therefore:-

RESOLVED: that Councillor Mike Best be elected as Vice Chairman of the Council for the Municipal Year 2018/2019.

Following his appointment Councillor Best read and signed the formal declaration of acceptance of office and thanked Members and officers for their support during his time as Chairman of Council.

3. Apologies for Absence (Agenda Item 3)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Marcus Barrett, Neil Bloomfield, Amanda Broom, Adam Dance, Jenny Kenton, Sue Osborne and Netta Meadows, Director.

4. Minutes (Agenda Item 4)

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th March 2018, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

5. Declarations of Interest (Agenda Item 5)

There were no declarations of interest made by Members.

6. Public Question Time (Agenda Item 6)

Miss R Kendall spoke of the difficulties of requesting a taxi during school drop off and pick up times as so many of them were engaged in school transport. She said this affected many people and had caused difficulties with hospital appointments at these times. She asked if there was anything the District Council could do to help?

Councillor Ric Pallister, as Leader of Council said this was a problem across Somerset as many of the special schools used taxis to transport students and the taxi firms relied on the income the work brought. He offered to raise the issue with Somerset County Council transport team to see if there was anything to be done.

7. Chairman's Announcements (Agenda Item 7)

The Chairman advised of the death of ex-District Councillor Martin Rawstorne of Ilminster the previous week. He asked that Members stand for a moment of silence in his memory.

The Leader of Council spoke of the recent Unitary Council proposal by Somerset Country Council (SCC). He noted that there was a Joint CEO and Leader meeting with all Districts and SCC the following day where it was likely to commission a study into the proposals and options. He confirmed that his intention was to reform the cross party Leaders Group and no substantive decisions would be taken without referral to the District Executive and Full Council.

8. Chairman's Engagements (Agenda Item 8)

The list of Chairman's engagements was noted.

9. Strategic Development and Regeneration in South Somerset District Council (Agenda Item 9)

The Leader of Council, as Portfolio Holder for Strategy and Policy advised that as the Council Plan had been agreed, it must be implemented and the Council's structures must also be aligned to do this and deliver the priority projects. He noted the dis-establishment of the Regeneration Boards and their replacement with Programme Boards and said that although they were only resourced for certain projects, smaller schemes could be supported by the Area Committees

The Chief Executive advised that there were elements of some of the proposed schemes where an income could be generated and therefore they could be forward funded by SSDC and the income generated would repay the investment to achieve the net spend.

In response to questions from Members, the Leader of Council and Chief Executive advised that:-

- Paragraph 6.13 relating to the Regeneration Programme Boards, should include in consultation with the relevant Area Chairman when any differences were referred to the CEO and Leader for a decision.
- The Council had appointed a Regeneration Manager for Chard and the Chief Executive and Director for Commercial Services and Income Generation both had a commercial background.

Councillor Michael Lewis, as Leader of the Conservative Group said that whilst they could agree the majority of recommendations, they were concerned at 3.1.6 until finer detail on the delegation was given. The Leader of Council and Portfolio Holder for Property and Climate Change sought to give assurance by drawing attention to paragraph 7.10 which required Council to approve the gross and net budgets of each programme.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the majority of Members were content to confirm the recommendations of the report (voting: 31 in favour, 14 against, 5 abstentions).

RESOLVED: That Full Council agreed to:-

1. discontinue the following Programme and Project Boards:
 - a. Strategic Regeneration Board
 - b. Local Development Scheme Board
 - c. The Four Area Regeneration Boards (West, North, East and South)
 - d. The Chard Regeneration Project Board
2. establish a Strategic Development Board with the remit and membership as set out in paragraphs 6.1 to 6.5;
3. establish a Chard Regeneration Programme Board with the remit and membership as set out in paragraphs 6.6 to 6.16;
4. establish a Yeovil Regeneration Programme Board with the remit and membership as set out in paragraphs 6.6 to 6.16;
5. establish a Wincanton Regeneration Programme Board with the remit and membership set out in paragraphs 6.6 to 6.16;
6. the principle of delegating a Gross Spend and Net Cost budget to the Regeneration Programme Boards as outlined in section 7 of this report, and delegated authority to S151 Officer to approve funding arrangements for Gross and Net arrangements;
7. the principle of prioritising Business Rates Pooling gains for Regeneration Programmes;
8. the constitution and financial procedure rules to be amended to reflect the proposed delegations.

Reason: To focus the Council's strategic development of the District including regeneration, economic development, infrastructure and housing.

(Voting: 31 in favour, 14 against, 5 abstentions)

10. Appointment of Member Level Bodies 2018/19 (Agenda Item 10)

The Chairman asked for Members to consider each recommendation individually and it was resolved that:-

Recommendation (1) – to note the appointment of Leader of the Council

RESOLVED: that Council noted that it appointed Councillor Ric Pallister as Leader of the Council for a period of four years, starting on the day of his election (May 2015) and ending on the day of the post 4-year Council election annual meeting (May 2019).

Recommendation (2) – to note the appointment of Deputy Leader of the Council

RESOLVED: that Council noted that it appointed Councillor Jo Roundell Greene as Deputy Leader of the Council to hold office (subject to Article 7.03) until the end of the term of office of the Leader (May 2019).

Recommendation (3) - Appointment of Membership and establishment of District Executive Committee

RESOLVED: that the Leader appointed the following Members and Portfolio responsibilities for 2018/19;

| | | |
|--------------------|---------|--|
| Ric Pallister | Lib Dem | Leader: Strategy & Policy (including Strategic Housing, LSP, HR, Efficiency agenda, Performance, Private Sector Housing, oversight of Civil Contingencies) |
| Jo Roundell Greene | Lib Dem | Deputy Leader: Environment & Economic Development and Transformation: (including Economic Development, Regeneration, Streetscene, Waste & Recycling) |
| Peter Seib | Lib Dem | Finance & Legal Services (including Strategic Car Parking Income, Revenues & Benefits, Strategic Asset Management, Procurement, South West Audit Partnership) |
| Sylvia Seal | Lib Dem | Leisure & Culture: (including Sport, Countryside, Arts, Health & Well-Being, Third Sector, Operational Housing & Welfare) |
| Henry Hobhouse | Lib Dem | Property and Climate Change and Income Generation: (including Strategic Transport, Property & Engineering, ICT, GIS, Carbon Management) |
| Angie Singleton | Lib Dem | Strategic Planning (Place Making) (including Development Management, Spatial Planning, Area Development, Market Town Investment Group, Licensing) |
| Val Keitch | Lib Dem | Area West Chair (Environmental Health, Health and Safety, Democratic Services and Member Development, Equalities and Diversity) |
| Graham Middleton | Cons | Area North Chair (Waste and Recycling) |

and Tourism)

Nick Weeks Cons **Area East Chair** (Civil Contingencies and Heritage, Building Control and Listed Buildings)

Peter Gubbins Lib Dem **Area South Chair** (Yeovil Town Centre Regeneration, Community Safety and Crematorium)

Recommendation (4) – Re-establishment of member level bodies for 2018/19

RESOLVED: that the following member-level bodies be re-established for 2018/19:

- 4 Area Committees (geographical representation)
- Scrutiny Committee (14 members)
- Audit Committee (10 members)
- Regulation Committee (14 members)
- Licensing Committee (15 members)
- Appointments Committee (8 members)
- Standards Committee (6 District Council members plus 5 co-optees)

Recommendation (5) - Appoint Members to Member-Level Bodies

RESOLVED: that the memberships of the bodies established as in recommendation (4) be approved as follows for 2018/19 having regard to the principles of political balance as set out in the report and giving effect to the wishes of the party political groups:

Area North Committee 13 members (exempt from political balance)

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Adam Dance | Lib Dem | |
| Stephen Page | Lib Dem | |
| Crispin Raikes | Lib Dem | |
| Jo Roundell Greene | Lib Dem | |
| Sylvia Seal | Lib Dem | |
| Clare Aparicio Paul | Conservative | |
| Neil Bloomfield | Conservative | |
| Graham Middleton | Conservative | Chairman |
| Tiffany Osborne | Conservative | |
| Gerard Tucker | Conservative | Vice Chairman |
| Dean Ruddle | Conservative | |
| Sue Steele | Conservative | |
| Derek Yeomans | Conservative | |

