

WEST SOMERSET COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 April 2016 at 4.30 pm

in the Council Chamber, Williton

Present:

Councillor G S Dowding Chairman
Councillor B Heywood Vice-Chairman

Councillor A Behan
Councillor H J W Davies
Councillor S Y Goss
Councillor I Jones
Councillor R P Lillis
Councillor K M Mills
Councillor P H Murphy
Councillor R Thomas
Councillor A Trollope-Bellew
Councillor D J Westcott

Councillor M J Chilcott
Councillor M O A Dewdney
Councillor A P Hadley
Councillor B Leaker
Councillor B Maitland-Walker
Councillor C Morgan
Councillor S J Pugsley
Councillor N Thwaites
Councillor T Venner

Officers in Attendance:

Chief Executive (P James)
Director of Operations/S151 Officer (S Adams)
Assistant Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer (B Lang)
Economic Development Manager (C Matthews)
Meeting Administrator (K Kowalewska)

C133 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors I Aldridge, R Clifford, T Hall, J Parbrook, K Turner and R Woods.

C134 Minutes

(Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 16 March 2016, circulated with the Agenda.)

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 16 March 2016 be confirmed as a correct record.

C135 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 H Davies	All	SCC	Spoke and voted
Cllr S Goss	All	Stogursey	Spoke and voted

Cllr B Maitland-Walker	All	Carhampton	Spoke and voted
Cllr C Morgan	All	Stogursey	Spoke and voted
Cllr P Murphy	All	Watchet	Spoke and voted
Cllr R Thomas	All	Minehead	Spoke and voted
Cllr N Thwaites	All	Dulverton	Spoke and voted
Cllr A Trollope-Bellew	All	Crowcombe	Spoke and voted
Cllr T Venner	All	SCC / Minehead	Spoke and voted
Cllr D J Westcott	All	Watchet	Spoke and voted

C136 Public Participation

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

C137 Chairman's Announcements

10 April 2016	Attended the Somerset Freemason's family service at Wells Cathedral
20 April 2016	Attended the Association of College's Beacon Awards for Sport in the Curriculum at Bridgwater College

In addition, on 17 April 2016 the Vice-Chairman attended the Taunton Deane Borough Council's Mayor's Civic Service at St Peter's Church Lyngford, and also accepted an invitation to attend the Somerset County Scout Council Presentation Awards in Taunton.

C138 Minehead and Watchet Coastal Town Economic Plans

(Report No. WSC 58/16, circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was to inform Members about the Coastal Community Teams for the towns of Minehead and Watchet and their economic plans, which included their local economic priorities.

The Lead Member for Regeneration and Economic Growth provided Members with the background information and drew attention to the Government's rationale for focussing on Coastal Community Teams. She drew attention to the fact that the economic plans were available to view on the Council's website. Both Community Teams had already delivered activities which would bring value to the communities, and had also been successful in securing additional funding for further projects. It was important to note that the economic plans linked to a number of the Council's corporate priorities.

The Lead Member proposed the recommendations of the report which were seconded by Councillor M Dewdney.

Members were impressed with the good ideas and whole range of projects being developed by the Minehead and Watchet Coastal Community Teams and recognised that these would not only be beneficial to the towns themselves but would also benefit the whole of West Somerset in terms of the tourist industry.

RESOLVED (1) that the activity of the Coastal Community Teams be endorsed.

RESOLVED (2) that the Council have due regard to the economic priorities of the Coastal Community Team's Economic Plans when undertaking socio economic related activity or making policy decisions within the towns of Minehead and Watchet.

C139 **Freehold Transfer of Land at Mill Street, Watchet to Watchet Town Council**

(Report No. WSC 57/16, circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was to consider the transfer of an area of land at Mill Street, Watchet to Watchet Town Council.

The Lead Member for Resources and Central Support presented the report and proposed the recommendations set out in the report which were duly seconded by Councillor D Westcott.

RESOLVED (1) that the freehold transfer of an area of land at Mill Street, Watchet for a nominal £1 consideration be approved.

RESOLVED (2) that the authority to agree all other terms and conditions of the transfer be delegated to the Assistant Director for Property and Development in association with the Lead Member.

C140 **Community Asset Transfer Policy**

(Report No. WSC 59/16, circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was to provide Members with details of the recent consultation completed in respect of the Council adopting a Community Asset Transfer Policy.

The Lead Member for Resources and Central Support outlined the details of the report and advised that, following a wide-ranging consultation exercise, a revised Community Asset Transfer Policy had been produced which was greatly improved, more presentable and workable. She applauded the amended policy attached at Appendix C to the report which clearly indicated the policy changes and encouraged report authors to use the track changes function.

She proposed the recommendations set out in the report which were duly seconded by Councillor R Lillis.

During the discussion there was consensus that the new Policy was fit for purpose, had much clearer guidelines and provided more flexibility by offering a range of options for the types of transfer for consideration, making it far more appealing. The Community Asset team were thanked for their hard work.

RESOLVED (1) that the Community Asset Transfer Policy be approved.

RESOLVED (2) that the Initial Expression of Interest Form be approved.

The meeting closed at 4.58 pm