

WEST SOMERSET COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 May 2014 at 2.30 pm

in the Council Chamber, Williton

Present:

Councillor G S Dowding Chairman
Councillor A F Knight..... Vice-Chairman

Councillor M J Chilcott	Councillor M O A Dewdney
Councillor P N Grierson	Councillor B Heywood
Councillor K V Kravis	Councillor R P Lillis
Councillor I R Melhuish	Councillor K M Mills
Councillor C Morgan	Councillor P H Murphy
Councillor S J Pugsley	Councillor D D Ross
Councillor K J Ross	Councillor D J Sanders
Councillor L W Smith	Councillor M A Smith
Councillor T Taylor	Councillor A H Trollope-Bellew
Councillor K H Turner	Councillor D J Westcott

Officers in Attendance:

Chief Executive (P James)
Assistant Chief Executive (B Lang)
Meeting Administrator (K Kowalewska)

The meeting was opened with prayers led by the Reverend Jon Rose.

C1 Election of Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor G S Dowding be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor Dowding thanked Councillors for re-electing him as Chairman. He stated that it had been a challenging year for West Somerset Council, namely to do with issues surrounding Hinkley Point, the harsh winter weather conditions and working together to become one team with Taunton Deane Borough Council. He advised that during the previous twelve months the Council had regrettably lost 18 members of staff and the Chairman personally thanked and acknowledged the immense amount of hard work undertaken by Adrian Dyer, Steve Watts and Kay O'Sullivan during their years of service to the Council and wished them well for the future. He thanked the Joint Chief Executive, Penny James who had ensured a seamless transition and he was pleased to report that it was working extremely well.

Councillor Dowding then went on to announce that Councillor D Ross was resigning from his position on the Taunton and Somerset NHS Trust - Foundation Trust Council of Governors and thanked him for representing West Somerset Council on hospital matters during his time as Governor.

C2 **Appointment of Vice Chairman**

RESOLVED that Councillor A F Knight be appointed Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillor Knight thanked Councillors for re-electing him and expressed his appreciation to Councillor Dowding for taking on the demanding role of Chairman for another year

C3 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A M Chick, H J W Davies, J Freeman, E May and S Y Goss.

C4 **Declarations of Interest**

Members present at the meeting declared the following personal interests in their capacity as a Member of a County, Parish or Town Council:

Name	Minute No.	Member of	Action Taken
Cllr P N Grierson	All	Alcombe	Spoke and voted
Cllr P H Murphy	All	Watchet	Spoke and voted
Cllr K J Ross	All	Dulverton	Spoke and voted
Cllr L W Smith	All	Minehead	Spoke and voted
Cllr K H Turner	All	Brompton Ralph	Spoke and voted
Cllr D J Westcott	All	Watchet	Spoke and voted

C5 **Minutes**

(Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 30 April 2014 and of the Licensing Committee held on 11 March 2014, circulated with the Agenda.)

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 30 April 2014 and of the Licensing Committee held on 11 March 2014 be confirmed as correct records.

C6 **Public Participation**

No members of the public spoke at the meeting on any items on the agenda.

C7 **Appointment of Leader**

RESOLVED that the appointment of Councillor T Taylor as Leader be confirmed for the ensuing municipal year.

C8 Appointment of Deputy Leader

RESOLVED that Councillor K V Kravis be appointed as Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

C9 Cabinet

The Leader announced the following appointments and portfolios:

CABINET			
Name	Political Group	Lead Member	Shadow Portfolios
Councillor T Taylor	Conservative	Leader and Performance and Corporate Support	Councillor I R Melhuish
Councillor K M Mills	Conservative	Regeneration and Economic Growth	Councillor K J Ross
Councillor K H Turner	Conservative	Housing, Health and Wellbeing	Councillor A P Hadley
Councillor S J Pugsley	Conservative	Executive Support and Democracy	Councillor P H Murphy
Councillor D J Westcott	Conservative	Community and Customer	Councillor E May
Councillor C Morgan	Conservative	Environment – Hinkley	Councillor M A Smith
Councillor A H Trollope-Bellew	Conservative	Environment – General	Councillor J Freeman
Councillor K V Kravis	Conservative	Resources and Central Support	Councillor D D Ross

The Leader of the Opposition, Councillor I Melhuish, announced the shadow portfolio holders as detailed in the table above.

RESOLVED that the appointments be noted and that the Corporate Plan, Constitution and any other relevant documents be updated accordingly.

C10 Allocation of Seats to Committees

RESOLVED that the nominations for Committee seats made by the political groups be ratified and that the composition of the Committees be as detailed below.

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	
9 seats in total	
Conservative 6	
Democratic Alliance 3	
Name	Political Group
Councillor M J Chilcott	Conservative
Councillor M O A Dewdney	Conservative
Councillor G S Dowding	Conservative

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Councillor P N Grierson	Conservative
Councillor B Heywood	Conservative
Councillor R P Lillis	Conservative
Councillor J Freeman	Democratic Alliance
Councillor P H Murphy	Democratic Alliance
Councillor K J Ross	Democratic Alliance

It was noted that it had been agreed that meetings of the Scrutiny Committee were to be held on the 2nd/3rd Thursday of the month commencing at 3.30pm and that the timetable of meetings for 2014/15 would be amended accordingly.

