

# **DEVON BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

**12 AUGUST 2022**

Present:

Councillors Bastone, Birch, Taylor, Goodman-Bradbury, Pearce and Ratcliffe

Officers in Attendance:

Nigel Hunt, Head of the Partnership

Drew Powell, Corporate Director – Strategy and Governance

Scott Adams, Group Leader, Strategic Place - Building Control

Anita Carpenter, Finance Technician

Trish Corns, Democratic Services Officer

## **97. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

In accordance with the rotational procedure the Chair would be a Member from South Hams District Council, and the Vice Chair would be elected from the West Devon District Councillors, and both appointed for a two year period.

It was proposed by Councillor Pearce, seconded by Councillor Taylor and unanimously

**RESOLVED**

Councillor Bastone (SHDC) be elected Chair for the 2022/23 and 2023/24 municipal years.

The Committee welcomed Councillor Goodman Bradbury representing Teignbridge District Council who had replaced Councillor Haines. Councillor Haines had served on the Partnership for many years since its inception.

**RESOLVED**

The Partnership's thanks be conveyed to councillor Haines for his contribution to the Committee and Partnership over past years.

## **98. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR**

It was proposed by Councillor Pearce, seconded by Councillor Taylor and unanimously

**RESOLVED** That Councillor Ratcliffe (WDBC) be elected Vice Chair for the 2022/23 and 2023/24 municipal years.

## **99. MINUTES**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 May 2022.

It was proposed by Councillor Bastone, seconded by Councillor Pearce and unanimously

RESOLVED

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 May be approved as a correct record subject to the addition of further detail to the decision at Minute 94.

1. The Head of the Partnership prepare a report on current employee market forces.
2. The Head of the Partnership be authorised to vire £30,000 from reserves for agency work.

**100. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

None.

**101. OPERATIONAL PLAN Q1 2022-23**

The Head of the Partnership referred to the agenda circulated report and the committee discussed the operations of the Partnership. All operational priorities were on target with the exception of dealing with some applications within an 8 week period, which related to dependency on other bodies for information to complete an application.

Workload and staffing were also discussed.

RESOLVED

The report be noted.

**102. OPERATIONAL REPORT Q1 2022-23**

The committee considered and discussed the agenda report The Head of the Partnership particularly referred to the following:

- The PIs reflected national PIs and were set higher than the national standard providing a service above expectations.
- The May 2022 Awards Ceremony was a great success. 46 finalists of which 14 were from the Partnership area. A larger venue would be looked at for the next event which was growing in popularity.
- Workload was a good level with both domestic and commercial applications.
- Additional staff were being sought and staff would be trained in additional qualifications where necessary.

RESOLVED

The report be noted, and staff be thanked for the level of service and commitment which was a credit to the Partnership.

**103. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was proposed by Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Pearce and unanimously

RESOLVED

That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the follow items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**104. OPERATIONAL REPORT Q1 2022-23**

Consideration was given to the agenda report which included operational statistics. The Head of the Partnership referred to staffing variations he had agreed within the existing salary budget, and to the report relating to current market forces referred to at Minute 99 above, which would be presented to the committee at the next meeting.

RESOLVED

The report be noted and all staffing issues be supported.

**105. FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT 2021-2**

The Chair referred to the agenda report on the details of the budget balance. The Head of the Partnership referred to the reserves balance, staffing, workload, an inconsistency in travel allowance paid to staff from differing partner authorities, and other issues which may cause a variance in the budget balance.

RESOLVED

1. The report be noted.
2. £13,000 be vired from reserves to reimburse staff from SHDC and WDDC for travel expenses inconsistent with that paid to staff from TDC, and that this be backdated to the time they joined the Partnership.

CLLR H BASTONE  
Chairman

The meeting started at 10am and finished at 11.10am.