

SWT Full Council

Tuesday, 7th September, 2021,
6.15 pm



Somerset West
and Taunton

Conference Room - Oake Manor
Golf Club, TA4 1BA

[THIS MEETING WILL ALSO BE LIVE
STREAMED ON THE COUNCIL'S
FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

Members: Hazel Prior-Sankey (Chair), Richard Lees (Vice-Chair), Ian Aldridge, Benet Allen, Lee Baker, Marcus Barr, Mark Blaker, Chris Booth, Paul Bolton, Sue Buller, Norman Cavill, Simon Coles, Dixie Darch, Hugh Davies, Dave Durdan, Kelly Durdan, Caroline Ellis, Habib Farbahi, Ed Firmin, Andrew Govier, Steve Griffiths, Roger Habgood, Andrew Hadley, Barrie Hall, John Hassall, Ross Henley, Marcia Hill, John Hunt, Dawn Johnson, Marcus Kravis, Sue Lees, Libby Lisgo, Mark Lithgow, Janet Lloyd, Dave Mansell, Andy Milne, Chris Morgan, Simon Nicholls, Craig Palmer, Derek Perry, Martin Peters, Andy Pritchard, Steven Pugsley, Mike Rigby, Francesca Smith, Federica Smith-Roberts, Vivienne Stock-Williams, Andrew Sully, Nick Thwaites, Anthony Trollope-Bellew, Ray Tully, Terry Venner, Sarah Wakefield, Danny Wedderkopp, Brenda Weston, Keith Wheatley, Loretta Whetlor and Gwil Wren

Agenda

1. Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting of Full Council

To approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee.

(Pages 7 - 46)

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 and Clerks 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.

Temporary measures during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Due to the temporary legislation (within the Coronavirus Act 2020, which allowed for use of virtual meetings) coming to an end on 6 May 2021, the council's committee meetings will now take place in the office buildings within the John Meikle Meeting Room at the Deane House, Belvedere Road, Taunton. Unfortunately due to capacity requirements, the Chamber at West Somerset House is not able to be used at this current moment.

Following the Government guidance on measures to reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19), the council meeting rooms will have very limited capacity. With this in mind, we will only be allowing those members of the public who have registered to speak to attend the meetings in person in the office buildings, if they wish (we will still be offering to those members of the public that are not comfortable in attending, for their statements to be read out by a Governance and Democracy Case Manager). Please can we urge all members of the public who are only interested in listening to the debate to view our live webcasts from the safety of their own home to help prevent the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19).

- 5. To receive any communications or announcements from the Chair of the Council**
- 6. To receive any communications or announcements from the Leader of the Council**
- 7. To receive any questions from Councillors in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13**
- 8. Decision taken under the urgency rules regarding the Additional Restrictions Grant Scheme**

This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor for Asset Management and economic Development, Councillor

(Pages 47 - 66)

Marcus Kravis.

This report details the decision taken on 14 May 2021 by the Director of Development and Place on behalf of the Chief Executive under the urgency rules contained within paragraph 5 of the Budget and Policy Framework within the Council's Constitution.

9. SWT Outside Bodies Update

(Pages 67 - 102)

This matter is the responsibility of the Leader of the Council – Councillor Federica Smith-Roberts.

This report is to update Council on the amended appointments of representatives to serve on outside bodies for the period to the Annual Council Meeting in 2022 (this is following on from three resignations and changes to the Executive.)

10. Somerset West and Taunton Council amended Political Allocation and Councillor Appointments to Committees

(Pages 103 - 110)

This matter is the responsibility of the Leader of the Council, Councillor Federica Smith-Roberts.

The purpose of this report is to amend the Council's numerical political allocation due to the following changes since the last update at the Annual Meeting.

11. Local Government Re-organisation - Structural Change Order (SCO)

(Pages 111 - 116)

This matter is the responsibility of the Leader of the Council, Cllr Federica Smith-Roberts.

The purpose of this report is to formally notify the Executive and Full Council of the decision of the Secretary of State on 21 July 2021 to implement the proposal for a single unitary council for the County of Somerset, to update members as to the next steps and to seek delegated authority for the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Monitoring Officer or their deputy and to negotiate the terms of the Structural Change Order with the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government ("MHCLG").

12. SWT Cultural Strategy

(Pages 117 - 162)

This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor for Culture, Councillor Caroline Ellis.

This report introduces the Somerset West and Taunton Council (SWT) Cultural Strategy.

- 13. Commercial Property Investment Update** (Pages 163 - 174)
- This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor for Corporate Resources, Councillor Ross Henley.
- 14. Access to Information - Exclusion of the Press and Public**
- During discussion of the following item 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. Full 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 on the ground that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 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)
- 15. Future High Street Fund Grant** (Pages 175 - 186)
- This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor for Asset Management and Economic Development, Councillor Marcus Kravis and the Executive Councillor for Planning and Transportation, Councillor Mike Rigby.
- 16. Re-admittance of the Press and Public**
- 17. Motion regarding Planning Changes** (Pages 187 - 192)
- To consider a motion proposed by Councillor Sarah Wakefield, seconded by Councillor Benet Allen.
- 18. To consider reports from Executive Councillors** (Pages 193 - 254)
- Part I – To deal with written questions to the Executive.
Part II – To receive reports from the following Members of the Executive:-
- a) Councillor Federica Smith-Roberts – Leader of the Council
 - b) Councillor Derek Perry – Deputy Leader & Parks, Sports and Leisure
 - c) Councillor Christopher Booth – Community
 - d) Councillor Ross Henley – Corporate Resources
 - e) Councillor Marcus Kravis – Asset Management and Economic Development
 - f) Councillor Caroline Ellis – Culture
 - g) Councillor Dixie Darch – Climate Change

- h) Councillor Mike Rigby – Planning and Transportation
- i) Councillor Francesca Smith - Housing
- j) Councillor Andy Sully – Environmental Services

An Executive Councillor shall submit a report to an Ordinary Meeting of the Council as to current and future business of their portfolio for the information of and comment from the Council. Such reports are for discussion and comment only and no motion shall be put to the meeting as to any such item other than those closure motions described in Standing Order 5.



JAMES HASSETT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Please note that this meeting will be recorded. 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 taking part in the Council Meeting 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.

Following Government guidance on measures to reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19), we will be live webcasting 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](#).

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 2 clear working days 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 Thursday prior to the meeting.

The Governance and Democracy Case Manager will take the details of your question or speech and will distribute them to the Committee prior to the meeting. The Chair will then invite you to speak at the beginning of the meeting under the agenda item Public Question Time, but speaking is limited to three 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.

Please see below for Temporary Measures during Coronavirus Pandemic and the changes we are making to public participation:-

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Full Council, Executive, and Committee agendas, reports and minutes are available on our website: www.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk

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

If you would like an agenda, a report or the minutes of a meeting translated into another language or into Braille, large print, audio tape or CD, please email: governance@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk