PART 2: CHAIR'S SCHEDULE AND MEETING BUSINESS PLAN

County Council Meeting – Wednesday 20 February 2019 (10.00am)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Guide Time: 10.00am

Cllr Hazel Prior-Sankey Cllr Mike Pullin Cllr Dean Ruddle

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The County Solicitor will read out any prejudicial interests that have been declared by Members. All personal interest forms will be displayed in the chamber.

Guide Time: 10.01am

Members are reminded that if any business of the Council relates to or affects a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest which you have declared you should disclose it at the meeting not later than the start of the consideration of the business in which you have an interest or (if later) the item at which the interest becomes apparent to you and you should leave the room whilst the business is being considered.

Chair to remind all members present that:

- 1) The Monitoring Officer has granted a dispensation to enable all elected members to participate and vote on setting the budget, council tax levels and the Members Allowance Scheme
- 2) Any member who has an amount of Council Tax due to be paid which has been unpaid for at least two months needs to declare that as they cannot take part in the vote relating to the Revenue Budget

3. MINUTES Guide Time: 10.05am

To confirm the accuracy of the:

- Minutes together with the Appendices attached of the Council meeting held on 28 November 2018, and if agreed, the Chair will sign the Minutes as a correct record.
- Minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 28 November 2018, and if agreed, the Chair will sign the Minutes as a correct record.

4. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS Guide Time: 10.10am

The Chair's announcements will include reference to:

- The sad passing of Lord Paddy Ashdown who was MP for Yeovil from 1983 to 2001
- The recent sad passing of Alan Dimmick who was the County Councillor for Yeovil Central from 2013 to 2017.

Chair to ask everyone present to stand for 1 minute

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME Guide Time: 10.15am

Public Questions / Statements

Note: The questions / statements / public petitions submitted by each member of the public are detailed in *Part 1 to this Schedule*.

Chair to advise that all public statements and questions regarding Climate Change Emergency item will be considered as part of Agenda Item 10 - Requisitioned Items which is scheduled for about noon.

Chair to then invite all other public speakers registered to address the Council. Each speaker reminded that they have up to 3 minutes to make any key points and to try and not repeat points made by other speakers on the same matter. Chair to highlight that every member has access to the statements and questions that have been submitted.

For decision:

6. REPORT OF THE LEADER AND CABINET – FOR Guide Time: 10.35am DECISION (pages 41 – 422)

Item 6 - papers A, B, C and D - to be introduced by Cllr David Fothergill - Leader of the Council

Chair to reference the covering report and the supporting papers A, B, C and D (which include equalities impact assessments that members will have due regards to).

Chair to advise that members will be asked to consider and debate these four papers before the Council is then asked to vote separately on the recommendations that are set out below.

Chair to invite Cllrs Fothergill and Chilcott to present the key points from the budget papers published. Cllr Fothergill to propose and Cllr Chilcott to second the recommendations in the four papers to Council.

Chair to then invite Members to debate and ask questions about the four budget papers. Chair to request that Members reference specific pages of the agenda pack when making any points about the four papers.

Cllr Fothergill and Cllr Chilcott to answer any questions. If necessary Peter Lewis the Section 151 Officer may also be invited to answer any points raised.

Following debate the Chair will then invite the Council to vote upon the recommendations for each paper separately as set out below:

Paper A – Capital Strategy 2019/20-2021/22

Chair to highlight to members that the recommendations are set out on page 50 of the agenda pack and members should refer to these when voting.

Capital Strategy (Investment Strategy) 2019/20-2021/22

The Council is recommended to consider and agree:

- 1. the Capital Strategy 2019/20-2021/22, and the prudential indicators contained within Paper A (as set out in Appendix 1);
- 2. to delegate authority to the Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Leader, Deputy Leader, Opposition Spokesperson for Resources, Monitoring Officer and County Solicitor, to design the governance arrangements and remit of the non-treasury investments for recommendation to, and approval by, the Cabinet and the Council before the end of July 2019.

Paper B - Capital Programme 2019/20-2021/22

Chair to highlight to members that the recommendations are set out on page 70 of the agenda pack and members should refer to these when voting.

Capital Programme 2019/20-2021/22

The Council is recommended to agree:

- 1. Approval of the proposed capital programme for the period 2019/20 to 2022/23 of £224.121m, shown in Appendix A. Full details of individual schemes are available online as background papers. It is to be noted there is an existing programme approved in 2018/19 that overlaps with this one;
- 2. That the Chief Executive and the relevant Senior Leadership Team Officer, following appropriate consultation and after giving due regard to the information contained within any associated impact assessments, are given delegated authority to decide on the individual projects to be delivered within block allocations;
- 3. That the Section 151 Officer is given delegated authority to accept any additional grants or funding that is made available to the County Council together with authority to consequently expand the approved capital programme, providing there are no negative revenue budget implications as a result of that action.

