

EXECUTIVE

4 JULY 2022

Present:

Councillors Dewhirst (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), J Hook, Keeling, Nutley, Purser and Taylor

Members in Attendance:

Councillors D Cox and G Hook

Apologies:

Councillors Connett and Jeffries

Members in attendance virtually:

Councillor Wrigley

Officers in Attendance:

Christopher Morgan, Trainee Democratic Services Officer

Sarah Selway, Democratic Services Team Leader & Deputy Monitoring Officer

Martin Flitcroft, Chief Finance Officer & Head of Corporate Services

Phil Shears, Managing Director

Graeme Smith, Coastal Officer

These decisions will take effect from 10.00 a.m. on 12 July 2022 unless called-in or identified as urgent in the minute

35. CHAIR OF MEETING

In the absence of the Leader, the Deputy Leader chaired the meeting.

36. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 May 2022 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Deputy Chair.

37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

38. EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN

RESOLVED that the Forward Plan be noted.

39. BUDGET MONITORING - REVENUE AND CAPITAL, TREASURY MANAGEMENT LENDING LIST

The Executive Member for Corporate Resources presented the report to update Members on the principal areas where there were likely to be departures from the 2022/23 budget and summarise those variations to the end of May 2022. The report advised Members on progress with the capital programme and funding and any amendments to the lending list for treasury management purposes.

A non-Executive member spoke on this item.

RESOLVED that the:-

- (1) Revenue budget variations as shown at appendix 1 be approved;
- (2) Updated capital programme as shown at appendix 2 be approved;
- (3) Updated lending list as shown at appendix 3 be noted; and
- (4) Use of £112,500 of Strata revenue savings identified in 2021/22 to be reinvested in the delivery of information technology support in 2022/23 be approved.

The vote was unanimous.

40. NOTICE OF MOTION - OCEAN AND COASTAL RECOVERY DECLARATION

The Executive Member for Climate Change, Coastal Protection, and Flooding presented the Notice of Motion on an Ocean and Coastal Recovery Declaration.

Two non-Executive Members spoke on this item and expressed their support for this Notice of Motion.

Members discussed the need to work with other Local Authorities with coastal boundaries to deliver increased sustainability in local marine industries and support investment in the development of a sustainable and equitable blue economy including the local fishing industry.

RECOMMENDED to Full Council that:-

1. A report be brought to Full Council within 6 months on the actions and projects that will begin an ocean recovery in Teignbridge;
2. Embed ocean recovery in all strategic decisions, budgets and approaches to decisions by the Council (particularly in planning, regeneration, skills and economic policy), aligning with climate and ecological emergency plans;

3. Ensure that the Local Plan supports ocean recovery, and the health of our coastal environments both naturally and socio-economically;
4. Work with partners locally and nationally to deliver increased sustainability in local marine industries and support investment in the development of a sustainable and equitable blue economy, including the local fishing industry and the vital work of 3 relevant partners, including Devon & Severn IFCA, the Environment Agency and Marine Management Organisation;
5. Create an online portal of the Council website to update on ocean recovery progress, signpost to ocean literacy development opportunities, and marine citizenship pledges;
6. Write to South West Water to request details of their urgent and revised plans to eradicate the practice of sewage discharges to rivers and coastal waters around Teignbridge;
7. Work where possible with South West Water, the Environment Agency, Catchment and Coastal Partnerships, developers and other agencies to combat threats to the quality of water being discharged into the rivers and coastal waters around Teignbridge;
8. Call on government to:
 - A. Set meaningful targets and deadlines for water companies to end sewage discharges and introduce a Sewage Tax on water companies' profits to fund the clean-up of waterways.
 - B. Reduce the number of licences given to water companies permitting them to discharge sewage into rivers.
 - C. Strengthen Ofwat's powers to monitor the annual financial plans and reports of the water companies in order to compel them to achieve a fair and transparent balance between consumer prices, shareholder dividend, staff remuneration and ongoing long-term investment in storm water infrastructure.
 - D. Add local environmental groups onto water companies' boards.
 - E. Promote a public benefit company model for water companies, so that particular economic and environmental policy objectives must be considered explicitly in the running of the companies.
 - F. Work with local authorities to ensure water companies protect our rivers and seas by:
 - i. Water companies being required to invest upfront in sewerage infrastructure to reflect environmental objectives in Local Plans and planning applications.
 - ii. Identify powers of local authorities under the statutory duty to promote wellbeing of the area and provide councils with the funding to meet this duty.
 - iii. Cease making cuts to Environment Agency funding and ensure that it has enough staff to significantly improve its monitoring of the threats of inadequate storm-water infrastructure and pollution from sewage and agricultural nitrates;

9. Further call on the Government to put the ocean into net recovery by 2030 by:
 - A. Ensuring Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities have the resources they need to effectively research and monitor our growing number of marine protected areas, and to set and enforce appropriate fishing levels that support local economies and deliver environmental sustainability.
 - B. Incorporating social scientific evidence and lived experience to improve community co-production of policy and develop more effective and equitable 4 solutions.
 - C. Listening to marine scientific advice to update the Marine Policy Statement and produce a national Ocean Recovery Strategy which will:
 - i. Enable the recovery of marine ecosystems rather than managing degraded or altered habitats in their reduced state.
 - ii. Consider levelling up, marine conservation, energy, industrial growth, flood and coastal erosion risk management, climate adaptation and fisheries policy holistically rather than as competing interests. 3
 - iii. Develop a smarter approach to managing the health of the entire ocean that moves beyond Marine Protected Areas and enables links to be made across sectors towards sustainability.
 - iv. Establish improved processes for understanding the benefits from ocean management, leaving no doubt the links between this and human lives, livelihoods, and wellbeing.
 - D. Recognising the value of, and contribute resourcing towards, multi-agency Integrated Coastal Management Partnerships which operate at the local geographic level and are able to respond to issues and opportunities which effect the local maritime environment and adjacent communities.

The vote was unanimous.

Executive Member for Homes and Communities expressed their support for the Notice of Motion (they were joining remotely)

The meeting started at 10am and finished at 10.47am

Chair