LICENSING COMMITTEE	
11 seats in total	
Conservative 8	
Democratic Alliance 3	
Name	Political Group
Councillor A M Chick	Conservative
Councillor K H Turner	Conservative
Councillor S Y Goss	Conservative
Councillor A F Knight	Conservative
Councillor R P Lillis	Conservative
Councillor D J Sanders	Conservative
Councillor L W Smith	Conservative
Councillor D J Westcott	Conservative
Councillor H J W Davies	Democratic Alliance
Councillor A P Hadley	Democratic Alliance
Councillor E May	Democratic Alliance

PLANNING COMMITTEE	
15 seats in total	
Conservative 10	
Democratic Alliance 5	
Name	Political Group
Councillor A M Chick	Conservative
Councillor G S Dowding	Conservative
Councillor B Heywood	Conservative
Councillor A F Knight	Conservative
Councillor K M Mills	Conservative
Councillor C Morgan	Conservative
Councillor S J Pugsley	Conservative
Councillor L W Smith	Conservative
Councillor A H Trollope-Bellew	Conservative
Councillor K H Turner	Conservative
Councillor A P Hadley	Democratic Alliance
Councillor E May	Democratic Alliance
Councillor I R Melhuish	Democratic Alliance
Councillor D D Ross	Democratic Alliance
Councillor M A Smith	Democratic Alliance

AUDIT COMMITTEE	
7 seats in total	
Conservative 5	
Democratic Alliance 2	
Name	Political Group
Councillor M J Chilcott	Conservative
Councillor M O A Dewdney	Conservative
Councillor S Y Goss	Conservative
Councillor R P Lillis	Conservative
Councillor D J Sanders	Conservative
Councillor E May	Democratic Alliance
Councillor D D Ross	Democratic Alliance

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PANEL	
8 seats in total	
Conservative 5	
Democratic Alliance 3	
Name	Political Group
Councillor S Y Goss	Conservative
Councillor B Heywood	Conservative
Councillor A F Knight	Conservative
Councillor A H Trollope-Bellew	Conservative
Councillor K H Turner	Conservative
Councillor I R Melhuish	Democratic Alliance
Councillor K J Ross	Democratic Alliance
Councillor M A Smith	Democratic Alliance

STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE	
9 seats in total	
3 West Somerset District Councillors	
3 Independent Members	
3 Parish/Town Councillors	
Councillor P H Murphy	
Councillor P Grierson	
Councillor D J Westcott	

C11 Appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees

The following appointments were made:

Scrutiny Committee

Chairman

Councillor P H Murphy

Vice Chairman

Councillor R P Lillis

Planning Committee

Chairman

Councillor A F Knight

Vice Chairman

Councillor I R Melhuish

Licensing Committee

Chairman	Councillor D J Sanders
Vice Chairman	Councillor A P Hadley

Audit Committee

Chairman	Councillor S Y Goss
Vice Chairman	Councillor E May

Local Development Panel

Chairman	Councillor K H Turner
Vice Chairman	Councillor A F Knight

C12 Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies

RESOLVED that the Members appointed to serve on Outside Bodies for the municipal year 2014-2015 be as follows:

ORGANISATION	REPS 2014/2015
Management Committee of Broadlands	Councillor P Grierson
MATA Regal Theatre Co Ltd	Councillor I R Melhuish
Watchet Youth Centre	Councillor D J Westcott
Somerset Rural Youth Project	Councillor E May
Early Childhood & Child Care Network Meetings	Councillor E May Deputy: Councillor D J Westcott
Strategic Partnership Group West Somerset Sports & Leisure Centre	Councillor I Melhuish
Somerset County Playing Fields Association	Councillor H J W Davies
Somerset Play Forum	Councillor E May
Somerset Passenger Transport Forum	Councillor A H Trollope-Bellew Councillor P H Murphy Sub: Councillor K Mills
Exmoor National Park (politically balanced)	Councillor S J Pugsley Councillor J Freeman Councillor C Morgan Councillor T Taylor
Somerset Building Preservation Trust	Councillor H J W Davies Deputy: Councillor G Dowding
The Parrett Drainage Board	Councillor R Lillis (Dunster Area) Councillor C Morgan (Stockland Area)
Wessex Water Customer Liaison Panels	Councillor P Grierson
Countywide Shared Services Task and Finish Group	Councillor T Taylor Councillor I Melhuish

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Quantock Hills Joint Advisory Committee	Councillor A Trollope-Bellew Councillor S Dowding
West Somerset Advice Bureau	Councillor P Grierson
ENGAGE - West Somerset Voluntary Sector Development agency	Councillor R Lillis
Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group	Councillor P Grierson Councillor C Morgan Councillor S Goss
Taunton & Somerset NHS Trust – Foundation Trust Council of Governors	Councillor M J Chilcott
Minehead EYE Management Committee	Councillor D J Westcott Deputy: Councillor E May
Somerset Armed Forces Community Covenant Partnership	Councillor S Dowding
Somerset Local Access Forum	Councillor A Trollope-Bellew
Minehead Visioning Group	Councillor M Chilcott Councillor A P Hadley Councillor K Mills (PH)
Rural Commission	Councillor A Trollope-Bellew Councillor B Heywood
Police and Crime Panel	Councillor G Dowding
Health and Wellbeing Board	Councillor K Turner
Minehead Events Group	Councillor P Grierson Councillor R P Lillis* *Note: subject to principle being agreed by the Minehead Visioning/Events Groups to increase WSC representation to two members

The meeting closed at 3.07 pm.