Area South Committee 19 members (exempt from political balance)

| | | |
|----------------|---------|----------|
| Cathy Bakewell | Lib Dem | |
| John Clark | Lib Dem | |
| Peter Gubbins | Lib Dem | Chairman |

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Kaysar Hussain | Lib Dem | |
| Andy Kendall | Lib Dem | |
| Mike Lock | Lib Dem | |
| Tony Lock | Lib Dem | |
| Graham Oakes | Lib Dem | |
| Wes Read | Lib Dem | |
| David Recardo | Lib Dem | Vice Chairman |
| Peter Seib | Lib Dem | |
| Alan Smith | Lib Dem | |
| Rob Stickland | Lib Dem | |
| Gye Dibben | Conservative | |
| John Field | Conservative | |
| Nigel Gage | Conservative | |
| Sarah Lindsay | Conservative | |
| Sam McAllister | Conservative | |
| Gina Seaton | Conservative | |

Area East Committee 12 members (exempt from political balance)

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Sarah Dyke | Lib Dem | |
| Henry Hobhouse | Lib Dem | |
| Tony Capozzoli | Independent | |
| Mike Beech | Conservative | |
| Hayward Burt | Conservative | |
| Nick Colbert | Conservative | Vice Chairman |
| Anna Groskop | Conservative | |
| Michael Lewis | Conservative | |
| David Norris | Conservative | |
| William Wallace | Conservative | |
| Nick Weeks | Conservative | Chairman |
| Colin Winder | Conservative | |

Area West Committee 16 members (exempt from political balance)

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Jason Baker | Lib Dem | Vice Chairman |
| Mike Best | Lib Dem | |
| Amanda Broom | Lib Dem | |
| Carol Goodall | Lib Dem | |
| Val Keitch | Lib Dem | Chairman |
| Jenny Kenton | Lib Dem | |
| Paul Maxwell | Lib Dem | |
| Ric Pallister | Lib Dem | |
| Garry Shortland | Lib Dem | |
| Angie Singleton | Lib Dem | |
| Dave Bulmer | Independent | |
| Andrew Turpin | Independent | |
| Marcus Barrett | Conservative | |

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| Sue Osborne | Conservative |
| Linda Vijeh | Conservative |
| Martin Wale | Conservative |

Scrutiny Committee 14 members (political balance)

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 2 Vice-Chairmen LD7, C6, I1 | Jason Baker | Lib Dem | |
| | John Clark | Lib Dem | Vice-Chairman |
| | Carol Goodall | Lib Dem | |
| | 1 vacancy | Lib Dem | |
| | Mike Lock | Lib Dem | |
| | Alan Smith | Lib Dem | |
| | Rob Stickland | Lib Dem | |
| | Dave Bulmer | Independent | Vice-Chairman |
| | John Field | Conservative | |
| | David Norris | Conservative | |
| | Sue Steele | Conservative | Chairman |
| | Gerard Tucker | Conservative | |
| | Martin Wale | Conservative | |
| | Colin Winder | Conservative | |

Audit Committee 10 members (political balance)

| | | | |
|---------|------------------|--------------|---------------|
| LD5, C5 | Jason Baker | Lib Dem | |
| | Mike Best | Lib Dem | |
| | Val Keitch | Lib Dem | |
| | Carol Goodall | Lib Dem | |
| | Tony Lock | Lib Dem | Vice Chairman |
| | Anna Groskop | Conservative | |
| | Graham Middleton | Conservative | |
| | David Norris | Conservative | |
| | Colin Winder | Conservative | |
| | Derek Yeomans | Conservative | Chairman |

Regulation Committee 14 members (political balance)

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| LD7, C6, I1 | Mike Best (W) | Lib Dem | |
| | Tony Lock (S) | Lib Dem | |
| | Peter Gubbins (S) | Lib Dem | Chairman |
| | Mike Lock (S) | Lib Dem | |
| | David Recardo(S) | Lib Dem | |
| | Sylvia Seal (N) | Lib Dem | |
| | Angie Singleton (W) | Lib Dem | Vice Chairman |
| | Tony Capozzoli (E) | Independent | |
| | Clare Aparicio Paul (N) | Conservative | |
| | Neil Bloomfield (N) | Conservative | |
| | 1 vacancy | Conservative | |
| | Martin Wale (W) | Conservative | |

