

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT
COUNCIL HELD AT FOLLATON HOUSE, TOTNES ON THURSDAY 13 MAY 2010**

MEMBERS

* Cllr M Stone – Chairman

* Cllr J H Baverstock – Vice-Chairman

* Cllr K J Baldry	* Cllr P W Hitchins
* Cllr A D Barber	* Cllr M J Howarth
* Cllr N A Barnes	∅ Cllr C W Jones
* Cllr H D Bastone	* Cllr L P Jones
* Cllr J I G Blackler	* Cllr R M Lawrence
* Cllr J Brazil	* Cllr I Longrigg
* Cllr B F Cane	* Cllr D W May
* Cllr B E Carson	* Cllr D M O'Callaghan
* Cllr R J Carter	∅ Cllr C M Pannell
* Cllr P H Cook	* Cllr J T Pennington
* Cllr S E Cooper	* Cllr S L Rankin
* Cllr P Coulson	* Cllr R Rowe
* Cllr R F Croad	* Cllr M F Saltern
* Cllr G J Fielden	* Cllr J W Squire
* Cllr R D Gilbert	* Cllr R C Steer
* Cllr M Hannaford	* Cllr R J Tucker
* Cllr F J Hawke	* Cllr R J Vint
* Cllr J D Hawkins	* Cllr A Ward
* Cllr M J Hicks	* Cllr J A Westacott MBE

* Denotes attendance

∅ Denotes apology for absence

Officers in attendance and participating:

For all items: Strategic Management Team, Monitoring Officer and Member Support Services Manager.

01/10 ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

RESOLVED

That Cllr J H Baverstock be elected Chairman of the Council for the period expiring on the date of the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2011.

Cllr Baverstock declared and signed his acceptance of office.

02/10 ADDRESS BY THE NEW CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

Cllr Baverstock addressed the Council, expressing his honour at being elected as Chairman of Council and wished to thank his fellow Members for their vote of confidence.

In his address, Cllr Baverstock also made specific reference to:-

- his theme for his year of office being one of team work and working together. In these current economic and financial circumstances, Cllr Baverstock emphasised the importance of Members, officers and the community working together for the benefit of the South Hams;
- his chosen charity being the Devon Air Ambulance;
- the manner in which Cllr Brazil conducted himself during and after the recent Totnes Constituency parliamentary election; and
- his congratulations to the Acting Returning Officer and the staff involved in the smooth and efficient running of the election.

03/10

VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That the thanks of the Council be extended to Cllr Stone for the manner in which he performed his duties during his term of office as Chairman of the Council.

04/10

RESPONSE OF THE RETIRING CHAIRMAN

Cllr Stone addressed the Council and made particular reference to:-

- his privilege at being Chairman of Council;
- his appreciation for the help provided by many people during his year of office, notably the backing given by his wife, Jeanette. In addition, he wished to thank all Members and officers for their support;
- the particular work which he had undertaken to support youth culture and economic growth;
- his pride and honour at welcoming Her Majesty the Queen, Prince Philip and the Earl of Wessex on their visits to the South Hams; and
- the positive feedback which he had received following his Civic Service and Civic Luncheon.

05/10

APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

RESOLVED

That Cllr R D Gilbert be appointed Vice Chairman of the Council for the period expiring on the date of the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2011.

Cllr Gilbert declared and signed his acceptance of office.

06/10

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 25 March 2010 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

07/10 **ELECTION OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE**

RESOLVED

That Cllr R J Tucker be elected Leader of the Council and Chairman of the Executive for the period expiring on the date of the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2011.

In expressing his gratitude at being re-elected Leader of Council, Cllr Tucker made reference to a paper which had been tabled to the meeting (as attached at Appendix A).

The paper outlined some of the major achievements delivered by the Council during 2009/10. He felt that such achievements were to the credit of both Members and officers and an example of the good working relations which continued to exist in the Council.

08/10 **ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE**

RESOLVED

That Cllr P W Hitchins be elected Deputy Leader of the Council and Vice Chairman of the Executive for the period expiring on the date of the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2011.

09/10 **POLITICAL GROUPS**

The Chairman advised Members that a review of the representation of the political groups on the Council's Bodies had been carried out in consultation with the Leaders of the Political Groups.

The Chairman then reminded Members that the number of seats on the Council's Bodies was set by the Constitution, with the exception of the Development Management Committee. In June 2001, the Council decided that the size of the Development Management Committee was to be reviewed annually.

RESOLVED

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the:-

1. allocation of seats on Council Bodies, as agreed with the Leaders of the Political Groups, be approved;
2. political balance rules be disapplied in the case of the Elected Member representation on the Salcombe Harbour Board;
3. number of seats on the Development Management Committee be approved at 20 for the 2010/11 Municipal Year.

10/10 **APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE BODIES OF THE COUNCIL**

The Council received nominations for the membership of the Bodies of the Council.

RESOLVED

That, for the 2010/11 Municipal Year, Members be appointed to the Bodies of the Council as set out in Appendix B to these minutes.

11/10 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMEN AND VICE CHAIRMEN OF THE BODIES OF THE COUNCIL**

The Council received nominations for the positions of Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the Bodies of the Council.

