

COUNCIL – DECISION NOTICE

29 April 2021

Present:-

Councillors S Barker (Chair), J Trail (Vice-Chair), H Ackland, M Asvachin, Y Atkinson, S Aves, K Ball, J Berry, F Biederman, R Bloxham, J Hook, J Brook, C Channon, C Chugg, J Clatworthy, P Colthorpe, A Connett, P Crabb, R Croad, A Davis, A Dewhirst, R Edgell, R Gilbert, B Greenslade, G Gribble, I Hall, R Hannaford, J Hart, J Hawkins, L Hellyer, J Hodgson, G Hook, R Hosking, S Hughes, A Leadbetter, J Mathews, J McInnes, B Parsons, R Peart, P Prowse, R Radford, S Randall-Johnson, S Russell, P Sanders, A Saywell, D Sellis, M Shaw, C Slade, M Squires, P Twiss, N Way, C Whitton, C Wright and J Yabsley

Apologies:-

Councillors J Brazil, I Chubb and R Scott

2 Minutes

The Chair of the Council **MOVED** and it was duly **SECONDED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 February 2021 be signed as a correct record.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared **CARRIED**.

9 Minutes

In accordance with Standing Order 13(2), the Chair of the Council **MOVED** and it was duly **SECONDED** that the Minutes of the undermentioned meetings of Committees be endorsed.

Audit Committee	-	25 February 2021
Investment & Pension Fund Committee	-	26 February 2021
Public Rights of Way Committee	-	11 March 2021
Standards Committee	-	23 March 2021
Appeals Committee	-	19 April 2021
Procedures Committee	-	20 April 2021
<i>(including Minute 105 and the associated amendments to the Constitution on Financial Regulations)</i>		
Development Management	-	21 April 2021
Children's Scrutiny	-	16 March 2021
Health & Adult Care Scrutiny	-	18 March 2021
Corporate Infrastructure & Regulatory Services Scrutiny	-	25 March 2021

The Motion was put to the vote and declared **CARRIED**.

11 **Election Voting System (Minute 356 of 18 February 2021)**

Councillor Hart **MOVED** and Councillor McInnes **SECONDED** that the Cabinet's advice be accepted and that Council.

- (a) note the various voting mechanisms in place and the lack of consistency across various organisations and throughout the UK;
- (b) welcome the current Council campaign that has been designed to encourage candidates to stand in the Election and also the investment made to promote the Elections and increase public participation through voting safely in person, by post or by proxy;
- (c) welcome any future legislative changes that increases participation in democratic processes; and
- (d) in light of the public being given the opportunity to vote to change the current voting system in 2011 and the referendum being lost, the Council take no further action on the Notice of Motion.

The amendment in the name of Councillor Hart was then put to the vote and declared **CARRIED** and subsequently thereafter also **CARRIED** as the substantive motion.

12 **Elections - Campaigning (Minute 357 of 18 February 2021)**

Councillor Hart **MOVED** and Councillor McInnes **SECONDED** that the Cabinet's advice be accepted and that Council;

- (a) support the work of the Cabinet Office in developing online postal voting and furthermore supports any mechanism which gives choice to the electorate in terms of voting, but also notes that any changes would not be possible for the forthcoming Elections on the 6th May 2021, given the legislative changes required; and
- (b) that in light of the new guidance issued by the Cabinet Office, which states that from the 8th March people campaigning in support of the electoral success of candidates or political parties will be allowed to deliver leaflets and canvass electors in relation to the elections, Council be recommended to take no further action on the Notice of Motion.

The amendment in the name of Councillor Hart was then put to the vote and declared **CARRIED** and subsequently thereafter also **CARRIED** as the substantive motion.

13 Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill (Minute 358 of 18 February 2021)

Councillor Hart **MOVED** and Councillor McInnes **SECONDED** that the Cabinet's advice be accepted and that Council endorse the Notice of Motion and encourage local MPs to support the Bill. In doing so, Council will ask local MPs to work with Government colleagues to provide a national framework of necessary legislative changes and additional resources to facilitate the unprecedented levels of behaviour change, skills development, technology deployment and investment that will be necessary to meet Paris Agreement commitments.

The amendment in the name of Councillor Hart was then put to the vote and declared **CARRIED** and subsequently thereafter also **CARRIED** as the substantive motion.

14 Beach Breaks, Mental Health and Support of Initiatives (Minute 359 of 18 February 2021)

Councillor Hart **MOVED** and Councillor McInnes **SECONDED** that the Cabinet's advice be accepted and that Council;

- (a) ask that Public Health Devon explore with the Devon Local Nature Partnership (LNP) and/or other partners to conduct a pilot study examining possible options to increase engagement with green and blue spaces in children, young people, and families on low income;
- (b) further ask Public Health Devon work with the Devon LNP, Active Devon and Devon Communities Together to review and if necessary develop resources to promote local opportunities for walks or activities in green/blue space for to a wide variety of users e.g. family friendly, pram friendly, wheelchair accessible etc; and
- (c) increase communications using a social marketing approach that are targeted and relatable to improve confidence and allay anxieties about accessing the natural environment and facilitate behaviour change.

The amendment in the name of Councillor Hart was then put to the vote and declared **CARRIED** and subsequently thereafter also **CARRIED** as the substantive motion.

15 Sustainable future funding for Local Welfare Assistance (Minute 360 of 18 February 2021)

Councillor Hart **MOVED** and Councillor McInnes **SECONDED** that the Cabinet's advice be accepted and that Council

- (a) maintain the Team Devon Financial Hardship scheme to support, as far as the resources permit, residents facing financial crisis for 2021/22;

- (b) campaign for a new funding allocation for councils from central government to provide schemes to address financial hardship and economic vulnerability be made available at the next comprehensive spending review and protected in real terms over the following years;
- (c) write to the Chancellor, the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government and Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to request that they make such a funding allocation available to local authorities, and;
- (d) continue to work and engage partners as necessary to create the appropriate climate for job creation in the County to improve its prosperity.

The amendment in the name of Councillor Hart was then put to the vote and declared **CARRIED** and subsequently thereafter also **CARRIED** as the substantive motion.

16 Use of Neonicotinoids (Minute 361 of 18 February 2021)

Councillor Hart **MOVED** and Councillor McInnes **SECONDED** that the Cabinet's advice be accepted and that Council

- (a) endorse the spirit of this Notice of Motion given the significant environmental concerns relating to the use of neonicotinoids and calls on Government to carefully review its consideration of emergency use applications to ensure consistency with the objectives of the National Pollinator Strategy and the 25 Year Environment Plan; and
- (b) and note that with the new guidance recently received the motion has been superseded by Government action.

The amendment in the name of Councillor Hart was then put to the vote and declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor Wright then **MOVED** and Councillor Shaw **SECONDED** that the Motion be amended as follows (strike through denotes words removed and new words in red):

That Council

- (a) endorse the spirit of this Notice of Motion given the significant environmental concerns relating to the use of neonicotinoids ~~and~~ **as such** calls on Government to ~~carefully review its consideration of emergency use applications to ensure consistency with the objectives of the National Pollinator Strategy and the 25 Year Environment Plan~~ **urgently and fully ban the use of such chemicals, in line with EU law.**

~~(b) note that with the new guidance recently received the motion has been superseded by Government action,~~

The amendment in the name of Councillor Wright was then put to the vote and declared **LOST**.

The motion in the name of Councillor Hart was then put to the vote and declared **CARRIED**.

17 **Saving Our Precious National Parks**

In accordance with Standing Order 6(6) the Notice of Motion was referred, without discussion, to the Cabinet for consideration.