

COUNCIL

6 December 2018

Present:-

Chair: C Chugg

Vice-Chair: R Hosking

Councillors H Ackland, M Asvachin, Y Atkinson, S Aves, K Ball, S Barker, J Berry, F Biederman, R Bloxham, J Brazil, E Brennan, J Brook, C Channon, I Chubb, J Clatworthy, A Connett, P Crabb, A Davis, A Dewhurst, A Eastman, R Edgell, R Gilbert, B Greenslade, R Hannaford, J Hart, J Hawkins, L Hellyer, J Hodgson, S Hughes, T Inch, A Leadbetter, J Mathews, J McInnes, B Parsons, R Peart, P Prowse, R Radford, S Randall-Johnson, S Russell, P Sanders, A Saywell, R Scott, D Sellis, M Shaw, M Squires, J Trail, P Twiss, N Way, C Whitton, C Wright and J Yabsley

Apologies:-

Councillors P Colthorpe, R Croad, G Gribble, I Hall, G Hook, J Hook and C Slade

149 Minutes

The Chairman of the Council **MOVED** and it was duly **SECONDED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 October be signed as a correct record.

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

150 Announcements

The Chair of the Council reported on the signing of the Armed Forces Covenant Employers recognition scheme, which was particularly poignant in that 2018 marked a significant year in Devon's remembrance. The Armed Forces Covenant was 'a promise from the nation ensuring that those who were serving and / or who had served, and their families, were treated fairly. The Council would also work towards achieving the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme Gold status.

The Leader of the Council and Lt Col Jon Penhale from 6 Rifles signed the covenant.

The Chair also reminded Members to view the exhibitions in the Ante-Chamber relating to Devon Remembers and also the Vote 100.

The Devon Remembers display focused on Food, Farming and Fishing in Devon during the First World War, a unique snapshot of the impact of the onset of the First World War on local agriculture and farms.

The Vote 100 exhibition included a Candidates photography exhibition of women who stood for election in 2017, a Polling Station, information about the 1918 vote and opportunity to debate and vote on issues of today, a timeline of women elected as Devon Councillors and MPs, and information about the suffrage campaign.

151 Items Requiring Urgent Attention

There was no item raised as a matter of urgency.

152 Public Participation: Petitions, Questions and Representations

The Leader was presented, by Mr and Mrs Naybour, with a petition containing approximately 100 signatures relating to speeding and speed limits in Grenofen.

The Leader indicated that the relevant Cabinet Member or Head of Service would be asked to respond direct to the petitioner on the issues raised, within 15 days.

There was no question from a Member of the public.

In accordance with the Council's Public Participation Rules, the Council received and acknowledged oral representations made by Members of the School Council from the Exeter Deaf Academy on the issues raised by the Notice of Motion on British Sign Language, later in the agenda, particularly highlighting good communication and inclusion by both the BBC and ITV for news programmes to be signed in British Sign Language.

Further oral representations were made by Anthea Simmons, Peter Sturdgess and Julian Andrews who spoke on the issues raised by the Notice of Motion in relation to Brexit, the aerospace industry and the importance of a Peoples Vote.

The Chair thanked all the public speakers for their contributions.

[NB: The representations may be observed through the webcast of this meeting – available for 12 months after the meeting]

153 Petitions from Members of the Council

There was no Petition received from a Member of the Council.

154 Questions from Members of the Council

(Councillor Greenslade declared a personal interest in this matter by virtue of being a Member of North Devon District Council)

In accordance with the Council's Procedure Rules, the Leader and relevant Cabinet Members provided written responses to 10 questions submitted by Members of the Council relating to activities on County Estates Farms and tenancy agreements, staff pay scales and the living wage, drains, gullies and the policy for maintenance, school budgets and availability of additional funding, early and positive intervention in relation to children's services as preventative measures for their futures, overpayments of carer's allowances, recovery of monies and the scale of over payments in this area, resilience testing on key supplies and services for the County post Brexit, the tower block at the Barnstaple Civic Centre, breakdowns of numbers of gagging agreements / clauses over the last five years, victims of child sexual exploitation and parental rights.

