

FULL COUNCIL

21 FEBRUARY 2023

Present:

Councillors Bradford, Bullivant, Clarence (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), Colclough, D Cox, H Cox, Daws, Foden, Goodman-Bradbury, Hook, Jeffries, Keeling, MacGregor, Mullone, Nutley, C Parker, Purser, Rollason, Swain, G Taylor and Wrigley

Apologies:

Councillors Hayes, Morgan, Nuttall, Peart and Thorne

Officers in Attendance:

Trish Corns, Democratic Services Officer
Martin Flitcroft, Chief Finance Officer & Head of Corporate Services
Christopher Morgan, Trainee Democratic Services Officer
Sarah Selway, Democratic Services Team Leader & Deputy Monitoring Officer
Phil Shears, Managing Director
Paul Woodhead, Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer to the Council

14. MINUTES

It was proposed by the Leader, subject to an amendment that Cllr MacGregor voted against the Local Plan and seconded by the Executive Member for Recycling, Household Waste and Environmental Health that the minutes be approved.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting 12 January 2023 be approved subject to an amendment that Cllr MacGregor voted against the Local Plan and were signed as a correct record by the Vice-Chair.

15. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr MacGregor declared an interest in respect of minute no.16 - Notice of Motion Closure of Teignmouth Hospital - as he had a role on the N.H.S Foundation Trust.

16. RECOMMENDATION FROM EXECUTIVE 7 FEBRUARY 2023 - NOTICE OF MOTION CLOSURE OF TEIGNMOUTH HOSPITAL

The Leader proposed the recommendation from Executive, this was seconded by the Executive Member for Recycling, Household Waste and Environmental Health.

This was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED that:-

- (1) the Council asks the Managing Director to write to: The Chairs and Chief Executives of the Torbay & South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, Devon Clinical Commissioning Group, the relevant Members of Parliament and the Secretary of State for Health asking for a review of the hospital closure plans, mindful of the pressures on local acute hospitals through delayed discharges to other appropriate provision;
- (2) The Council contact the Chair of Devon County Council's Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee - Cllr Randall-Johnson – requesting that the committee write to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to ask for a review of the planned closure of Teignmouth Hospital:-
- (3) Overview and Scrutiny Committee (2) to consider undertaking a review of the closure of Cottage Hospitals in the district and:-
- (4) The Council write to the Chair of the Integrated Care System for Devon - Dr S Wollaston - the Chief Executive of the Integrated Care System Board - Ms J Milligan – and the Regional Medical Director and Higher Level Responsible Officer for the South Region of NHS England – Dr N Acheson - to ask for a review of Teignmouth Hospital closure plans.

A recorded vote was asked for by at least five Members under Procedure Rule 4.13.5.

Recorded vote under Procedure Rule 4.13.5

For:

Cllrs Austen, Bradford, Bullivant, Clarence, Colclough, Connett, D Cox, H Cox, Daws, Dewhurst, Evans, Foden, Goodman-Bradbury, Haines, Hocking, J Hook, Jeffries, Keeling, MacGregor, Mullone, Nutley, Parker, Purser, Rollason, Swain, Taylor and Wrigley.

(27 members)

Against:0

Abstention:0

Absent: Cllrs Eden, Gribble, Hayes, G Hook, Jeffery, Jenks, Kerswell, Morgan, Orme, Khan, Patch, Peart, J Petherick, L Petherick, Phipps, Russell, Thorne, Tume and Nuttall.

(19 members)

17. BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX 2023/24

The Executive Member for Corporate Resources proposed the recommendation from the Executive in relation to the Final Financial Plan Proposals, 2022/23 to 2025/26, this was seconded by the Leader.

In presenting the budget, the Executive Member for Corporate Resources thanked officers for their preparation of the budget.

The Leader thanked the Senior Leadership Team for their work in response to the COVID and maintaining the budgets and all of the council staff for their hard work, diligence and advice they had provided over the past four years.

RESOLVED that:-

- a That the Teignbridge band D council tax for 2023/24 is increased by 2.99% or £5.54 to £190.71 per annum
- b Providing a one-off cost of living payment of £5.54 to households liable to pay council tax on their main home on 1 April 2023 in 2023/24
- c That general reserves are increased to 13.0% of the net revenue budget for 2023/24 or £2.3 million
- d That £100,000 of the general reserve balance in any one year continues to be available to the Executive to meet unexpected expenditure in addition to the agreed revenue budget
- e All other decisions with regard to budgetary change will be approved by reference to virement rules in the financial instructions
- f That the summary revenue budget for 2023/24 is £17.6 million as shown at appendix 4. In particular the revenue budget includes:
 - Assumptions of a 3.0% pay rise for 2023/24
 - Revenue contributions to fund capital continue are reintroduced at £300,000 to support the capital budget
 - Voluntary grants are maintained at current levels
 - A 'Tidy Teignbridge' pot is maintained for year 2 of the scheme for 2023/24 at £20,000
 - The councillors community fund grant is £1,000 each
 - A payment of £500,000 to reduce the pension deficit

- Provision for an Emergency Planning Officer, Digital Transformation Manager and other temporary resources

g That fees and charges are approved as shown summarised at appendix 6.