Paper C - Revenue Budget and the Medium Term Financial Plan 2019/20-2021/22

Chair to remind all members that there will be a named vote on the Revenue Budget as required by the legislation.

Chair to highlight to members that the recommendations are set out on pages 86, 87 and 88 of the agenda pack and members should refer to these when voting.

Chair to invite the Monitoring Officer to read out the names for members to then advise of their vote. Following the vote, the County Solicitor will inform the Council as to the voting figures and whether the proposal was carried or rejected.

The Council is recommended to:

- 1. Agree a gross revenue budget of £780.181m and a net revenue budget in 2019/20 of £327.967m
- 2. Agree the application of up to £2.791m in 2019/20 of capital receipts to fund the revenue costs associated with reforming services, subject to further development and review of business cases.
- 3. Delegate authority to the S151 Officer, in consultation with the Chief Executive and the Director for Customers & Communities Corporate Affairs to review all business cases before agreeing to the use of capital receipts or the Invest to Save reserve.
- 4. Agree the replenishment of depleted reserves as follows:
 - a. Create Invest to Save earmarked reserve of £2.852m to ensure resources are available to support further service reform:
 - b. Addition of £2.000m to the General Fund, from the base budget provision, to bring the balance up towards a reasonable level for a Council of this size, and;
 - c. Contribute an additional £3.389m to repay the Buildings Maintenance Insurance Scheme (BMIS) deficit reserve as the scheme has now ended;
 - d. Addition of £0.540m to the Insurance Fund to partially replenish the fund to enable it to support likely claims against the Council.
- 5. Agree the actions required to manage the gap to be reduced to £15.112m in 2019/20:
 - the reversal of previously identified savings and technical adjustments totalling £18.154m as set out in paragraph 4.5 and Appendix A
 - approve the revised Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) statement and policy (Appendix B), which delivers a saving in 2019/20 of £3.714m;
 - the reduction of the corporate contingency by £0.575m to £7.226m for 2019/20;
 - the use of the additional one-off Adult Social Care grant of £2.498m to meet the requirements set out by Government for this grant;
 - the use of the additional one-off Social Care grant of £4.267m for social care pressures, and;
 - approve the removal of the staff unpaid leave saving of £0.454m following rejection of the proposal by the Unions.
- 6. Agree the proposals for change (as set out in Appendices D and E1-E5) necessary to set a balanced budget for 2019/20, totalling £8.162m, and delegate the implementation to the relevant director(s) following due process.
- 7. Agree that due regards have been taken to any equalities implications identified and risk implications prior to any decision being taken in relation to the recommendations in this report, noting the initial equalities impacts as set out in Appendix C.

- 8. Agree that the savings target relating to Waste Disposal costs (£225k) is endorsed to the Somerset Waste Board to consider agreeing to make savings to this value as part of setting its 2019/20 budget.
- 9. Agree the Strategy for the Flexible use of Capital Receipts (CRF) as set out in this report, in section 4.38.
- 10. Agree to keep the Scheme of Members' Allowances unchanged for 2019/20.
- 11. Note that the Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Resources, Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer will oversee and monitor the delivery of the proposals for change and report on progress as part of the budget monitoring reports.
- 12. Delegate authority for the development of any additional alternative proposals for change that may be necessary to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Section 151 Officer and relevant Director(s).
- 13. Agree that the Cabinet and the Council have reviewed and confirmed that account has been taken of the Section 151 Officer's assessment of the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves as set out in section 6 of this report.
- 14. Agree the Reserves and Balances Policy Statement in Appendix K
- 15. Agree to increase the level of the general Council Tax by 2.99%, which will provide a further £7.073m to support the Councils expenditure.
- 16. Agree to increase Council Tax by a further 1% for the adult social care precept, which will provide a further £2.365m to support the growth in demand for services.
- 17. Agree to continue the Council Tax precept of £12.84 within the base budget for the shadow Somerset Rivers Authority (representing no increase). This results in a Council Tax Requirement of £2.547m
- 18. Agree to set the County Council precept for band D Council Tax at £1,239.73 which represents a 3.99% uplift. This is a rise of £0.91 per week for a Band D property, as set out in Appendix H.
- 19. Note that the amount of council tax payable for dwellings listed by valuation band, calculated in accordance with the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Local Government Act 1992, shall be as follows:

