

WEST SOMERSET DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 18 May 2011 at 2.30 pm
In the Council Chamber, Williton

Present:

Councillor E May	Chairman
Councillor A M Chick	Councillor M J Chilcott
Councillor H J W Davies	Councillor M O A Dewdney
Councillor G S Dowding	Councillor J Freeman
Councillor S Y Goss	Councillor P N Grierson
Councillor A P Hadley	Councillor B Heywood
Councillor A F Knight	Councillor K V Kravis
Councillor R P Lillis	Councillor C Morgan
Councillor S J Pugsley	Councillor I R Melhuish
Councillor K M Mills	Councillor D D Ross
Councillor K J Ross	Councillor D J Sanders
Councillor L W Smith	Councillor T Taylor
Councillor A H Trollope-Bellew	Councillor K H Turner
Councillor D J Westcott	

Officers in Attendance:

Chief Executive (A Dyer)
Corporate Director & Monitoring Officer (B Lang)
Section 151 Officer (G Carne)
Group Manager – Housing & Community (I Timms)
Group Manager – Customer and Corporate Support Services (W Bass)

The Meeting was opened with prayers led by the Reverend Bethan Guttridge.

C1 Election of Chairman

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

Councillor Knight thanked Councillors for electing him as Chairman and proposed a vote of thanks to Councillor May for his dedication and support to the community during his time in the office of Chairman.

Councillor Tim Taylor thanked Councillor May for all his hard work and a special vote of thanks was proposed by the Chief Executive on behalf of the Corporate Management Team. In response, Councillor May thanked everyone for their support during his years as Chairman.

C2 Appointment of Vice Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor D D Ross be elected Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillor Ross thanked Councillors for electing him as Vice Chairman.

C3 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Murphy and M Smith.

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	Description of Interest	Personal or Prejudicial	Action Taken
Cllr S Y Goss	All items	Stogursey	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr P N Grierson	All Items	Minehead	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr C Morgan	All Items	Stogursey	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr K J Ross	All Items	Dulverton	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr L W Smith	All Items	Minehead	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr A H Trollope-Bellew	All Items	Somerset County Council	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr K H Turner	All Items	Brompton Ralph	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr D J Westcott	All Items	Watchet	Personal	Spoke and voted

C5 Minutes

(Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 20 April 2011, circulated with the Agenda).

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 20 April 2011 be confirmed as a correct record.

C6 Public Participation

No member of the public had requested to speak on any item on the agenda.

C7 Appointment of Leader

RESOLVED that Councillor T Taylor be appointed as Leader of the Council for a four year term.

Councillor Taylor thanked the Council for re-electing him and thanked Members for their support during his previous year as Leader.

C8 Appointment of Deputy Leader of the Council

RESOLVED that Councillor C Morgan be appointed as Deputy Leader for the ensuing municipal year.

C9 Cabinet

The Leader announced the following appointments and portfolios:

CABINET			
Name	Political Group	Lead Member	Shadow Portfolios
Councillor D J Sanders	Conservative	Regeneration and Economic Growth	Councillor K J Ross
Councillor K H Turner	Conservative	Housing, Environmental Health and Licensing	Councillor A Hadley
Councillor S J Pugsley	Conservative	Executive Support and Democracy	Councillor P Murphy
Councillor D Westcott	Conservative	Community and Customer	Councillor E May
Councillor T Taylor	Conservative	Leader and Performance and Corporate Support	Councillor I Melhuish
Councillor C Morgan	Conservative	Environment	Councillor J Freeman
Councillor K V Kravis	Conservative	Resources and Central Support	Councillor D Ross

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

C10 Allocation of Seats to Committees

RESOLVED (1) that the nominations for Committee seats made by the political groups be ratified and that the composition of the Committees be as detailed below.

RESOLVED (2) that the Audit Committee be requested to consider refreshing its arrangements for its co-opted member at the first meeting of the Committee.