The Leader and relevant Cabinet Members also responded orally, as appropriate, to any supplementary questions arising therefrom.

[NB: A copy of the questions and answers are appended to the signed minutes and any supplementary questions and answers may be observed through the webcast of this meeting – see Notes below]

155 Cabinet Member Reports

(Councillor Greenslade declared a personal interest in this matter by virtue of being a Non-Executive Director of Exeter Airport).

The Council received reports from the relevant Cabinet Members on matters of interest or service developments relating to their remits which had occurred since the previous meeting or were likely to have an impact in the future or on specific issues upon which they had been asked to comment, as set out below:

(a) Policy, Corporate and Asset Management

Councillor Hart commented, as requested by Councillor Hannaford on the Business Rates Retention Pilot, including an update on bids and projects.

The Leader highlighted that the pilot, on updated estimates, estimated a financial benefit of £16.6 millions to the Council, although the authority made a contribution of £5 million to the Business Rates Risk Reserve to cover any potential collection fund deficits arising in 2019/20 with the remaining £11.6 millions be made available to service areas to submit requests for investment, using criteria such as supporting the sustainability of Social Care Services, grow or protect the Business rates base and / or result in revenue savings.

The total value of requests were £25.5 millions.

However, at the same time the Council was faced with increasing pressures in Children Services around placements and market sufficiency and a decision taken to apply the fund to support the future management of these pressures, with invest to save initiatives, for example to support Edge of Care, Crisis Care, Troubled Families, the Devon Inclusion Project and fixing the system for Children in Care Placements.

He circulated information, again as requested by Councillor Hannaford on autumn budget implications for regional military capacity, the 'Sunset for the Royal Marines' campaign, progress to secure contracts at Devonport Shipyard to decommission nuclear vessels and possible Brexit implications for the regional private sector defence industry, highlighting that the defence sector was a very important part of Devon's economy. The bases provided jobs both directly and in their civilian supply chains. Defence manufacturing was also a major employment sector and recent modelling suggested the sector accounted for up to 26,000 jobs across The Heart of South West LEP area.

Devonport Naval base directly accounted for 10% of employment in Plymouth.

The Leader made reference to the Chancellors announcement of a £1 billion uplift to the Ministry of Defence in his Autumn Budget, in addition to the £600m already allocated to the MOD for 2018/19 earlier this summer, together with approximately half of the additional £800m allocated for 2019/20, would be used to pay for Dreadnought costs running above previously budgeted levels.

The Ministry of Defence said in January 2018 that it still intended to close RMB Chivenor by 2027, but had provided few details on the exact plans or timetable.

Plymouth had secured the future of the amphibious ships and the type 26 frigates would be base-ported in Plymouth. The future location of the marines was uncertain, pending the modernising defence programme. Plymouth was the only site in the UK to decommission nuclear vessels and it could not be done anywhere else.

The key issues around Brexit were sovereign capability which had recently been illustrated by Barden and the announcement by the German parent company to leave as a result of Brexit. However, the Council was working with other partners in the Heart of the South West through

the Brexit Resilience and Opportunities Group to consider what impacts that Brexit might have across the local economy.

He circulated a Report, as requested by Councillor Atkinson on the steps taken by the Council to support the DWP, JobCentrePlus, Devon's District Councils, Devon Citizens Advice and other organisations in providing advice and support to claimants as Universal Credit. This included steps taken to identify vulnerable claimants, those that would suffer hardship as a result of delay as well as any children affected. The Leader highlighted that examples of the Council's support were listed in the County Solicitor's Notices of Motion Report (CSO/18/25) to the Cabinet on 12 September 2018 and also that the Council was playing its part through support and coordination as the situation developed, for example liaison with the District Councils and Citizens Advice Devon to assist a smooth transition of support for new claimants from April 2019. In addition, positive partnership relationships had also been developed by County Council services whose clients were likely to be affected by Universal Credit such as Children's Centres. Whilst the likely impacts of Universal Credit were understood, it was difficult to quantify the numbers who would find it difficult to make a claim or suffer hardship as a result of receiving their benefit monthly in arrears. However, the support from the County Council would be reviewed as information emerged.