RESOLVED

That the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the Bodies of the Council for the 2010 / 2011 Municipal Year be as indicated below:-

Body	Chairman	Vice Chairman
Development Management Committee	Cllr G J Fielden	Cllr D W May
Salcombe Harbour Board	Cllr J Brazil	(co-opted Member)
Personnel Panel	Cllr M F Saltern	Cllr J A Westacott MBE
Scrutiny	Cllr C M Pannell	Cllr K J Baldry

Community Policy Development Group	Cllr R C Steer	Cllr B F Cane
Environment Policy Development Group	Cllr R Rowe	Cllr R J Carter
Prosperity Policy Development Group	Cllr R F Croad	Cllr J I G Blackler
Audit Committee	Cllr J T Pennington	Cllr P Coulson
Licensing Committee	Cllr J W Squire	Cllr P H Cook

12/10

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

A report was considered which set out details of those outside bodies to which the Council appointed representatives and included a list of nominations for representation on these outside bodies.

RESOLVED

1. That the Council should be represented on the list of outside bodies as presented to the meeting;
2. That the Members named in Appendix C to these minutes be appointed as the Council's representatives to those bodies for the 2010/11 Municipal Year, and that for the purposes of Members' Allowances, attendance at meetings of these bodies be regarded as an approved duty;
3. That it be noted that the Devon Districts Forum made the following appointments:-
 - Devon Children's Trust: Cllr Baverstock; and
 - The Investment and Pension Fund Committee: Cllr Howarth,

and for the purposes of Members' Allowances, attendance at meetings of these bodies also be regarded as an approved duty; and
4. That Members appointed to outside bodies provide regular feedback and consultation on the issues affecting the bodies concerned.

13/10 **APPOINTMENT OF OTHER GROUPS**

Members confirmed the appointment for the 2010/2011 Municipal Year of:-

- (a) Asset Management Group;
- (b) Beach Management Group;
- (c) Council Tax Setting Panel;
- (d) Design and Conservation Panel;
- (e) Development Planning Steering Group;
- (f) Executive Project Board;
- (g) Joint Health & Safety Consultative Panel;
- (h) Joint Staff Consultative Forum;
- (i) Member Development Steering Group;
- (j) Political Structures Working Group;
- (k) Programming Panel;
- (l) Public Spaces Working Group;
- (m) Shared Services Steering Group; and
- (n) Tree and Hedge Appeal Group.

Council then considered the appointments to the above bodies.

RESOLVED

That the appointment of the other groups of the Council for the 2010/2011 Municipal Year be approved, as shown in Appendix D to these minutes.

14/10 **URGENT BUSINESS**

The Chairman advised that he had agreed for one item of urgent business to be raised at this meeting. The item related to the report considered by the Prosperity Policy Development Group at its last meeting on Boat Park Operations (Minute PPDG.34/09 refers) and was considered urgent due to the need for a decision to be taken before the next Council meeting. It was intended that this matter would be considered as Agenda Item 19 (Minute 17/10 below refers).

15/10 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare any interests in the items of business to be considered during the course of the meeting. These were recorded as follows:-

Cllr P H Cook declared a personal interest in Item 19 (Minute 17/10 below refers) by virtue of her business involvement in winter storage and whilst she remained in the meeting, she did not take part in the discussion or vote on this item.

16/10 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Council noted a list of Civic Engagements attended by the previous Chairman.

17/10 BOAT PARK OPERATIONS – STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE

The Council considered an urgent item that informed of the issues surrounding the operation of the Boat Park and in particular, winter storage.

In discussion, reference was made to:-

- (a) the time constraints on this matter. In emphasising the number of high risks identified, it was hoped that the matter could be resolved within the next fortnight. To determine the future strategy, a motion was **PROPOSED** and **SECONDED** which sought to give delegated authority to the Strategic Management Team, in consultation with the Leader of Council, the Deputy Leader of Council, the lead Executive Member for Financial Affairs, the Chairman of the Salcombe Harbour Board and the local Ward Members. When put to the vote, this motion was declared **CARRIED**;
- (b) the lack of consultation. A local Member advised that a decision on Boat Storage was likely to have a major impact on a number of local businesses and stakeholders in Salcombe. He therefore expressed surprise that prior consultation had not taken place with either the town council or those local businesses who were directly involved. In accepting that there were gaps in the consultation process, another Member informed that the issue had previously been considered by the Prosperity Policy Development Group, with any Member or interested stakeholder being able to both make representations to and attend this meeting.

RESOLVED

That a decision on the future strategy for winter storage be delegated to the Strategic Management Team, in consultation with the Leader of Council, the Deputy Leader of Council, the lead Executive Member for Financial Affairs, the Chairman of the Salcombe Harbour Board and the local Ward Members.

18/10 QUESTIONS

It was noted that two questions had been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 8.

From Cllr Baldry to Cllr Tucker, Leader of Council

- (a) *During a public meeting, at which I was present, on 16 April, Gary Streeter said he would support a campaign for free parking in Ivybridge. Reported in Ivybridge and South Brent Gazette 23 April: "...he explained that the centres in Plympton and Plymstock are vibrant due to free parking".*

South Hams Liberal Democrats have consistently called for free parking to encourage the public to shop locally. We welcome the Conservative MP joining the campaign.

Will the Leader join our campaign? Has he had any discussions on the subject with Mr Streeter?

In reply, Cllr Tucker informed that he respected Gary Streeter and his views. However, he would need to see the evidence that supported the fact that two shopping areas were vibrant due solely to the effect of free parking and was confident that there were other key factors that may also have attributed. Cllr Tucker also proceeded to remind Members that any loss of income due to free car parking would have to be met in other ways.