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	
9 seats in total	
Conservative 6	
Independent 3	
Name	Political Group
Councillor G S Dowding	Conservative
Councillor R Lillis	Conservative
Councillor A Chick	Conservative
Councillor P Grierson	Conservative
Councillor M Chilcott	Conservative
Councillor M Dewdney	Conservative
Councillor J Freeman	Independent
Councillor D Ross	Independent
Councillor K J Ross	Independent

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

LICENSING COMMITTEE

11 seats in total	
Conservative 8	
Independent 3	
Name	Political Group
Councillor D J Westcott	Conservative
Councillor D Sanders	Conservative
Councillor P Grierson	Conservative
Councillor M Dewdney	Conservative
Councillor L Smith	Conservative
Councillor A Chick	Conservative
Councillor R Lillis	Conservative
Councillor S Goss	Conservative
Councillor A Hadley	Independent
Councillor H J W Davies	Independent
Councillor E May	Independent

AUDIT COMMITTEE	
7 seats in total	
Conservative 5	
Independent 2	
Name	Political Group
Councillor A H Trollope-Bellew	Conservative
Councillor S Goss	Conservative
Councillor M Chilcott	Conservative
Councillor R Lillis	Conservative
Councillor K Mills	Conservative
Councillor E May	Independent
Councillor P Murphy	Independent
Reverend V Woods	Co-opted Member

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PANEL	
8 seats in total	
Conservative 5	
Independent 3	
Name	Political Group
Councillor K H Turner	Conservative
Councillor A F Knight	Conservative
Councillor B Heywood	Conservative
Councillor S Goss	Conservative
Councillor C Morgan	Conservative
Councillor K J Ross	Independent
Councillor I Melhuish	Independent
Councillor M Smith	Independent

STANDARDS COMMITTEE
9 Seats in total
3 West Somerset District Councillors
3 Independent Members
3 Parish/Town Councillors
Councillor H J W Davies
Councillor P Grierson
Councillor D J Westcott
Mr M Parslow (Independent member)
Mr I Gunn (Independent member)
Mr T Evans (Independent member) (Chairman)
Councillor S de Renzy-Martin
Councillor J Davis
Councillor J Sawyer

C11 Appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees

The following appointments were made –

Scrutiny Committee

Chairman Councillor K J Ross
Vice Chairman Councillor R Lillis

Planning Committee

Chairman Councillor A F Knight
Vice Chairman Councillor I R Melhuish

Licensing Committee

Chairman Councillor H J W Davies
Vice Chairman Councillor D J Westcott

Audit Committee

Chairman Councillor A H Trollope-Bellew
Vice Chairman Councillor E May

Local Development Panel

Chairman Councillor K H Turner
Vice Chairman Councillor C Morgan

C12 Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies

RESOLVED that the Members appointed to serve on Outside Bodies for the municipal year 2011-2012 be as follows –

ORGANISATION	REPS 2011/2012
Management Committee of Broadlands	Councillor M Chilcott Councillor P Grierson
Minehead and West Somerset Arts Society (Observer Status)	Councillor D Westcott
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
Management Committee West Somerset Sports and Leisure Centre	Councillor I Melhuish Councillor L Smith
Somerset Playing Fields Association	Councillor H J W Davies
Somerset Play Forum	Councillor E May
Somerset Local Activity Steering Group	Councillor D J Westcott
Somerset Public Transport Forum	Councillor A H Trollope-Bellew
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 A Chick (Dunster Area) Councillor S Goss (Stockland Area)
Wessex Water Customer Liaison Panels	Councillor J Freeman
Quantock Hills Joint Advisory Committee (politically balanced)	Councillor C Morgan Councillor H J W Davies Councillor G S Dowding
West Somerset Advice Bureau	Councillor P Grierson
ENGAGE - West Somerset Voluntary Sector Development agency	Councillor R Lillis
The Community Council for Somerset – Board of Trustees	Councillor G S Dowding
Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group (politically balanced)	Councillor C Morgan Councillor G S Dowding Councillor S Goss Councillor P Grierson Councillor J Freeman Councillor M Smith
Management Committee, Victim Support Somerset	Councillor J Freeman
West Somerset Mineral Way Group	Councillor M Dewdney
Taunton & Somerset NHS Trust – Foundation Trust Council of Governors	Councillor Anne Fraser, Sedgemoor District Council – Councillor D Ross to be nominated
Minehead EYE Management Committee	Councillor D J Westcott Deputy: Councillor E May Pete Hughes, Community Safety Officer

RESOLVED that the Members appointed to serve on the Hinkley Point Working Group for the municipal year 2011-2012 be as follows –

Councillor C Morgan – Environment Lead member
Councillor D J Westcott – Community & Customer Lead Member

Councillor A F Knight – Chairman of Planning Committee
Councillor D Sanders – Regeneration and Economic Growth Lead Member
Councillor K H Turner – Housing, Environmental Health and Licensing Lead Member
Councillor K V Kravis – Resources & Central Support Lead Member

Councillor S Goss – Ward Member
Councillor J Freeman
Councillor M Smith

Councillor T Taylor – Leader (political)
Councillor I Melhuish – Leader of the Opposition (political)

The meeting closed at 3.20 pm.