Valuation	Amount	
Band	(£)	
Α	826.48	
В	964.23	
С	1,101.98	
D	1,239.73	
E	1,515.23	

F	1,790.72
G	2,066.22
Н	2,479.46

20. Agree that the district councils are requested to make payments totalling £245.955m to Somerset County Council of sums due under precepts calculated in proportion to their council tax Band D equivalents as follows:

District	Total Precept (£)
Mendip District Council	50,204,179.15
Sedgemoor District Council	50,839,974.83
South Somerset District Council	74,713,671.47
Somerset West & Taunton	70,196,974.55
Total	245,954,800.00

21. Note that the district councils are required to make payments of precept by equal instalments of the above sums on the following dates:

18	April	2019	18	October	2019
22	May	2019	18	November	2019
21	June	2019	17	December	2019
22	July	2019	20	January	2020
20	August	2019	18	February	2020
19	September	2019	18	March	2020

22. Additionally, note that payments be made by the district councils (or to them) in respect of the estimated surplus/(deficit) on their collection funds by the 31 March 2019 as follows:

	CT Surplus /	NNDR
	(Deficit) (£m)	Surplus /
District		(Deficit) (£m)
Mendip	1,057,895.00	(203,931.00)
Sedgemoor	1,167,384.67	13,504.00
South Somerset	(169,962.55)	133,579.00
Somerset West and Taunton		
Council	746,092.00	299,679.00
	2,801,409.12	242,831.00

Paper D - Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019-20

Chair to highlight to members that the recommendations are set out on page 340 of the agenda pack and members should refer to these when voting.

- 1. Adopt the Treasury Management Strategy (as shown in Section 2 of the report);
- 2. Approve the Treasury Investment Strategy (as shown in Section 3 of the report) and proposed Lending Counterparty Criteria (attached at Appendix B to Paper D);
- 3. Adopt the Prudential Treasury Indicators in section 4 of the report.
- 7. REPORT OF THE HR POLICY COMMITTEE (pages Guide Time: 11.35am 423 428)

Paper 7 – to be introduced by Cllr Mandy Chilcott – Cabinet Member for Resources

Chair to invite Cllr Mandy Chilcott to introduce key points from this report from HR Policy Committee. The recommendations at paragraph 2.1 of the report (and repeated below) to be proposed by Cllr Mandy Chilcott, seconded by Cllr Liz Leyshon.

Chair to then invite other members to debate and ask any questions. Cllr Chilcott to answer any questions. If necessary Chris Squire the HR & OD Director may also be invited to answer any points raised.

Following debate, Chair to highlight to members that the recommendations are set out on page 424 of the agenda pack and members should refer to these when voting.

To approve the Pay Policy Statement (PPS) for the Council for 2019-20 (attached as Appendix A to this report).

The Committee considered this report which set out that it was a statutory requirement for the Council's Pay Policy Statement to be reviewed annually. The Committee discussed the key points in the report:

- The proposed amendments to the Pay Policy Statement for 2019/10
- The pay increase for lower pay grades, the living wage, and the need to maintain a differential at the lower end of the pay scale
- The consultation with trade unions regarding changes to the pay spine that

are necessitated by the national pay award

8. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER (pages 439 Guide Time: 11.45am – 444)

Paper 8 – to be introduced By Scott Wooldridge – Monitoring Officer

Chair to invite the Council's Monitoring Officer to set out key points from the report. The recommendations at paragraph 2.1 of the report (and repeated below) to be proposed by Cllr Fothergill, seconded by Cllr Leyshon, debated and voted upon as detailed below.

Chair to then invite other members to debate and ask any questions. Monitoring Officer to answer any questions.

Following debate Chair to highlight to members that the recommendations are set out on page 439 of the agenda pack and members should refer to these when voting.

Appointments Schedule – Appendix 1 refers

To approve the changes to Committee and Outside Bodies appointments – see section 3.1 and Appendix 1 to this report.

Appointment of a Section 151 Officer (Chief Finance Officer)

To appoint Sheila Collins, Interim Director of Finance, as the Council's Section 151 Officer with effect from 1 March 2019, pending the recruitment of a permanent appointment to the Section 151 Officer role.

Appointment of Data Protection Officer

To appoint the post of Service Manager-Customer Experience & Information Governance, held by Rebecca Martin, as the Council's Data Protection Officer.

9. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CORPORATE Guide Time: 12.00pm PARENTING BOARD (supplemental agenda pages 3 -51)

Chair to invite the Jill Johnson OBE (Chair of the Board) to set out key points from the report. The recommendations set out below repeated below to be proposed by Cllr Nicholson, seconded by Cllr Leigh Redman.

Chair to then invite other members to debate and ask any questions. Cllr Nicholson to answer any questions. If necessary Julian Wooster, Director of Childrens Services may also be invited to answer any points raised.

Following debate Chair to highlight to members that the recommendations are set out on page 3 of the Supplemental Agenda pack and members should refer to these when voting.

The Corporate Parenting Board requests;

- That Council recommends Corporate Parenting Board training to be mandatory for all Councillors who are members of the Board.
- That Council recommends that councillors appointed to the Corporate Parenting Board who do not attend Board meetings for three consecutive meetings are reported to Group Leads.
- That Council invites District Councillor representation on the Corporate Parenting Board to provide support on housing and leisure issues.
- That Council acknowledge and thank the young people for the work that they undertake.

10. REQUISITIONED ITEMS (pages 445 – 448)

To consider the following requisitioned items – Paper 10:

Chair to invite CIIr Munt to present and propose the requisitioned item. Chair to invite CIIr Hall if he wishes to speak at this point.

Chair to invite the public speakers registered for this item to address the Council.

Each speaker reminded that they have up to 3 minutes to make any key points and to try and not repeat points made by other speakers on the same matter. Chair to highlight that every member has access to the statements and questions that have been submitted.

Guide Time: 12.15pm

Chair to invite other members to debate and ask any questions. Cllr Hall to answer any questions raised and if necessary Paula Hewitt, Lead Commissioner for ECI, may also be invited to answer any points raised.

Following debate Chair to highlight to members that the recommendations are set out on pages 445 and 446 of the agenda pack and members should refer to these when voting.

1. Climate Change Emergency

To be proposed and seconded by Cllr Tessa Munt and Cllr David Hall:

Full Council notes:

- 1. Human activity has already caused irreversible climate change, the impact of which is felt around the world. Global temperatures have increased by over 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO₂ levels are over 406 parts per million (ppm), far exceeding the 350 ppm deemed a 'safe' level for humanity⁶. The world is on track to overshoot the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limit before 2030;^{2, 3}
- 2. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C published in November 2018 describes the harm that a 2°C rise is likely to cause, and tells us that limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector, indigenous peoples and local communities³;
- 3. In order to reduce the chance of runaway Global Warming and limit the effects of Climate Breakdown, it is imperative that each of us reduces our CO_2 eq (carbon equivalent) emissions from their current 6.5 tonnes per person per year to less than 2 tonnes without delay;^{1, 6}
- 4. Individuals can accept responsibility for living in a more sustainable way but cannot be expected to make these changes on their own. Carbon emissions result from both production and consumption, so Governments national, regional and local must change legislation, standards and their approach to meet the need to reduce our CO₂eq emissions and make low carbon living easier to achieve and the new 'norm';
- 5. Local Authorities and Councils across the world are responding by

declaring a 'Climate Emergency' and committing to address this emergency – in the South West, Bristol has already taken this step;⁴

6. Somerset, with its long coastline and large low lying areas across the Levels and Moors, is particularly vulnerable to effects of Climate Change.

Full Council believes that:

- 1. All governments have a duty to limit the negative impacts of Climate Breakdown, and local government recognises it cannot and should not wait for national government to act.
- 2. It is important for the residents of Somerset that its Councils commit to reducing CO₂eq emissions and work towards carbon neutrality as quickly as possible;
- 3. Bold climate action can deliver economic benefits by way of new jobs, economic savings, market opportunities and improved well-being.

Full Council resolves to:

- (a) affirm the Council's recognition of the scale and urgency of the global challenge from climate change, as documented by the latest Special Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and declares a climate emergency; and
- (b) mandate the Policy and Place Scrutiny Committee to review and recommend what further corporate approaches can be taken through a SCC Climate Change Strategy and to facilitate stronger Somerset-wide action through collaboration at a strategic, community and individual level; and (c) pledge to work with partners, including the Heart of the South West LEP, individuals and community action groups across the county to identify ways to make Somerset carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption emissions (scope 1, 2 and 3)⁵; and
- (d) write to the Secretaries of State for Business Energy & Industrial Strategy, Transport, Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Housing, Communities & Local Government calling for the creation, provision or devolution of powers and resources to make achievement of the 2030 target possible here in Somerset; and
- (e) report to Full Council before the end of 2019 with the actions the Council has and will take to address this emergency; and
- (f) allocate £25,000 from the Council's 2018/19 contingency budget and authorise the Lead Director for Economic and Community Infrastructure to utilise this funding to resource the work necessary to support Scrutiny Committee for Policies and Place and to assess any specific recommendations and financial implications. Any unspent allocation will be carried forward into 2019/20 to continue the work.

