

## South Somerset District Council

**Minutes** of a meeting of the **South Somerset District Council** held on **Thursday 19 July 2018** in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Brympton Way, Yeovil.

(7.30 pm - 8.00 pm)

### **Present:**

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

Jason Baker	Kaysar Hussain	Jo Roundell Greene
Cathy Bakewell	Val Keitch	Dean Ruddle
Neil Bloomfield	Andy Kendall	Sylvia Seal
Amanda Broom	Jenny Kenton	Gina Seaton
Dave Bulmer	Mike Lewis	Peter Seib
Hayward Burt	Sarah Lindsay	Garry Shortland
John Clark	Mike Lock	Angie Singleton
Nick Colbert	Tony Lock	Sue Steele
Adam Dance	Paul Maxwell	Rob Stickland
Sarah Dyke	Graham Middleton	Gerard Tucker
John Field	Graham Oakes	Andrew Turpin
Nigel Gage	Sue Osborne	Martin Wale
Carol Goodall	Ric Pallister	Nick Weeks
Anna Groskop	Crispin Raikes	Colin Winder
Peter Gubbins	Wes Read	Derek Yeomans
Henry Hobhouse	David Recardo	

### **Officers:**

Alex Parmley	Chief Executive
Angela Watson	Monitoring Officer
Paul Fitzgerald	Section 151 Officer
Martin Woods	Director (Service Delivery)
Richard Birch	Lead Specialist – Communications, Marketing & Media
Angela Cox	Democratic Services Specialist

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### **19. Apologies for Absence (Agenda Item 1)**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Clare Aparicio Paul, Marcus Barrett, Mike Beech, Sam McAllister, David Norris, Tiffany Osborne, Stephen Page, Alan Smith, Linda Vijeh, William Wallace and Clare Pestell and Netta Meadows, Directors.

### **20. Minutes (Agenda Item 2)**

The minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting and the Annual Council meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as correct records of the meetings and signed by the Chairman.

### **21. Declarations of Interest (Agenda Item 3)**

There were no declarations of interest made by Members.

## **22. Public Question Time (Agenda Item 4)**

There were no questions from members of the public present.

## **23. Chairman's Announcements (Agenda Item 5)**

The Chairman advised that a short video of SSDC achievements would be shown each month at the meeting. A video of listed and historic buildings preserved with the assistance of the planning team was shown.

The Leader of Council said he had attended a meeting of the six Somerset authorities together with representatives from BANES and North East Somerset to discuss the proposed unitary authority proposal. He confirmed that a brief would be published to look at all the options of working together in the future. In response to questions from Members he confirmed that:

- If Unitary status was agreed, it could take 5 years to implement on a planned basis but certainly not less than 2 -3 years.
- Previous Unitary status documentation would be looked at including the Sir John Banham report.
- He was not sure at the present time how the proposal would fit with the current combined authority work.

The Democratic Services Specialist asked Members to be vigilant for spam / phishing emails.

## **24. Chairman's Engagements (Agenda Item 6)**

The list of Chairman's engagements were noted.

## **25. SSDC Annual Performance Report 2017-18 (Agenda Item 7)**

The Chairman introduced the report and noted the new high level resume of the annual performance report.

There was no debate and Members were content to note the 2017/18 performance information.

**RESOLVED:** That Full Council note the 2017/18 performance information at Appendix A.

**Reason:** To note a summary of outcomes achieved against the Council Plan for the year April 2017 to March 2018.

## **26. Appointment of Leader of Council (Agenda Item 8)**

The Chief Executive advised that the current Leader of Council had tendered his resignation in writing and if Members accepted it, then they must elect a new Leader for the remainder of the Council year.

A vote was taken and Members unanimously agreed to accept the resignation of Councillor Ric Pallister as Leader of Council from 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018.

Councillor Ric Pallister, seconded by Councillor Jo Roundell Greene, proposed that Councillor Val Keitch be elected as Leader of Council for the remainder of the Council

year. There were no other nominations and so Councillor Val Keitch was confirmed as the new Leader of Council from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018.

Councillor Val Keitch thanked Council for their confidence in her and paid tribute to Councillor Ric Pallister for his leadership of the Council.

Councillors Mike Lewis, Dave Bulmer, Martin Wale and Sue Steele congratulated the new Leader of Council and paid tribute to Councillor Ric Pallister for his leadership of SSDC and representation of the Council at a national level.

**RESOLVED:** That in accordance with Article 7.03 of the Constitution:-

1. the Council accepted the resignation of the current Leader of the Council, Councillor Ric Pallister, with effect from 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018;
2. the Council elected Councillor Val Keitch as Leader of the Council but with such election to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018.

**Reason:** To agree to appoint a new Leader of Council with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 following the resignation of Councillor Ric Pallister.

*(Voting: 48 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention)*

## **27. Membership of Committees - Appointment of New Councillors to Scrutiny, Regulation and Licensing Committees (Agenda Item 9)**

Members were content to note the proposed new members of the Scrutiny, Regulation and Licensing Committees.

**RESOLVED:** 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, the Council confirmed that:-

1. Councillor Tony Lock be appointed to the Scrutiny Committee.
2. Councillor Anna Groskop be appointed to the Regulation Committee.
3. Councillors Angie Singleton and Gerard Tucker be appointed to the Licensing Committee.

**Reason:** To confirm the wishes of the Liberal Democrat and Conservative groups to make amendments to the Councillors appointed to the Scrutiny, Regulation and Licensing Committees.

## **28. Report of Executive Decisions (Agenda Item 10)**

The report of Executive Decisions was noted.

## **29. Audit Committee (Agenda Item 11)**

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

The report of the Audit Committee was noted.

**30. Scrutiny Committee (Agenda Item 12)**

Councillor Sue Steele, Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee, presented the report of the Committee. She encouraged all Members to join in the Committees discussions.

The report of the Scrutiny Committee was noted.

**31. Motions (Agenda Item 13)**

There were no Motions submitted by Members.

**32. Questions Under Procedure Rule 10 (Agenda Item 14)**

There were no questions submitted under Procedure Rule 10.

**33. Date of Next Meeting (Agenda Item 15)**

Members noted that the next scheduled meeting of the Full Council was a reserve date of 16<sup>th</sup> August 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, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018** in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Brympton Way, Yeovil **commencing at 7.30 p.m.**

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Chairman

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Date