He also responded to questions on the reported difficulties with assessments, the potential to establish a poverty commission, bidding for a second business rates retention pilot and council tax support schemes.

(b) Economy and Skills

Councillor Gilbert circulated a Report, as requested by Councillor Hannaford on the current position with Appledore Shipyard including possible closure, future business and any ongoing community and parliamentary activity. The Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills highlighted that Babcock had taken the decision to exit operations at its Appledore facility. 199 people were currently employed at the site, with a significant number of these currently on short-term redeployment to Babcock's Devonport site. Babcock outlined its intention to offer all staff members an opportunity to transfer permanently to Devonport, although details of the offer were awaited.

The Cabinet Member said there was still a concern about the implications of the closure for the Torridge area more widely.

Officers had been working closely with a broad array of local partners to prepare for next steps. This included highlighting concerns on the future of the site to Babcock and wider stakeholders, support for ensuring the optimum outcome for employees, outlining the potentially significant economic impact that Babcock closure may have on the wider economy of Torridge and, as far as practicable, indicating the Council's strong support for the retention of skilled shipbuilding and marine sector jobs in the Torridge area. The Council's Economic Development Officers were due to meet key regional partners for a working group session on 13 December 2018 and the authority had engaged with local MPs over recent weeks.

He also responded in writing to Councillor Shaw on the Council's efforts to save air services provided by Flybe, highlighting that the Council was currently working closely with partners around ongoing developments at Flybe Ltd / Exeter Airport. The airport was a crucial asset for the County, supporting employment of around 1,800 skilled individuals and contribution of around £150m of GVA to the local economy.

Partners had collectively written to the Chief Executive to express collective support for the company's activity. This included an open offer to explore additional projects linked to the company's Training Academy and discussion of potential opportunities for joint working. Whilst decisions around Flybe and its services would ultimately be for the Company and its Board, Flybe had provided significant reassurance around the health of the business and its commitment to the airport over recent weeks.

(c) Infrastructure Development and Waste

Councillor Davis circulated a Report, as requested by Councillor Connett, on the provision of the planned all-through school at South West Exeter, including land ownership and when the school was expected to open.

The proposal was being delivered through the Governments Free School Programme, not directly by the Council, but officers were working with the Department and the school sponsor, (Ted Wragg Multi Academy Trust). The Cabinet Member advised there was not a confirmed opening date as yet.

The responsibility for securing the free school site sat with a Government-owned property company called LocatEd and again Officers were working closely with them and they recently confirmed that contracts had been signed although the land was not yet in their ownership.

(d) Highways Management

Councillor Hughes commented, as requested by Councillor Connett, on repairs to Kingsford Lane, Holcombe Burnell, the resurfacing on the A379 at Kenton, including Exeter Hill and the use of Mamhead Road and Hill by HGVs and coaches, advising that the Neighbourhood Highway Officer had been in touch regarding the Kingsford Lane repairs.

The Cabinet Member confirmed that the resurfacing of the A379 at Kenton was scheduled for the 1st week in March, and in the week prior to the resurfacing, drainage works would be undertaken.

With regard to Mamhead Road, the Cabinet Member said that engineers had concluded the investigations and that additional signs indicating "light vehicles only" had been erected.

He was also asked to Report on the number of recorded road traffic accidents on the roads of the new Devon area, the administrative area of the Council, in 2018 to date, fatalities resulting from these accidents, the same information for the period of 2017 and 2013 and the total length of time that the M5 in Devon, the A38, the A380, the A30, the A361 roads in Devon had been closed due to road traffic accidents during 2018 to date. In light of the volume of data requested, the Cabinet Member undertook to get a written response to Councillor Greenslade.

He also responded to questions on the role of HATOCs in relation to road safety, the first steps to implement resident parking schemes and also the road safety strategy of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

(e) Adult Social Care and Health Services

Councillor Leadbetter was asked to Report by Councillor Greenslade on the developments and changes that had resulted from the Cabinet decision to implement Integrated Care Management.

The Cabinet Member reported that he would write to Councillor Greenslade on the detail requested.

156 **Minutes**

The Chair of the Council **MOVED** and it was duly **SECONDED** that the Minutes of the under-mentioned meetings of Committees be approved.

