

## **EXECUTIVE**

**31 MAY 2022**

Present:

Councillors Connett (Leader), Dewhirst (Deputy Leader), Keeling, Jeffries, Nutley, Purser, Taylor and Wrigley

Members in Attendance:

Councillors H Cox, Foden, Goodman-Bradbury and D Cox

Apologies:

Councillor J Hook

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  
Tracey Hooper, Revenue, Benefits & Fraud Manager

### **30. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 May 2022 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr D Cox declared an interest in respect of minute no.33 as the Chair of a Local Food Bank Charity.

### **32. EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN**

**RESOLVED** that the Forward Plan be noted.

### **33. RATE RELIEF FOR CHARITY SHOPS**

The Executive Member for Corporate Services presented the recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (1) regarding the rate relief for Charity shops.

The Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee (1) commented that whilst no further action was required at this present time. The position should be monitored.

**RESOLVED** that:-

- (1) The convening of a task and finish group to review the award of discretionary rate relief to charity shops is not pursued further; and
- (2) Information on the discretionary rate relief be circulated with the next business rate annual billing to ensure all charity shops are aware of this additional relief if eligible.

The vote was unanimous

**34. NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING BUS ROUTES AND SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.**

Cllr Foden presented the Notice of Motion in respect of the bus routes and services in Teignbridge and the concern regarding the reduction in services across the district.

Executive agreed the following amendments to the recommendation to be considered by Full Council:-

- After the first paragraph - “We ask Devon County Council to urgently explore options for a transport for Devon organisation to improve public transport and ticketing and reduce costs”
- Edit second paragraph to say “Please can there be reassurance that at the first opportunity every effort will be made” (removing reference to driver recruitment difficulties)
- Add amendment regarding Teign Valley (add “the Teign valley” after Dunchideock in item 3, and “every opportunity be taken to improve frequency of rural bus routes” at the end of 3).

**RECOMMENDED** that Full Council:-

Thank Devon County Council and Stagecoach for the notice in change in bus services, which various routes throughout Teignbridge, serving Dawlish, Dawlish Warren, Starcross, Exminster, Chudleigh, Newton Abbot, Kingsteignton, Bovey Tracey, and Teignmouth. We ask Devon County Council to urgently explore options for a transport for Devon organisation to improve public transport and ticketing and reduce costs.

Please can there be reassurance that at the first opportunity:-

- 1) That every effort be made to increase the frequency of services from Exeter to Newton Abbot via Exminster, Dawlish, and Teignmouth, including every 20 minutes or adding express routes during peak times.
- 2) To increase the frequency of services between Dawlish Warren and Teignmouth during the holiday season.
- 3) Where Stagecoach have taken over from Country Bus on bus routes, eg. in Ide, Dunchideock and Teign Valley, that the bus fares remain

consistent with the pricing structure for other Stagecoach bus routes and every opportunity be taken to improve frequency of rural bus routes.

- 4) At this time of climate crisis, and petrol price increases, and increasing house-building (therefore increasing population and increasing car use) in the Parishes of Exminster, Dawlish, Teignmouth, Kingsteignton, Newton Abbot, Chudleigh, Bovey Tracey, and other villages in Teignbridge; the Council request the efforts of Devon County Council and Stagecoach for improved public transport and increased frequency of bus services in order to cut carbon emissions by reducing private car use and thereby easing traffic congestions, and to help people cut their individual carbon footprints; and

The Council ask that the Leader of this Council write to Devon County Council and Stagecoach Devon to declare this Notice of Motion.

The vote was unanimous.

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 10.28 am.

Chairman