From Cllr Lawrence to Cllr Hitchins, lead Executive Member for Prosperity

- (b) *In view of the increase in car parking permit prices what has been the effect on permit sales?*

In particular, what were the numbers sold last year (2009/10) and this for:-

- *the residents parking permit (£20);*
- *the annual parking permits (with registration numbers); and*
- *the annual business parking permits (without registration numbers)?*

In response, Cllr Hitchins advised that he could not give a full years' figure, as the Council only introduced the new charges on 25 March 2010, but was sure that the Council would have a better understanding on the position later in the year.

However, Cllr Hitchins reported the following figures for March and April:-

Residents Permits:

2009: 195 permits; and
2010: 914 permits.

Annual Permits:

Data was not available for 2009 that separated with and without registration.

2009: 572 permits sold in total for March and April; and
2010: 463 permits sold in total for March and April.

19/10 **NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

It was noted that no motions had been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.1.

20/10 **DUTY TO RESPOND TO PETITIONS – PETITION SCHEME**

A report was considered which sought approval of a Petition Scheme to ensure that the Council was abiding by its new Duty to Respond to Petitions, which was due to be enforced on 15 June 2010.

In discussion, reference was made to:-

- (a) confirmation that 'ordinary' petitions (e.g. those which failed to meet the 5% population threshold which necessitated a debate) would continue to be administered;
- (b) petitions relating to a planning decision. It was noted that whilst the scheme would not apply to specific planning decision petitions, there would be the ability to submit a petition on general planning process procedures;
- (c) debating a petition at full Council. A Member felt that any petition received with over 4,000 signatories would be of such significance that to limit the discussion to only fifteen minutes at Council meetings was far too restrictive. In reply, Members were informed that the Constitution contained provision for a motion to be proposed to suspend Standing Orders to allow for an extended debate;
- (d) a petition to hold an officer to account. It was suggested that the Chief Executive should be the only officer who was open to this type of petition.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That the Draft Petition Scheme (as presented at Appendix 1 of the agenda report) be approved and adopted.

21/10

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2010/11

The Council considered a report which sought Member approval of the Calendar of Meetings for the 2010/11 Municipal Year.

In presenting the report, the Leader of Council stressed the intention that Thursdays be treated as 'Member Days', with as many meetings and training events as possible taking place on this day.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That the Calendar of Meetings for the 2010/11 Municipal Year be adopted (as per Appendix E to these minutes).

22/10

PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF THE SHARED CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Members considered a report which advised of the progress made in the recruitment process for a replacement Shared Chief Executive and which sought approval to continue the process.

In discussion, reference was made to:-

- (a) it no longer being necessary to consider the report in exempt session. Members were advised that since the agenda had been published, the Council had now appointed the Tribal organisation to provide external assistance with the recruitment process;
- (b) a timescale for appointment. The Leader informed that it was intended that an appointment would be made before 1 September 2010 to allow for an adequate notice period and a smooth transitional arrangement;
- (c) the belief that the post would attract a large number of candidates. In addition, it was noted that such an external recruitment process for a shared Chief Executive was setting a national precedent;
- (d) support for the outlined approach. Some Members felt that this proposal was an excellent example of shared service efficiency, without front line services being affected;
- (e) input from the Personnel Panel Chairman. It was noted that the Chairman of the Panel had extensive expertise in such recruitment processes. Whilst he had not been appointed to the Joint Shared Services Steering Group, it was intended that he would be invited to attend meetings in an advisory capacity.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That the proposal for the recruitment process for a replacement Shared Chief Executive be supported.

(NOTE: the Strategic Director (Community) and Strategic Director (Resources) both left the meeting during consideration of the above item).

23/10 **REPORTS OF BODIES****RESOLVED**

That the minutes and recommendations of the undermentioned bodies be received and approved subject to any amendments listed below:-

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------|---------------|
| (a) | Salcombe Harbour Board | 29 March 2010 |
| (b) | Audit Committee | 6 April 2010 |

A.44/09: Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2010/11

A Member questioned whether the Council was contemplating adjusting its Investment Strategy in an attempt to gain a higher rate of return on cash deposits. In reply, the Chairman of the Audit Committee advised that the three key factors which must be borne in mind in the Strategy were: security, liquidity and yield.

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| (c) | Joint Audit / Standards Committee | 6 April 2010 |
| (d) | Executive | 8 April 2010 |
| (e) | Development Management Committee | 14 April 2010 |
| (f) | Community PDG | 15 April 2010 |
| (g) | Scrutiny | 22 April 2010 |

SC.65/09: Mr John Halliday, Devon County Council Chief Assistant Engineer (South) (Highways Authority)

When closing busy roads for a number of weeks to undergo repair and maintenance, a Member queried whether the strategy should be revised. In order to minimise disruption, the Member felt that consideration should be given to both undertaking the works overnight and ensuring that one side of the road remained open throughout.

In terms of the consultation process on the Site Allocation Development Planning Documents, a Member asked for it to be recorded that he remained unconvinced at the level of involvement from the Highways Authority.

(h) Prosperity PDG

28 April 2010

PPDG.38/09: Tourism and Marketing Strategy (2007-2012)

When questioned, the Chairman of the Group did not feel that supporting the provision of Tourist Information Centres was an essential priority investment for the Council to maintain the 'tourism product.'

(Meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 3.50 pm).

