

Taunton Shadow Town Council

Tuesday, 28th February, 2023,
6.00 pm



Somerset West
and Taunton

The John Meikle Room - The Deane
House

[SWT MEETING WEBCAST LINK](#)

Members: Tom Deakin (Chair), Brian Larcombe (Vice-Chair), Lee Baker, Chris Booth, Norman Cavill, Simon Coles, Dixie Darch, Tom Deakin, Caroline Ellis, Habib Farbahi, David Fothergill, Marcia Hill, Robert Isaacs, John Hunt, Dawn Johnson, Richard Lees, Sue Lees, , Libby Lisgo, Derek Perry, Martin Peters, Hazel Prior-Sankey, Francesca Smith, Federica Smith-Roberts, Ian Talbot, Brenda Weston and Keith Woodmason

Agenda

1. Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Taunton Shadow Town Council

To approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 31st January 2023.

(Pages 7 - 14)

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive and note any declarations of disclosable pecuniary or prejudicial or personal interests in respect of any matters included on the agenda for consideration at this meeting.

(The personal interests of Councillors of Somerset County Council, Town or Parish Councils and other Local Authorities will automatically be recorded in the minutes.)

4. Public Participation

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, but you can also access them on the [Somerset West and Taunton webcasting website](#).

5. Taunton Local Community Network Update (Verbal Update)

The Executive Lead for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) and Prosperity alongside Officers will present a verbal update on this item at the meeting.

It is recommended that the Shadow Town Council:

- Note the update on the Taunton Local Community Network progress and provide any comments.

6. Judicial Review Update (Verbal Update)

Legal Workstream Lead and Deputy County Solicitor Tom Woodhams to give an update on the Judicial Review Action.

7. Elections Update

Officers will present a verbal update on this item at the meeting.

It is recommended that the Shadow Town Council:

- Note the update on the forthcoming May Election and provide any comments.

8. Taunton Parish/Town Council Policies and Procedures

This report sets out a range of policies and procedures which are the minimum required to be in place to enable the new Taunton Town/Parish Council to properly operate from its vesting as a body on 1st April 2023, as identified in the Governance Workstream under the Taunton Town Council Programme Board.

The Shadow Town Council is requested to provide comments.

9. Implementation Plan Progress Update TO FOLLOW

Officers will present an update on this item at the meeting with attached slides.

(Pages 15 - 20)

(Pages 21 - 114)

It is recommended that the Shadow Town Council:

- Note the update on the Implementation Plan progress and provide any comments.

10. Access to Information - Exclusion of the Press and Public

During discussion of the following item (Agenda Item 12) it may be necessary to pass the following resolution to exclude the press and public having reflected on Article 13 13.02(e) (a presumption in favour of openness) of the Constitution. This decision may be required because consideration of this matter in public may disclose information falling within one of the descriptions of exempt information in Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

The Shadow Council will need to decide whether, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption, outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Recommend that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the next item of business (Agenda Item 12) on the ground that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 respectively of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

11. HR Workstream Update (verbal update)

Officers will present a verbal update on this item at the meeting.

It is recommended that the Shadow Town Council:

- Note the update on the HR Workstream progress and provide any comments.

12. Taunton Shadow Town Council Forward Plan

To review the Forward Plan.

(Pages 115 - 116)



ANDREW PRITCHARD

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Please note that this meeting will be recorded. At the start of the meeting the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being recorded and webcast. You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 2018. Data collected during the recording will be retained in accordance with the Council's policy. Therefore unless you are advised otherwise, by entering the Council Chamber and speaking during Public Participation you are consenting to being recorded and to the possible use of the sound recording for access via the website or for training purposes. If you have any queries regarding this please contact the officer as detailed above.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and listen to the discussions. There is time set aside at the beginning of most meetings to allow the public to ask questions. Speaking under "Public Question Time" is limited to 3 minutes per person in an overall period of 15 minutes and you can only speak to the Committee once. If there are a group of people attending to speak about a particular item then a representative should be chosen to speak on behalf of the group. These arrangements do not apply to exempt (confidential) items on the agenda where any members of the press or public present will be asked to leave the Committee Room.

If you would like to ask a question or speak at a meeting, you will need to submit your request to a member of the Governance Team in advance of the meeting. You can request to speak at a Council meeting by emailing your full name, the agenda item and your question to the Governance Team using governance@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk

Any requests need to be received by 4pm on the day that provides 1 clear working day before the meeting (excluding the day of the meeting itself). For example, if the meeting is due to take place on a Tuesday, requests need to be received by 4pm on the Friday prior to the meeting.

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The meeting rooms, including the Council Chamber at The Deane House, are on the first floor and are fully accessible. Lift access to The John Meikle Room (Council Chamber), is available from the main ground floor entrance at The Deane House. The Council Chamber at West Somerset House is on the ground floor and is fully accessible via a public entrance door. Toilet facilities, with wheelchair access, are available across both locations. An induction loop operates at both The Deane House and West Somerset House to enhance sound for anyone wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter.

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For further information about the meeting, please contact the Governance and Democracy Team via email: governance@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk

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