h That the capital programme as shown at appendix 7 is approved. In particular this includes:

- Increasing jobs and homes through continuing support for housing whilst backing business and encouraging community-led planning. Work continues on the Teignbridge 100 affordable housing project with two sites in Newton Abbot completed. An increasing rented programme across urban and rural sites has commenced and delivery will continue over the next 3 years of the programme.
- Continuing investment for climate change projects following successful funding bids for low carbon heating and energy system improvements. Schemes have been completed at leisure sites and the Council offices are nearing completion with further provisions under the Carbon Action Plan.
- Infrastructure delivery plan investment contributing to improving education, transport links, sports and open spaces

Regeneration investment, including town centre investment and the Government Future High Street Fund grant schemes aimed at improving town centres and stimulating growth in the local economy. This will have a positive impact on Newton Abbot and the wider Teignbridge economy. Co-funding includes CIL, grant from other sources and prudential borrowing. There is also an indicative provision for employment site investment to be funded through prudential borrowing. A business case will be brought to members for consideration once it is finalised.

i That the Financial Plan 2023 to 2028 is approved as set out in appendix 8

j That the prudential indicators are noted and the prudential limits approved all as set out in appendix 11

k That the updated treasury management strategy statement and authorised lending list as set out in appendix 12 is approved together with the capital strategy in appendix 12a

l That each scheme will be considered on its merits as explained at the end of appendix 12 to decide the calculation of minimum revenue provision for capital

expenditure in 2023/24

- m That the council tax resolutions as recommended in appendix 15 are approved
- n That the treasury management mid year review for 2022/23 as taken to Executive on 7 February 2023 and shown as appendix 16 is noted

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 the vote was recorded.

*For: Cllrs Austen, Clarence, Colclough, Connett, D Cox, H Cox, Dewhirst, Evans, Foden, Goodman-Bradbury, Haines, J Hook, Jeffries, Keeling, MacGregor, Nutley, Parker, Purser, Rollason, Swain, Taylor and Wrigley.
(22 members)*

*Against: Cllr Hocking
(1 member)*

*Abstention: Cllrs Bradford, Bullivant, Daws, G Hook and Mullone.
(5 members)*

*Absent: Cllrs Eden, Gribble, Hayes, Jeffery, Jenks, Kerswell, Morgan, Orme, Khan, Patch, Peart, J Petherick, L Petherick, Phipps, Russell, Thorne, Tume and Nuttall.
(18 members)*

18. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW FOR OGWELL PARISH

The Local Ward Member, Cllr Colclough proposed the recommendation to increase the number of members on Ogwell Parish Council by two, this was seconded by the Leader and the Local Ward Member Cllr Daws.

RESOLVED that the increase of the number of members on Ogwell Parish Council by two be approved.

The vote was unanimous.

19. RECOMMENDATION FROM STRATA JOINT EXECUTIVE 17 JANUARY 2023 - STRATA BUSINESS PLAN

The Executive Member for Recycling, Household Waste and Environmental Health proposed that Teignbridge District Council approve the Strata Business Plan 2023-24. This was seconded by the Executive Member for Homes, Communities, IT & Cost of Living Crisis and carried.

RESOLVED that the Strata Business Plan 2023-24 be approved.

20. NOTICES OF MOTION

The Executive Member for Sport, Recreation and Culture presented and proposed his Notice of Motion regarding wild camping on Dartmoor National Park. This was seconded by Cllr MacGregor.

Two-Thirds of the Council agreed that the item be dated at this meeting.

RESOLVED that:-

- (1) Teignbridge Council joins with the thousands of Devon residents and beyond shocked and appalled by the effective ban on wild camping on Dartmoor arising from a recent court decision;
- (2) This Council supports Dartmoor National Park in its rightful and spirited defence of wild camping, a right enjoyed by generations of local people and visitors;
- (3) Council condemns the loss of this right and calls on Government to enact urgent legislation to reinstate wild camping and protect the rights of people to fully enjoy Dartmoor; and
- (4) Council asks the Leader and Managing Director to write in the strongest terms to Members of Parliament for the Teignbridge district, the relevant Secretaries of State and the Prime Minister urging them to act to restore the right to wild camp on Dartmoor.

The vote was unanimous.

In the absence of Cllr Patch, Cllr Daws presented and proposed the Notice of Motion regarding the Councils administration. This was seconded by Cllr Mullone.

In light of the serious, documented and evidenced, systemic failings at this Council (including, though not limited to the findings of the Local Government Ombudsman), and the lack of confidence that this Administration will fully and properly address and remedy these failings, this Council resolves to write at the earliest opportunity to the secretary of state for the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities to request that he appoint commissioners, or another organisational mechanism, to administer and guide this Council (as set out in the Local Government Act 1999) to take forward the reforms so desperately needed to restore public confidence to this Council; with this administrative arrangement to remain in place until a new administration can be formed following Council elections in May 2023' amended Annual Council 23 May 2023

The Notice of Motion was put to the vote and lost.

The meeting started at 10.11 am and finished at 12.17 pm.

Chair