Chairman

APPENDIX A: WHAT HAS SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL DELIVERED TO THE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES OF THE DISTRICT IN 2009/10

CP1 – Secure a supply of housing for local people at affordable levels

- The Affordable Housing Development Plan Document was adopted in September 2008 and Site Allocation DPDs were published in April 2010, making proposals for 1,500 new homes by 2016 with targets that up to 55-60% of these be affordable, subject to consideration of viability
- 11 new homes completed at Beeson near Kingsbridge - Mix of for sale, affordable, shared ownership and for rent. The properties have been built to Level 3 of the government's "Code for Sustainable Homes" which aims to design homes which use less energy and produce fewer carbon dioxide emissions
- Local charity 'Feoffees' (Kingsbridge) were given a financial contribution of £82,500 which will enable them to provide three new affordable homes for local people in Kingsbridge
- The Council has contacted owners of empty properties to offer help and support to encourage the owner to voluntarily bring the home back into use which is kinder to the environment than building new homes
- The Council is one of the first authorities in England to sign up to the National Housing Federation's (NHF) "Save our Villages" campaign which aims to tackle the severe housing and sustainability issues affecting rural communities across the country
- The Council in partnership with Tor Homes & Communities Agency have put in place £1.4m to build 19 homes for local people at Culverdale, Totnes. Homes will be available to rent
- The Council has earmarked £1.37m to fund new and innovative ways to provide affordable homes for local people. One proposal is buy unsold market housing for use as social rented homes. In addition new affordable housing schemes (6) which between them will deliver 42 affordable homes in Totnes, Kingsbridge, Dartmouth and other locations across the district
- The Executive agreed to the disposal of the Council's allotment site at Marlborough to Hastoe Housing Association to enable the delivery of 15 affordable homes
- The Council is part of an innovative Partnership with South Devon Rural Housing Association (SDRHA). The initiative 'SHIRE scheme's' aim is to provide more affordable homes. By buying properties from the private market and bring them up to SDRHA's letting standard. The Council has contributed £10,000 equity loan per property as part of the joint funding package with SDRHA
- Between September 2009 and January 2010 we did not have any applicant in bed and breakfast. In any one of the other months we have not had more than one household in bed and breakfast at any one time. This is in comparison to the situation experienced in 2006 where we had up to 19 families in bed and breakfast. In the last 12 months we have prevented homelessness in 217 cases which is an increase of 39 over the 2008/09 preventions

CP2 – Create the conditions for the growth and maintenance of quality economic activity

- The Council has taken up the fight against business rate increases with Westminster. Council has lobbied against the recently announced revaluation of business properties
- The Aveton Gifford Village Eco Shop is the first project to receive funding through the South Devon Coastal Local Action Group (SDCLAG), with a £35,000 grant to fit-out the shop interior. The new shop also hopes to become an information point for local people who will be able to access computer facilities in the building
- The Council is helping small and medium sized businesses by aiming to pay invoices within 10 days of receipt and dealing with disputes over invoices as swiftly as possible
- Business Link, in partnership with the Council, Federation of Small Businesses, Kingsbridge Town Council and Kingsbridge and Salcombe Chamber of Commerce is hosting free business advice clinics for local businesses. The aim is to help increase sales and customer service; manage people and develop skills; reduce costs and improve productivity; identify new products or markets; and implement plans for growth
- Achieved the re-establishment of a Post Office at Townstal, Dartmouth. The Council helped to establish a Devon & Torbay Post Office Task Force. Two branches were 'saved' in Torbay. The Task Force was influential in persuading Post Office Ltd to improve its 'outreach' offer in 15 communities to the benefit of their local residents. The reason for joint working was to achieve visibility and influence that was greater than could have been achieved by the partners individually

CP3 – Maintain the district's distinctive environment whilst enabling access and sensitive development

- The Council is implementing the agreed Capital Programme in July 2008 which includes proposed upgrades to a range of open spaces/parks
- The Executive adopted the Carbon Management Plan in March 2009 and will review its performance in carbon saving
- The Council, as part of its Public Space Improvement Programme, has been working closely with representatives from the town's community and amenity groups on the future of Coronation Park. £300,000 has been allocated
- Batson Pontoons replaced as they were beyond economic repair and required replacing. The 245 berths provided by the Batson Pontoons have been safeguarded for the foreseeable future, at least 25 years. The access is improved; security has been improved as have the public safety features
- Work has started on the restoration of castle woodland garden. The scheme is part of the council's Public Space Improvement Programme. A programme of clearance and thinning will help improve the woodland whilst opening up views of the river estuary

- In the Langage area initial phases of strategic planting implemented
- 6,700 new trees at 30 different locations have been planted as part of a new initiative between South Hams District Council and the South Hams Tree Wardens. Trees on village greens to small copses, hedges and shelterbelts, a variety of tree planting schemes have been carried out

CP4 – Maintain a clean environment

- The Council recycles 58% of household waste, which places us in the top six in the country and we have the least amount of landfill per household in the country – just 339.89 kg per household in 2008/09 (figures released November 2009)
- Collections are more efficient as new lorries are now fitted with compactors which means fewer journeys back to the Severnside's sorting depot to unload. This saves fuel and helps towards reducing the Council's carbon footprint. On average, 5 tonnes of recycling can be carried in one journey compared to just one tonne using the smaller caged vehicle