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|---|---|---|
| Appeals Committee | - | 8 October, 5 November and 3 December 2018 |
| Procedures Committee | - | 7 November 2018 |
| Audit Committee | - | 8 November 2018 |
| Standards Committee | - | 12 November 2018 |
| Public Rights of Way Committee | - | 15 November 2018 |
| Investment & Pension Fund Committee | - | 16 November 2018 |
| Development Management Committee | - | 28 November 2018 |
| Health & Adult Care Scrutiny | - | 22 November 2018 |
| Children's Scrutiny | - | 26 November 2018 |
| Corporate Infrastructure & Regulatory Services Scrutiny | - | 27 November 2018 |

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

157 **Devon and Cornwall Police and Dorset Police Merger (Minute 147 of 4th October 2018)**

Pursuant to County Council Minute 147 of 4 October 2018 relating to the Notice of Motion set out below as previously submitted and formally moved and seconded by Councillor Atkinson that:

Since 2015, Devon & Cornwall Police and Dorset Police (DC&D) have been working together through a 'Strategic Alliance'. Operational police departments such as Operations, Roads Policing and Prevention as well as 17 other business areas are already operating across the three counties with a further 11 departments currently going through changes which will see them aligned.

The Chief Constables of DC&D Police recently announced their intention to explore a voluntary merger of the two forces. There are no recent examples of successful voluntary mergers of police forces.

Work is now underway to develop a business case for the merger for submission to the Home Office in October 2018, with a decision expected in January 2019.

- *The PCC commenced a public engagement programme across the three counties in August which ended on 28th August, the full business case was not be shared with stakeholders or the PCP before the end of this consultation.*
- *It is understood that at a PCP meeting on 5th October some of the business case may be shared with the PCP before its submission to the Home Office.*
- *DCC had not formally been consulted and this has not been discussed at DCC cabinet or Scrutiny Committee*

The proposed merger will impact funding and on Council Tax across Devon A much higher proportion of Devon and Cornwall's total funding (61.5%) comes from government. Only 53% of Dorset's funding comes from government and a higher proportion comes from the police precept element.

Overall, government funding is more per head for Devon and Cornwall (£103) than Dorset (£85). This would fall to £97.6 per head for a combined force.

Having received minimal information regarding the financial impact or benefits of the potential merger, it is difficult to know whether current levels of funding, alongside the

substantial reserves held by both forces, would prove sufficient to underwrite any additional costs arising from the merger of the force areas. This is particularly relevant in attempting to understand how the additional 430 police officers or staff would be funded as a result of the merger. At the moment, tax payers in Dorset in an average Band D property pay around £18 a year more for their policing than householders in Devon and Cornwall. Legally, the levels of police precept for both areas must be harmonised for the merger to take place. Will Dorset rates be harmonised down to the Devon and Cornwall level? This seems to have been ruled out. Another proposal is that the rate for Devon and Cornwall will be increased to the Dorset level to fund extra police officers. The estimated increase would mean an extra payment of £1-3 per month (£18 per year) for average Band D residents in Devon and Cornwall.

This motion proposes that:

- The Council writes to the PCC to request that the full business case is sent to DCC for its comments before any proposal is submitted to the Home Secretary;*
- That the Council opposes the merger on information it currently has available to it that it will mean an increase of £18 per year council tax for average Band D residents in Devon and Cornwall and writes to the PCC and if appropriate the Home secretary with its views;*
- Council censures the PCC in relation to her consultation on the merger as the stakeholder consultation was carried out while important local authority stakeholders were in summer recess and without the business case being made available to stakeholders so that the no meaningful consultation could take place.*

and having had regard to the advice of the Cabinet (the amendment) as set out in Minute 255(a) of 14 November 2018:

Councillor Hart **MOVED** and Councillor McInnes **SECONDED** that the Cabinet's advice be accepted and in light of the position of the Police and Crime Commissioner that she was minded not to support the submission of the proposed full business case to the Home Office and therefore the proposal to create a new force incorporating Cornwall, Devon and Dorset would not progress, that no further action should be taken 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.