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Nick Weeks (E) | Conservative |
| Colin Winder (E) | Conservative |

Licensing Committee 15 members (exempt from political balance)

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Jason Baker | Lib Dem | |
| Val Keitch | Lib Dem | |
| Tony Lock | Lib Dem | |
| Crispin Raikes | Lib Dem | Vice Chairman |
| Wes Read | Lib Dem | |
| David Recardo | Lib Dem | Chairman |
| Alan Smith | Lib Dem | |
| 1 vacancy | Lib Dem | |
| Dave Bulmer | Independent | |
| Neil Bloomfield | Conservative | |
| David Norris | Conservative | |
| Nigel Gage | Conservative | |
| Linda Vijeh | Conservative | |
| Martin Wale | Conservative | |
| 1 vacancy | Conservative | |

Appointments Committee 8 members (political balance)

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------|
| LD4, C3, I1 | Ric Pallister | Lib Dem | Chairman |
| | Jo Roundell Greene | Lib Dem | Vice Chairman |
| | Sylvia Seal | Lib Dem | |
| | Angie Singleton | Lib Dem | |
| | Andrew Turpin | Independent | |
| | Anna Groskop | Conservative | |
| | Martin Wale | Conservative | |
| | Mike Lewis | Conservative | |

Standards Committee 6 members (political balance)

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| (6 members,) | Crispin Raikes | Lib Dem |
| LD3, C3 | Paul Maxwell | Lib Dem |
| | Angie Singleton | Lib Dem |
| | Nigel Gage | Conservative |
| | Neil Bloomfield | Conservative |
| | Anna Groskop | Conservative |

Plus 3 parish representatives and 2 independent representatives:

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Godfrey Townrow | Parish Rep |
| Vacancy | Parish Rep |
| Vacancy | Parish Rep |
| Christopher Borland | Independent |
| Peter Forrester | Independent |

Recommendation (6) – to appoint the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Member-Level Bodies

RESOLVED: that the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the bodies listed under recommendations (5) above be approved for 2018/19 as shown in that resolution.

Recommendation (7) - Terms of Reference of Member-Level Bodies

RESOLVED: that the bodies appointed under recommendation (4) above will operate in accordance with their existing terms of reference (as attached at Appendix A to the report) and the scheme of delegation set out in Part 3 of the Constitution.

Recommendation (8) - Appointment to Council Wide Panels and Partnerships

RESOLVED: that the following appointments be made to Council wide panels and partnerships:

| Panel or Partnership | Councillors appointed | Party |
|---|---|--|
| Appeals Panel (political balance) LD4, C3, I1 | Jason Baker Peter Gubbins Val Keitch Peter Seib Tony Capozzoli Hayward Burt Martin Wale Linda Vijeh | Lib Dem Lib Dem Lib Dem Lib Dem Ind Cons Cons Cons |
| Transformation Board | Jo Roundell Greene Ric Pallister Peter Seib John Clark Crispin Raikes Andrew Turpin Sue Steele Derek Yeomans | Lib Dem Lib Dem Lib Dem Lib Dem Lib Dem Ind Cons Cons |
| Strategic Development Board | Ric Pallister Jo Roundell - Greene Angie Singleton Val Keitch Peter Gubbins Graham Middleton Nick Weeks | Lib Dem Lib Dem Lib Dem Lib Dem Lib Dem Cons Cons |
| Chard Regeneration Programme Board Yeovil Regeneration Programme Board Wincanton Regeneration | Yet to be appointed | |

| Panel or Partnership | Councillors appointed | Party |
|--|--|--|
| Programme Board | | |
| Strategic Alliance with Sedgemoor | Ric Pallister Jo Roundell Greene Dave Bulmer Mike Lewis | Lib Dem Lib Dem Ind Cons |
| Income Generation Board | Henry Hobhouse Jason Baker Carol Goodall Val Keitch Crispin Raikes Tony Capozzoli | Lib Dem Lib Dem Lib Dem Lib Dem Lib Dem Ind |
| Local Strategic Partnership | Ric Pallister (Plus Area Chairmen are automatically members of the LSP) | Lib Dem |
| South West Internal Audit Partnership Ltd | David Norris | Cons |
| Housing and Exceptions Appeals Panel | Jo Roundell Greene Sylvia Seal | Lib Dem |
| Somerset Waste Board | Jo Roundell Greene Derek Yeomans | Lib Dem Lib Dem |
| PATROL Joint Committee (Parking and Traffic Regulation Outside London) | Tony Lock | Lib Dem |
| Somerset Growth Board | Jo Roundell Greene | Lib Dem |