CP5 – Work with others to improve access to key services

- We have launched new Customer First standards jointly with West Devon Borough Council to clearly set out what customers can expect when they contact us. The standards cover our commitment to improve services by listening to our customers and to continue to work hard to provide the best possible service for all. The successful launch of South Hams Connect means that we now run regular outreach surgeries in Kingsbridge, Ivybridge, Dartmouth and Totnes in partnership with 25 other organisations, making it even easier for customers to access a whole range of advice and services. The South Hams Connect service can also be found at local shows and markets, getting out to as many new locations as possible. Since October 2009 over 1,500 customers have benefited from this new service
- The Council, in partnership with the Devon Strategic Housing Group and local debt advice charity Homemaker Southwest, is offering free, independent and confidential advice to home owners who are finding it difficult to cope with mortgage payments
- More than 150 people have made use of the 'Pink' Pig' campaign which helps residents find out if they are entitled to financial help. Council officers visit residents in their home to give advice about discounts, exemptions and help complete the form
- The Council has contributed towards funding and delivery for the South Hams Volunteer Centre. The Volunteer Centre provides new and innovative methods of recruiting and retaining volunteers, taking into account local needs and trends, as well as supporting organisations that involve volunteers in their activities. The project is delivered through South Hams Community and Voluntary Services
- Many communities have benefited from money awarded to a range of community projects from the Community Locality Fund (Members Grant scheme). Each ward councillor in the South Hams was given a small grant pot of £1,000 in a pilot scheme to support community projects. This funding must be used to support projects that benefit the local community.

CP6 – Improve core service performance in a cost-effective way

- The Council, with West Devon, is one of the leading authorities in the country pioneering shared services. We have achieved total savings of over £1.5 million for both Councils since starting our shared arrangements. We have also created greater capacity, shared learning and provided the potential for reinvestment of some of the savings in front line services
- South Hams has won an Exemplar Award for 'Most Improved' Local Land and Property Gazetteer 2009. The 'Most Improved' category identified only 10 Authorities out of a potential 348 Authorities in the Country. The achievement has affected more joined up inter departmental working at South Hams, particularly between Elections, Council Tax, Waste, Customer Services and more recently Environmental Health and its raised the profile of the LLPG within South Hams
- The Council has again taken a clear decision to try to help hard-pressed residents by just asking for a little over 1p per day increase on Council Tax based on an average Band D property. Householders living in a Band D rated property will see their bills increase by just £3.86 for next year to pay for district council services
- The Council actively engaged with local communities in delivering the new Sustainable Communities Act. Of the 11 proposals submitted, 3 were supported by the Government relating to encouraging community use of land and buildings; improving the viability of Post Offices by broadening the range of services provided; and promoting local renewable energy initiatives

AND GENERALLY

We saw off the threat of Local Government Review and were very pleased that the Minister agreed with our arguments, stating:

"Across Devon we listened carefully to the views of interested councils, MPs and other stakeholders and the option of a unitary structure for the whole of Devon did not have sufficient support from key councils.

Legitimate fears were expressed that a single authority would not be able to cope with the divergent needs across such a large area. As a result the Government had no option but to rule out a unitary authority for the whole of Devon, as it could not succeed without local support."

On the unitary decisions as a whole:

"Our highest priority is to have the best and most efficient local services for the people of Devon, Norfolk and Suffolk and for those areas to have the strong local leadership they need. We have considered the Boundary Committee advice, the views of local councils, MPs and local people and made individual decisions according to the unique circumstances in each area.

Across Norfolk, Devon and Suffolk we listened carefully to all views and it was clear the options of unitary structures for the whole of Norfolk and Devon had no support. As a result the Government had no option but to rule out unitary authorities for the whole of Norfolk and Devon as we did not feel these bodies could succeed without local support.”

Our first Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) highlights that the authority has a good understanding of the needs of local people and is improving services to put customers first. The report indicates that the Council performs well with a score of 3 out of 4.

CROSS CUTTING THEMES

While many of the initiatives under the Council’s six Corporate Priorities relate to the Council’s cross-cutting themes, there are a number of specific additional actions which have been implemented.

CCT 1 – Children and Young People

- Around £1million is being made available for specialist play equipment providers to rejuvenate the current facilities in more than 60 play areas. Open spaces will also be undergoing a facelift; £600,000 will be spent on rejuvenating up to 50 key parks and green spaces. There will be improvements to access paths, benches, bins, signs and other furniture. Tennis facilities will also be upgraded, with £300,000 being spent on refurbishing 11 courts in Totnes, Dartmouth and Kingsbridge

Other specific examples include:

- Stray Park in Yealmpton has undergone refurbishment; its old play equipment has been removed and replaced with a new playground. The refurbishment cost £25,000. The new equipment has been designed to offer the children a broad variety of play experiences;
- New BMX stunt bike facility delivered at Woolwell. Woolwell Riders requested the facility and the Council worked with them along with Devon Youth Service, Bickleigh Parish Council, Bickleigh Community Centre, Police and Groundwork Trust to design and deliver the scheme;
- Additional external funding has been secured and improved play spaces installed: Supported by the Council, five South Hams communities successfully bid for a combined total of £225,000 for Play Builder projects. As a result, new and improved play spaces are being installed at: Woolwell Green, Collingwood Road in Dartmouth, Kingsbridge Recreation Ground and St John’s Close in Ivybridge. A new play space in Totnes will be developed later this year. The South Hams Play Builder projects are all innovative designs that are particularly attractive to eight to 13-year-olds and are inclusive for children with disabilities. Younger children will also be catered for as the Council has allocated a further £350,000 for upgrading existing toddler and junior play areas at these locations. Devon as a whole secured £1.1 million from the Government’s Children’s Plan Play Builder project.