158 Children's Bed Poverty (Minute 148 of 4th October 2018)

Pursuant to County Council Minute 148 of 4 October 2018 relating to the Notice of Motion set out below as previously submitted and formally moved and seconded by Councillor Hannaford that,

More children are living in poverty than at any other time in the past ten years, with 4.1 million children across the UK living below the breadline.

Shockingly it's thought that there are over 400,000 children in the UK who do not have a bed of their own.

Without somewhere to rest their head, bedtime routines become difficult, stress levels rise, and getting a good night's sleep is often near to impossible.

Furthermore, educational performance deteriorates and safeguarding risks rise.

Over the last five years, Dreams Beds has provided Buttle UK with nearly 10,000 children's beds to donate to those families in desperate need — more than ever before. With the number of beds that they supplied during those five years rising by 77 per cent.

We applaud the work of this charity, and businesses, social enterprises, church groups, and others across the country in trying to tackle this national scandal.

As Corporate Parents with a duty of care to all of Devon's children, we resolve that the Council formally writes to The Rt Hon. James Brokenshire MP, the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, and our local members of Parliament, to highlight this issue and call for serious consideration to be given for a national grants scheme that allows those in need to apply for help and assistance, to put an end to children's bed poverty.

and having had regard to the advice of the Cabinet set out in Minute 255(b) of 12 November 2018:

Councillor Hart **MOVED** and Councillor McInnes **SECONDED** that Notice of Motion be accepted and the Council make representations to James Brokenshire MP, the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, copying the same to local Devon MPs, raising the issue of bed poverty, endorsing the work of the Buttle Trust and seeking support for a national scheme that would enable families to get the support they need.

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.

159 **Devon County Council and Fracking**

Councillor Hodgson **MOVED** and Councillor Biederman **SECONDED** that in accordance with Standing Order 6(6), the Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Hodgson be considered at this meeting.

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

Councillor Hodgson then **MOVED** and Councillor Biederman **SECONDED**

I am aware that South Devon has little if any shale reserves that could attract potential fracking exploration or would be economically viable to extract. However, as part of a national support to prevent controversial planning matters being able to avoid public consultation and protest and also to support a permanent ban on fracking in the UK, I am also requesting this motion regarding permitted development rights which has now been allowed for Fracking planning applications. This means that applications can by-pass the usual public consultation and objection processes and publicly represented decision making bodies such as council planning committees. France, Ireland, Bulgaria, Germany, Victoria, in NSW Australia, four provinces in Canada New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Quebec have all banned fracking and Germany has placed an indefinite moratorium, Netherlands has placed a temporary moratorium on fracking. This also supports this Council's agreement in principle to support initiatives that will prevent or mitigate climate change.

- 1. Will write to the Secretary of State to object to applications for fracking having permitted development rights such that applicants can avoid the usual planning system.*
- 2. Supports a national ban on fracking in the UK on public safety and climate change grounds.*

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

160 British Sign Language

Councillor Dewhirst **MOVED** and Councillor Connett **SECONDED**;

This Council passionately believes that good communication lies at the heart of a civilised society and furthermore believes that inclusion is a vital part of a fair society.

To that end this Council realises that there is a large number of British Sign Language (BSL) users in Devon and so offers Deaf people an on-line interpretation service to enable people whose first language is BSL to communicate and interact with our Council.

The BBC offer in-vision BSL interpretations of some popular and topical programmes however it is not provided for the local and live news services. They do however offer the option for subtitles to be used for their programmes for Deaf people or people with limited hearing. Sadly, Deaf people find this service less than helpful and often very confusing - try watching the news with the sound off and just subtitles. ITV offer no services for Deaf people. Many Deaf people in Devon wish to keep up with the news in our County and wish that the BBC and ITV offered a similar interpretation service to our Council. This currently happens in America and most western countries.

In a spirit of inclusion this Council resolves to ask the BBC and ITV to start a process of full inclusion by asking the Chief Executive to write to the Director General of the BBC to ask for Spotlight South West to be signed in BSL and to the Managing Director of ITV Westcountry to ask for West Country News to be signed in BSL.