Recommendation (9) - Appointment to Outside Bodies

RESOLVED: it was agreed to appoint members to the Council wide outside bodies as listed below and note that all other appointments to outside bodies would be made by the Area Committees for area specific issues.

| Organisation | Councillor appointed for 2018/19 |
|--|---|
| Board of Governors for Yeovil District Hospital NHS Foundation Trust | David Recardo |
| Board of Governors for Musgrove Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust | Sue Steele |
| LGA General Assembly | Ric Pallister |
| District Councils Network Executive | Ric Pallister |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| South West Provincial Employers | Colin Winder |
| South West Councils | Sylvia Seal |
| Somerset Rivers Authority | Ric Pallister Nick Weeks (Sub) |
| Parrett Drainage Board | Nick Weeks Mike Lewis Gerard Tucker |
| Somerset Water Management Partnership | Nick Weeks |
| Health & Well-Being Board | Sylvia Seal |
| Safer Somerset Partnership | Tony Lock |
| Police and Crime Panel | Martin Wale |
| Somerset Building Preservation Trust | Colin Winder |
| Armed Forces Community Covenant | Carol Goodall |
| Somerset Local Access Forum | Paul Maxwell |

Recommendation (10) - Members' Allowances Panel

RESOLVED: to NOTE that the membership of the Council's independent Members' Remuneration Panel.

(Voting: unanimous in favour)

Recommendation (11) – Continuation of Council Procedure Rule 40 (B)

RESOLVED: to AGREE the continuation of Council Procedure Rule 40 (B) – appointment of substitute members at meetings of Committees.

(Voting: unanimous in favour)

Recommendation (12) - Meetings Timetable

RESOLVED: that the Council's annual meetings timetable be confirmed (as amended) as attached at Appendix B.

(Voting: unanimous in favour)

11. Report of Executive Decisions (Agenda Item 11)

The report of Executive Decisions was noted.

12. Audit Committee (Agenda Item 12)

Councillor Derek Yeomans, Chairman of the Audit Committee, presented the report of the Committee.

The report of the Audit Committee was noted.

13. Scrutiny Committee (Agenda Item 13)

Councillor Sue Steele, Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee, presented the report of the Committee.

The report of the Scrutiny Committee was noted.

14. Motions (Agenda Item 14)

There were no Motions submitted by Members.

15. Questions Under Procedure Rule 10 (Agenda Item 15)

There were no questions submitted under Procedure Rule 10.

16. Date of Next Meeting (Agenda Item 16)

Members noted that the next scheduled meeting of the Full Council was a reserve date of 21st June 2018.

Unless there was any urgent business to progress on this date, the next scheduled meeting of the Full Council would take place on **Thursday, 19th July 2018** in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Brympton Way, Yeovil **commencing at 7.30 p.m.**

17. Exclusion of Press and Public (Agenda Item 17)

RESOLVED: That the following item be considered in Closed Session by virtue of the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A under Paragraph 3: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

18. Budget for Chard Regeneration Programme and Yeovil Regeneration Programme (Confidential) (Agenda Item 18)

The Portfolio Holder for Environment and Economic Development advised that the proposals would finance the Chard Regeneration Scheme and the Yeovil Regeneration Scheme which were both specific objectives in the Council Plan.

The Chief Executive outlined the finance proposed and the possible schemes to regenerate the towns and advised that a commercial approach would be taken to fund the schemes to minimise the borrowing and net cost to the Council.

During the following discussion, the Director for Commercial Services and Income Generation, Leader and Section 151 officer answered Members questions on points of detail, and, at the conclusion of the debate, the majority of Members were content to confirm the recommendations of the report.

RESOLVED: That Full Council agreed the recommendations of the report.

Reason: To deliver on the regeneration priority projects within the Council Plan and meet the needs of the towns and communities in which the regeneration is to take place.

(Voting: 36 in favour, 10 against, 3 abstentions)

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Chairman

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Date