CCT 2 – Climate Change

- As part of Cosy Devon, the Council has joined forces with all district authorities across Devon, Devon County Council, Energy Action Devon, National Energy Action and E.ON, one of the UK's suppliers of gas and electricity, to offer free or greatly reduced prices for loft and cavity wall insulation. Under the scheme, householders in South Hams can get a free, no obligation survey and then have their home insulated for as little as £150. It can even be free for those over 60, households with an annual income of less than £18,000, or for those in receipt of certain qualifying benefits;
- The Council has been successful in a further grant of £38,000 to help with a changing future coastline. The grant is to help extend the Slapton Line partnership's existing work on coastal changes. The Council will provide support for local businesses and tourism in the area, work with schools, develop a project capturing the history of coastal change in the area and the development of online learning resources. The grant will pay for these schemes to be put in place;
- The Council has plans for one of the first affordable Code for Sustainable Homes (CSH) Level 5 eco-developments in the country. Whilst the scheme is still in the early stages, and subject to Member approval, the project will place the Council at the forefront of sustainable construction and wider sustainability agenda. The project will aim to set the benchmark for affordable homes of the future and will therefore generate significant interest both regionally and nationally;
- Over 15,263 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents were saved from release through recycling and composting household waste in the South Hams financial year 2008 - 2009. This is just District collection activity. This is the equivalent of taking 5,122 cars off local roads for a year. The achievement is a direct result of the composting and recycling of household waste from district waste collections.

CCT 3 – Healthier Communities

- A Disabled Facilities Grant was awarded to adapt a bungalow so that a disabled young man could move in to it. Following the purchase of a suitable property and its subsequent adaptation - funded by a Disabled Facilities Grant - the young man is living in a property that completely meets his current and future needs - a life time home. This has transformed the life of the young disabled person;
- The Council fully funded a Street Sports Festival that consisted of four events in each of the four market towns in the South Hams. This event was for 11-19 year olds and provided positive activities for young people in a safe and fun environment. Over 170 young people turned up to this and some great prizes were won by some talented local young people;
- Over 60s swim free - The scheme offers free swimming sessions to encourage older members of the local community to keep active and improve their health and well-being. The scheme is partly funded for two years by a government grant.

Appendix B**Membership of Council Bodies for 2010 / 2011****A) Executive**

Cllr H D Bastone
 Cllr B E Carson
 Cllr J D Hawkins
 Cllr M J Hicks
 Cllr P W Hitchins
 Cllr M J Howarth
 Cllr M F Saltern
 Cllr R J Tucker

B) Development Management Committee

Cllr H D Bastone
 Cllr J Brazil
 Cllr B F Cane
 Cllr R J Carter
 Cllr S E Cooper
 Cllr P Coulson
 Cllr G J Fielden
 Cllr M Hannaford
 Cllr J D Hawkins
 Cllr M J Hicks
 Cllr P W Hitchins
 Cllr D W May
 Cllr D M O'Callaghan
 Cllr J T Pennington
 Cllr R Rowe
 Cllr J W Squire
 Cllr R C Steer
 Cllr R J Vint
 Cllr A Ward
 Cllr J A Westacott MBE

C) Personnel Panel

Cllr R F Croad
 Cllr M J Howarth
 Cllr M F Saltern
 Cllr R J Tucker
 Cllr J A Westacott MBE

D) Scrutiny

Cllr K J Baldry
 Cllr J H Baverstock
 Cllr P H Cook
 Cllr R D Gilbert
 Cllr G J Fielden
 Cllr C M Pannell
 Cllr J W Squire
 Cllr J A Westacott MBE

E) Community Policy Development Group

Cllr N A Barnes
 Cllr B F Cane
 Cllr S E Cooper
 Cllr M Hannaford
 Cllr L P Jones
 Cllr I Longrigg
 Cllr D M O'Callaghan
 Cllr R C Steer

F) Environment Policy Development Group

Cllr R J Carter
 Cllr P Coulson
 Cllr C W Jones
 Cllr D W May
 Cllr S L Rankin
 Cllr R Rowe
 Cllr R J Vint
 Cllr A Ward

G) Prosperity Policy Development Group

Cllr A D Barber
 Cllr J I G Blackler
 Cllr J Brazil
 Cllr R F Croad
 Cllr F J Hawke
 Cllr R M Lawrence
 Cllr J T Pennington
 Cllr M Stone

H) Audit Committee

Cllr B F Cane
Cllr P Coulson
Cllr R F Croad
Cllr M Hannaford
Cllr J T Pennington

I) Devon Building Control Partnership

Cllr H D Bastone
Cllr R Rowe

J) Licensing Committee

Cllr K J Baldry
Cllr J H Baverstock
Cllr J I G Blackler
Cllr B E Carson
Cllr R J Carter
Cllr P H Cook
Cllr C W Jones
Cllr D W May
Cllr C M Pannell
Cllr S L Rankin
Cllr M F Saltern
Cllr J W Squire