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

161 Devon's Housing Need

Councillor Shaw **MOVED** and Councillor Biederman **SECONDED**

Devon County Council welcomes the reports published by the Council for the Preservation of Rural England (Devon branch), 'Devon Housing Needs Evidence' and 'A Review of Government Housing Policy and Its Impact on Devon' and the extensive research from which they result. Noting that the reports conclude that Devon's real housing needs are substantially less than currently assumed, Council asks Cabinet to commission a full evaluation of the implications of these reports for both the Council's policies and relevant joint ventures including the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan.

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

162 Brexit Referendum and Economic Impacts

Councillor Shaw **MOVED** and Councillor Biederman **SECONDED** that in accordance with Standing Order 6(6), the following Notice of Motion be considered at this meeting.

Councillor Brennan then **MOVED** and Councillor Hannaford **SECONDED** that, in accordance with Standing Order 32, the vote on debating the motion at the meeting shall be by a roll call vote.

The Motion for the roll call vote was put to the vote and declared **LOST**.

The Motion to debate the Notice of Motion at the Council meeting was put to the vote and also declared **LOST**.

Councillor Shaw then **MOVED** and Councillor Biederman **SECONDED** that:

While welcoming the Devon Councils' support for Flybe, this County Council expresses its alarm that Brexit has contributed to the airline's crisis and that it has been followed by the announcement of the closure of the Schaeffler factory in Plymouth.

In view of (a) this accelerating harm to Devon's economy, which also threatens our agricultural, health, university and small business sectors and living standards, and (b) polling evidence which suggests that a majority of Devon voters and Devon districts now oppose Brexit, Council calls on the Government to organise a referendum in which voters are offered the choice of accepting the deal which the Government has negotiated or remaining in the European Union.

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

(In accordance with Standing Order 32(4) Councillors Ackland, Atkinson, Asvachin, Aves, Brazil, Brennan, Connett, Dewhirst, Hannaford, Hodgson, Shaw, Way and Whitton asked that their vote in support of debating the Notice of Motion at the meeting be recorded).

163 Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership Joint Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Biederman **MOVED** and Councillor Shaw **SECONDED** that:

This County Council welcomes the fact that the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership Joint Scrutiny Committee has now met, but believes that for effective scrutiny to take place:

- (1) two of the Council's four places on the Committee should be made available to opposition groups from next May;*
- (2) there should be an opportunity for the Non-Aligned Group to be represented from time to time;*
- (3) an opportunity for public participation should be provided;*
- (4) proceedings should be webcast.*

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

164 Fair and Adequate Funding to Local Authorities

Councillor Atkinson **MOVED** and Councillor Aves **SECONDED** that:

Philip Alston, the UN's special rapporteur has found that Local government in the UK has been "gutted" by government policies reflecting the "dismantling of the social safety net". He finds that since the onset of austerity, cuts to local government funding have transferred service costs to users who are "least able to pay" and local authorities are "even struggling with the basic services they are statutorily obligated to provide" such that the "overall social safety net is being systematically dismantled" as local authorities, especially in England, which perform vital roles in providing a real social safety net have been gutted by a series of government policies.

The UN official referenced the National Audit Office's finding that local government has incurred a 49% cuts in funding since 2011-2018 (but 75% cut in revenue funding to fund services in Devon County Council) community and youth centres have been shrunk and underfunded, public spaces and buildings including parks and recreation centres have been sold off and 14 million people – one fifth of the population – live in poverty, and noted that Institute for Fiscal Studies calculations predict a 7% rise in

child poverty between 2015 and 2022. He also says that despite these factors, Alston claimed ministers were in “a state of denial” about UK poverty. Other areas in which social security have been undermined include cuts to legal aid and benefit reductions.

This Council agrees with the rapporteur’s findings and urges the government to introduce fair and adequate funding to local authorities to meet local people’s needs in Devon.

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

165 **Devon and Cornwall Police Funding**

Councillor Atkinson **MOVED** and Councillor Hannaford **SECONDED** that:

The government has been more interested in terrorism and high-end threats but less focused on local crimes and policing. Steep budget reductions and a widening mission for the police has forced Devon and Cornwall Police to make the difficult decision to cut budgets for local policing. Austerity cuts in other public services have also impacted on the police who are often the service of last resort for people with mental health conditions.