2. Precautionary salting network

Chair to advise that the specific functions and actions that this requisitioned item relate to rest with the Leader and Cabinet. Chair to direct that this motion is referred to the Leader and the Cabinet to consider at their next meeting.

Motion proposed and seconded by Cllr Mike Rigby and Cllr John Hunt. Somerset County Council resolves to request that the Cabinet:

- 1. Acknowledge that the damage caused to the Somerset economy during recent snow events has been exacerbated by last year's reduction in the extent of the precautionary salting network;
- 2. Acknowledge that the reduction in the extent of the precautionary salting network has been counter-productive, costing the wider public purse more than it saved Somerset County Council;
- 3. Acknowledge that unnecessary stress has been placed on the emergency services, having to attend RTCs that are unlikely to have occurred had the precautionary salting network not been reduced last year;
- 4. Reinstate the part of the precautionary salting network that was lost in last year's reduction programme.

Proposed break for lunch – 12.55pm – 2.10pm

For information:

11. REPORT OF THE LEADER AND CABINET – ITEMS Guide Time: 2.10pm FOR INFORMATION (pages 449 – 464)

Paper 11 – to be introduced by Cllr David Fothergill, Leader of the Council

Chair to invite CIIr Fothergill to introduce any key points from this report.

Chair to then invite the members whom have submitted questions in advance to ask their questions of the Leader and the Cabinet Members in the order set out in Part 1 to this schedule.

Following debate the Chair will thank the Leader for his report and propose that it is noted.

Item 15 to be taken under this agenda item - Annual Report of the Cabinet Member for Children and Families will also be taken under this item.

Chair to invite Cllr Frances Nicholson to introduce any key points from her annual report.

Chair to invite other members to ask any questions on this annual report.

Following debate the Chair will thank Cllr Nicholson for her report and propose that it is noted.

Item 16 to be taken under this agenda item - Annual Report of the Cabinet Member for Education and Transformation

Chair to invite Cllr Faye Purbrick to introduce any key points from her annual report.

Chair to invite other members to ask any questions on this annual report.

Item

Following debate the Chair will thank Cllr Purbrick for her report and propose that it is noted.

12. REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY FOR POLICIES AND Guide Time: 2.40pm PLACE COMMITTEE (pages 465 – 468)

Paper 12 – to be introduced by Cllr Anna Groskop – Chair of the Scrutiny for Policies and Place Committee

Chair to invite Cllr Anna Groskop to introduce any key points from the report.

Chair to invite other members to ask any questions on this annual report.

Following debate the Chair will thank Cllr Groskop for her report and propose that it is noted.

13. REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY FOR POLICIES, Guide Time: 2.55pm ADULTS AND HEALTH COMMITTEE (pages 469 – 472)

Paper 13 – to be introduced by Cllr Mark Healey – Vice Chair of the Scrutiny for Policies, Adults and Health Committee

Chair to invite CIIr Mark Healey to introduce any key points from the report.

Chair to invite other members to ask any questions on this report.

Following debate the Chair will thank Cllr Healey for her report and propose that it is noted.

14. REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY FOR POLICIES, Guide Time: 3.10pm CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMITTEE (pages 473 – 478)

Paper 14 – to be introduced by CIIr Leigh Redman – Chair of the Scrutiny for Children and Families Committee

Chair to invite CIIr Leigh Redman to introduce any key points from the report.

Chair to invite other members to ask any questions on this report.

Following debate the Chair will thank Cllr Redman for his report and propose that it is noted.

15. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR Guide Time: N/A CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (pages 479 – 494)

Paper 15 – to be introduced by Cllr Frances Nicholson – Cabinet Member for Children and Families

To be noted.

NB: This item will be considered under item 11 – Report of the Leader and Cabinet

Item County Council - 10.00 am Wednesday 20 February 2019

16. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR Guide Time: N/A EDUCATION AND TRANSFORMATION (supplemental agenda)

Paper 16 – to be introduced by Cllr Faye Purbrick – Cabinet Member for Education and Transformation

To be noted.

NB: This item will be considered under item 11 – Report of the Leader and Cabinet

Finish: 3.25pm