K) Standards Committee

Cllr B E Carson
Cllr J A Westacott MBE

L) Salcombe Harbour Board

Cllr J H Baverstock
Cllr J Brazil
Cllr R D Gilbert
Cllr M J Hicks

Representation on Outside Bodies 2010 / 2011**Appendix C**

	ORGANISATION	Nominee(s) (Number of places shown)
1.	Avon Estuary Forum	Cllr B E Carson (1 Representative)
2.	Civil Parking Enforcement Appeals Committee	Chairman of the Scrutiny Group (Substitute – Scrutiny Shadow Member for the Clean Environment) (1 Representative and a Substitute)
3.	CYPP Improving Access & Sustainable Travel Group	Cllr J H Baverstock (1 Representative)
4.	Dart Estuary Conservation Forum	Cllr R Rowe (1 Representative nominated by the Executive)
5.	Dart Harbour Navigation Authority (Non-Beneficiary user group)	Cllr I Longrigg (1 Representative)
6.	Dartmoor National Park Authority	Cllr P W Hitchins (1 Representative)
7.	Devon Authorities Waste Reduction & Recycling Committee	Cllr J D Hawkins (1 Representative nominated by the Executive)
8.	Devon Conservation Forum	Cllr J W Squire (1 Representative)
9.	Devon County / South Hams Highways and Traffic Orders Committee	Cllrs P Coulson and A Ward (2 Representatives)
10.	Devon & Cornwall Housing Association	Cllr R F Croad (1 Representative)
11.	Devon and Cornwall Ground Work Trust Board	Cllr P W Hitchins (1 Representative)
12.	Devon Economic Partnership	Cllr P W Hitchins (or nominee) (1 Representative)
13.	Devon Playing Fields Association	Cllr R D Gilbert (1 Representative nominated by the Executive)
14.	Devonport Public Safety Scheme - Local Liaison Committee	Cllr J W Squire (1 Representative)

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| 15. | English Heritage | Cllr P W Hitchins
(1 Representative) |
| 16. | Erme Estuary Conservation Forum | Cllr G J Fielden
(1 Representative nominated by
the Executive) |
| 17. | Governance Board (South Devon Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust) | Cllr M J Hicks
(1 Representative) |
| 18. | Greater Dartmoor Local Enterprise Action
Fund | Cllr P W Hitchins
(up to 2 Representatives) |
| 19. | Health and Adult Services Scrutiny
Committee | Cllr J W Squire
(1 Representative) |
| 20. | Hope Harbour | Cllr R J Carter
(1 Representative) |
| 21. | Joint Advisory Committee on Housing
for Local Needs in the Dartmoor National
Park | Cllrs J I G Blackler and C M Pannell
(2 Representatives) |
| 22. | Joint Urban Fringe DPD Panel | Cllrs K J Baldry and J W Squire
(2 Representatives) |
| 23. | Kingsbridge Community College Trust | Cllrs M J Howarth and D M O'Callaghan
(2 Representatives) |
| 24. | Langage Local Liaison Committee | Cllrs J I G Blackler and J W Squire
(2 Representatives) |
| 25. | Local Authorities Children's Trust Group | Cllr J H Baverstock
(1 Representative) |
| 26. | Local Government Association:- | |
| | (i) General Assembly | Cllr P W Hitchins
(1 Representative) |
| | (ii) South West Branch | Leader (or nominee)
(1 Representative) |
| | (iii) Rural Commission | Leader or Deputy Leader
(1 Representative) |
| | (iv) LGA Committee, Panel, etc appointments | |

(NB: These appointments are made via an Electoral College process through the LGA. Council has given delegated authority to the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Leaders of the Political Groups, to agree any such appointments).

27.	Plymouth City Airport Consultative Committee	Cllr N A Barnes (1 Representative)
28.	Police Authority Liaison Committee	Cllrs J H Baverstock and B E Carson (2 Representatives)
29.	River Yealm Harbour Authority	Cllr S E Cooper (1 Representative)
30.	Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary Conservation Forum	Cllr D M O'Callaghan and Chairman of Salcombe Harbour Board (or nominee)
31.	South Devon AONB Partnership Committee	Cllrs M J Hicks and R Rowe (2 representatives)
32.	South Devon Coastal Local Action Group	Cllr R F Croad (up to 2 Representatives)
33.	South Devon and Dartmoor Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership	Cllr G J Fielden (1 Representative)
34.	South Devon Rural Housing Association	Cllr M J Hicks (1 Representative)
35.	South Hams Arts Forum	Cllr N A Barnes (1 Representative)
36.	South Hams Children's Trust	Cllr J H Baverstock (1 Representative)
37.	South Hams Citizens' Advice Bureau	Cllr M J Howarth (1 Representative)
38.	South Hams Community & Voluntary Services - Executive Committee	Cllrs F J Hawke and J W Squire (2 Representatives)
39.	South Hams Locality (County) Committee	Cllrs M J Howarth and R J Tucker (2 Representatives)
40.	South Hams Local Strategic Partnership	Cllrs R J Tucker and A Ward (2 Representatives – 1 Majority Group and 1 Minority Group)
41.	South West Councils	Cllr R J Tucker (1 Representative)
42.	South West Tourism Consultative Committee	Cllr R Rowe (1 Representative nominated by the Executive)
43.	SPARSE Rural and Rural Services Network	Cllr P W Hitchins (1 Representative)

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| 44. | Sport South Hams | Cllr R D Gilbert
(1 Representative) |
| 45. | Tamar Estuary Consultative Forum | Cllr B E Carson
(1 Representative) |
| 46. | Tamar Valley of Outstanding Beauty Partnership | Cllr B E Carson
(1 Representative) |
| 47. | Tor Homes Board | Cllrs B E Carson, F J Hawke,
S L Rankin and M F Saltern
(4 Representatives) |
| 48. | Totnes Lifelong Learning Committee | Cllrs J T Pennington and J A Westacott MBE
(2 Representatives) |
| 49. | Totnes and Dartmouth Ring & Ride Association | Cllr M Stone
(1 Representative) |
| 50. | Totnes and District Swimming Pool Association | Cllrs B E Carson and J A Westacott MBE
(2 Representatives, of which 1
representative is nominated by the
Executive) |
| 51. | Villages in Action | Cllr A Ward
(1 Representative) |
| 52. | Yealm Estuary Forum | Cllr S E Cooper
(1 Representative nominated
by the Executive) |

