

Public Agenda Pack



EXECUTIVE

Wednesday, 15 January 2025

10.00 am

**John Meikle Room, The Deane House,
Belvedere Road, Taunton TA1 1HE**

SUPPLEMENT TO THE AGENDA

To: The members of the Executive

We are now able to enclose the following information which was unavailable when the agenda was published:

Agenda Item 4 Public Question Time (Pages 3 - 4)

The Chair to advise the Committee of any items on which members of the public have requested to speak and advise those members of the public present of the details of the Council's public participation scheme.

For those members of the public who have submitted any questions or statements, please note, a three minute time limit applies to each speaker and you will be asked to speak before Councillors debate the issue.

We are now live webcasting most of our committee meetings and you are welcome to view and listen to the discussion. The link to each webcast will be available on the meeting webpage, please see details under 'click here to join online meeting'.

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Executive Committee 15th January 2025 – Public Questions

Annexe A – Public Questions	
Name of person submitting	Question
<p>Karen Clayson</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 3</p>	<p>I am speaking on behalf of a group of Frome residents who have an interest in the option agreement that Somerset County Council agreed with Live West in 2022 for the sale of Packsaddle Fields in Frome for a proposed housing development.</p> <p>Shortly before the option agreement was agreed and signed by SCC, one of our residents, Stuart Hearn, wrote to SCC to enquire about buying the fields. He was told in writing by Charlie Field from Estates, who was the lead officer on the sale, that the Packsaddle “site is potentially worth many millions”.</p> <p>The proposed development on the fields is currently going through the planning process and the published viability report states the value of the land to be only £811,000. This is significantly less than the sum stated by Mr. Field.</p> <p>So either Mr Field misled our resident about the sale price of the land, or the value of the land stated in the planning viability report is wrong. Both options have serious implications and must be investigated.</p> <p>Therefore, in the public interest, please can the Council now disclose the sale price for the fields which it has kept confidential to date.</p> <p>Or alternatively, confirm whether the £811,000 figure in the viability report is approximately the price being paid to Somerset Council for the land, and if it is not, confirm when the planning team will update the viability report to reflect the true sale price.</p>

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