The National Audit Office report castigated the government’s handling of the police. The NAO assesses the government did not fully understand the actual impact of these cuts on police forces such that policing is at the tipping point.

This Council calls on the government and local MPs to ensure that the anticipated review of police funding agrees a fair funding formula for police forces that ensures an increase in funding for Devon and Cornwall Police which does not pass funding increases on through council tax beyond the current permitted up to 2% annual increase in the police precept.

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

166 **Declare a Climate Emergency**

Councillor Hodgson **MOVED** and Councillor Shaw **SECONDED** that in accordance with Standing Order 6(6), the following Notice of Motion be considered at this meeting

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

Councillor Hodgson then **MOVED** and Councillor Shaw **SECONDED** that:

Full Council notes:

Humans have already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt around the world. Global temperatures have already increased by 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO2 levels are above 400 parts per million (ppm). This far exceeds the 350 ppm deemed to be a safe level for humanity;

In order to reduce the chance of runaway Global Warming and limit the effects of Climate Breakdown, it is imperative that we as a species reduce our CO2eq (carbon equivalent) emissions from their current 6.5 tonnes per person per year to less than 2 tonnes as soon as possible ;

Individuals cannot be expected to make this reduction on their own. Society needs to change its laws, taxation, infrastructure, etc., to make low carbon living easier and the new norm;

Carbon emissions result from both production and consumption;

Devon County Council has already shown foresight and leadership when it comes to addressing the issue of climate change when back in 2004 we signed up to the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change and has since recognised this in its strategy for responding to the Climate Change Act 2008 which underpins its strategies, actions plans, public statements and advice to businesses, residents and parish councils;

Unfortunately, our current plans and actions are not enough. The world is on track to overshoot the Paris Agreement's 1.5 degrees Celsius limit before 2050;

The IPCC's Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius, published last month, describes the enormous harm that a 2 degrees Celsius rise is likely to cause compared to a 1.5 degrees Celsius, and told us that limiting Global Warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector, indigenous peoples and local communities;

Local Authorities around the world are responding by declaring a 'Climate Emergency' and committing resources to address this emergency.

Full Council believes that:

All governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to limit the negative impacts of Climate Breakdown, and local governments that recognize this should not wait for their national governments to change their policies. It is important for the residents of Devon and the UK that counties commit to carbon neutrality as quickly as possible;

Local Authorities are uniquely placed to lead the world in reducing carbon emissions;

The consequences of global temperature rising above 1.5 degrees Celsius are so severe that preventing this from happening must be humanity's number one priority; and,

Bold climate action can deliver economic benefits in terms of new jobs, economic savings and market opportunities (as well as improved well-being for people worldwide).

Full Council calls on the Leader to:

- 1. Declare a 'Climate Emergency';*
- 2. Pledge to make the county of Devon carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption emissions (scope 1,2,3);*
- 3. Call on Westminster to provide the powers and resources to make the 2030 target possible;*
- 4. Work with other governments (both within the UK and internationally) to determine and implement best practice methods to limit Global Warming to less than 1.5 degrees Celsius;*
- 5. Continue to work with partners across the county and region to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies and plans;*
- 6. Report to Full Council within six months with the actions the Council will take to address this emergency.*

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

(In accordance with Standing Order 32(4) Councillors Ackland, Asvachin, Atkinson, Aves, Brennan, Dewhirst, Hannaford, Hodgson, Shaw and Whitton asked that their vote for the Motion to be debated at the Council meeting be recorded).

[NOTES:

Prayers were offered prior to the commencement of the meeting, to those who wished to attend, by Rev Grandey.

The Minutes of this meeting and of any Committee referred to above (together with minutes of the Council's Cabinet, Health & Wellbeing Board and Pension Board which while not part of the formal Agenda of this meeting are available on the County Council's Website.

*Minutes should be read in association with any Reports or documents referred to therein, for a complete record.
A recording of the webcast of this meeting will also be available to view for up to 12 months from the date of the meeting, at <http://www.devoncc.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>]*

The Meeting started at 2.15 pm and finished at 4.27 pm