

FULL COUNCIL

A meeting of the **Full Council** will be held on **Monday, 23rd November, 2020 at 10.00 am**. This will be a virtual meeting and you can observe the meeting [via our Youtube Page](#).

PHIL SHEARS
Managing Director

Membership:

Councillors J Petherick (Chairman), Parker (Vice-Chair), Austen, Bullivant, Clarence, Connett, Cook, D Cox, Dewhirst, Eden, Evans, Gribble, Haines, Hocking, G Hook, Jeffery, Keeling, Kerswell, Jenks, Morgan, Nutley, Orme, Peart, Rollason, Russell, Thorne, Mullone, Jeffries, Hayes, Goodman-Bradbury, MacGregor, Foden, Bradford, Nuttall, Parker-Khan, Patch, Daws, L Petherick, Phipps, H Cox, Purser, Colclough, Swain, Taylor, Tume, J Hook and Wrigley

Please Note: The meeting will be live streamed with the exception where there are confidential or exempt items, which may need to be considered in the absence of the media and public.

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Minutes** (Pages 5 - 12)
To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the previous Council meeting.
3. **Announcements (if any)**
4. **Declarations of interest (if any)**

5. **Public Questions (if any)**

Members of the public may ask questions. A maximum period of 15 minutes will be allowed with a maximum period of three minutes per questioner.

The deadline for questions is no later than 12 noon two working days before the date of the meeting.

6. **Councillor Questions (if any)**

Members of the Council may ask questions of the Council subject to procedural rules.

The deadline for questions is no later than three clear working days before the meeting.

7. **Planning Advisory Service findings on the review of the planning application for Langford Bridge, Newton Abbot - Presentation**

8. **2019/20 Statement of Accounts including the Annual Governance Statement** (Pages 13 - 18)

To approve the 2019/20 Statement of Accounts.

Recommendations from Committees to Full Council

9. **Recommendation from Standards Committee**

The Committee Chair (Cllr L Petherick) will present the recommendation of the [Standards Committee 2 October 2020](#).

RECOMMENDED to Full Council that the membership of the Standards Committee be limited to six elected councillors

10. **Recommendation from Licensing and Regulatory Committee - Review of Statement of Licensing Policy**

The Committee Chair (Cllr D Cox) will present the recommendation of the [Licensing and Regulatory Committee 4 November 2020](#).

RECOMMENDED to Full Council that the Statement of Licensing Policy be adopted.

11. **Notice of Motion**

Notice of Motion's shall be referred to the appropriate Committee meeting. The mover of the motion can outline the proposal and then it will stand adjourned. The motion may be debated to assist debate later if agreed by two-thirds of Council Members.

The following motion on Making Votes Matter in Local Elections has been presented by Cllr Swain and supported by H Cox, Dewhirst, G Hook, J Hook, Jeffries, MacGregor, Nutley, Nuttall and Wrigley

Background provided by Cllr Swain to the Motion:

1. The electoral system used for elections in England and Wales, First Past the Post (FPTP), is not a fair system, because it means that votes do not have equal weight and many votes are wasted. Voters cannot express their preferences clearly. If a voter's first choice does not win, that voter has no say in which of the other candidates does win. FPTP can elect Candidate A when more than 50% of the voters would prefer Candidate B but some had a first choice of Candidate C. FPTP does not give the best possible outcome.
2. The alternative to FPTP is a system of Preference voting where voters rank candidates in order and all voters views are still considered after rejecting the least popular candidates. In multi-member wards there can be Proportional Representation (PR), where votes cast for parties translate more directly into seats won. There are many variants of PR. "Single Transferable Vote" (STV) is already in use for local elections in Scotland and Northern Ireland. This would give a mix of elected candidates closer to the mix of voter views, a fairer system of representation.
3. The introduction of PR for local elections in Scotland has led to an increase in turnout, which was 47% at the last elections held in 2017. In contrast turnout in the Teignbridge District Council election in 2019 was 39%. This suggests that the improved representation offered by PR encourages greater engagement in local democracy.
4. The council also recognises that 16 and 17 years olds can leave home, can start a family, can get married, can work, pay taxes and can join the armed forces. With elections occurring every 4 years, they should also be able to vote.

Wording of Motion proposed by Cllr Swain: "In doing so the council believes:

There should be a move to use a system of preference voting including proportional representation in multi-member wards for local elections as soon as is practicably possible and the voting age should be reduced to 16. This would elect a council which more accurately represents the range and proportions of political views among Teignbridge residents.

That PR with voting age 16, should be introduced as the voting system in any further Government devolution, and reorganisation of local government, in order to improve democratic participation and accountability.

This Council resolves:

1. To call upon Her Majesty's Government by writing to the Home Secretary, and the Prime Minister urging them to...
 - a. commit to changing electoral law to permit such a move.
 - b. Introduce such a system of voting in any reforms to local government presented to Parliament
2. To write to Teignbridge's two MPs to ask them to call for changes in electoral law to permit such a system and promote the matter for debate in Parliament.

**12. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 -
Exclusion of Press and Public**

RESOLVED that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Part II: Item suggested for discussion with the press and public excluded

13. Long-term maintenance of Dawlish Countryside Park (Pages 19 - 32)

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