Appointment of Other Groups 2010/2011

Appendix D

Asset Management Group

Executive Member with responsibility for Asset Management
Scrutiny Shadow

Beach Management Group

Cllr R J Carter – Chairman
Cllr J I G Blackler
Cllr B F Cane
Cllr A Ward

Council Tax Setting Panel

Chairman of Council
Leader of Council
Chairman of Scrutiny
Cllr K J Baldry

Design and Conservation Panel

Member Champions for Design and Heritage & Historic Buildings

Development Planning Steering Group

Cllr H D Bastone
Cllr B E Carson
Cllr J D Hawkins
Cllr M J Hicks
Cllr P W Hitchins
Cllr M J Howarth
Cllr M F Saltern
Cllr R J Tucker
Cllr A Ward
Cllr J A Westacott MBE

Executive Project Board (Customer Services Unit)

Executive Member for Community Affairs

Joint Health & Safety Consultative Panel

Leader of the Council
Chairman of the Personnel Panel
Cllr R F Croad
Cllr J A Westacott MBE

Joint Staff Consultative Forum

Leader of Council
Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Personnel Panel

Member Development Steering Group

Cllr K J Baldry
Cllr H D Bastone (Executive Member)
Cllr J H Baverstock
Cllr B F Cane
Cllr G J Fielden
Cllr D W May
Cllr A Ward
Cllr J A Westacott MBE

Political Structures Working Group

Cllr K J Baldry
Cllr R F Croad
Cllr P W Hitchins
Cllr J T Pennington
Cllr R Rowe
Cllr R J Tucker
Cllr A Ward
Cllr J A Westacott MBE

Programming Panel

Chairman of the Executive
Chairman of Scrutiny
Chairmen of Community, Environment and Prosperity Policy Development Groups

Public Spaces Working Group

Chairman of Community Policy Development Group
Cllr M J Howarth
Cllr C M Pannell
Cllr J T Pennington

Shared Services Joint Steering Group

Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council
Cllr K J Baldry

Tree and Hedge Appeal Group

- Chairman or Vice-Chairman of Development Management Committee and one other member of Development Management Committee;
- One nominee of the Executive who is not a Member of the Development Management Committee; and
- Any two other Members of the Council who are not Members of the Development Management Committee

Calendar of Meetings 2010/11**Appendix E****May 2010**

- 13 ANNUAL COUNCIL ***
- 19 Development Management Committee***
- 27 Scrutiny***

June 2010

- 7 Salcombe Harbour***
- 10 Executive***
- 15 Audit***
- 23 Development Management Committee***
- 24 Scrutiny***
- 29 Audit (Statement of Accounts only)***
- 30 Standards Committee (am)***
- 30 Environment PDG (pm)***

July 2010

- 1 *Provisional Training Day***
- 12 Salcombe Harbour Board (Annual Inspection)***
- 14 Community PDG***
- 15 COUNCIL ***
- 21 Development Management Committee***
- 22 Scrutiny*am**
- 22 Executive* pm**

September 2010

- 1 Development Management Committee***
- 2 Executive***
- 9 COUNCIL ***
- 16 Scrutiny***
- 21 Audit**
- 22 Standards Committee**

- 23 Prosperity PDG*
- 27 Salcombe Harbour Board*
- 30 *Provisional Training Day*

October 2010

- 6 Development Management Committee
- 7 Executive
- 14 Environment PDG
- 21 Scrutiny
- 28 COUNCIL

November 2010

- 3 Development Management Committee
- 4 Prosperity PDG
- 8 Salcombe Harbour Board
- 11 Executive
- 18 Community PDG
- 25 Scrutiny

December 2010

- 1 Development Management Committee
- 2 *Provisional Training Day*
- 7 Audit
- 9 Executive (Budget)
- 14 Standards Committee
- 16 COUNCIL

January 2011

- 6 Environment PDG (Budget)
- 12 Development Management Committee
- 13 Prosperity PDG (am)
- 13 Community PDG (pm)

- 20 Scrutiny (Budget)
- 27 Executive (Budget)
- 31 Salcombe Harbour Board

February 2011

- 3 Executive (Provisional)
- 9 Development Management Committee
- 10 COUNCIL (Budget)
- 24 Prosperity PDG (am)
- 24 Council Tax Setting Panel (pm)

March 2011

- 3 Executive
- 8 Standards Committee
- 9 Development Management Committee
- 10 Community PDG
- 17 Scrutiny
- 24 COUNCIL
- 28 Salcombe Harbour Board
- 31 *Provisional Training Day*

April 2011

- 5 Audit (am)
- 5 Joint Audit / Standards Committee (pm)
- 7 Executive (am)
- 7 Environment PDG (pm)
- 13 Development Management Committee
- 14 *Provisional Training Day*
- 21 Scrutiny

May 2011

- 26 ANNUAL COUNCIL

June 2011

- 1 Development Management Committee**
- 2 Prosperity PDG**
- 6 Salcombe Harbour Board**
- 9 *Provisional Training Day***
- 14 Audit**
- 16 Executive**
- 22 Standards Committee**
- 23 Community PDG**
- 28 Audit (Statement of Accounts only)**
- 29 Development Management Committee**
- 30 Scrutiny**

July 2011

- 7 Environment PDG**
- 11 Salcombe Harbour Board (Annual Inspection)**
- 14 *Provisional Training Day***
- 21 COUNCIL**
- 27 Development Management Committee**
- 28 Executive**

September 2011

- 1 Executive**
- 7 Development Management Committee**
- 13 Audit**
- 15 Scrutiny**
- 22 COUNCIL**
- 26 Salcombe Harbour Board**
- 29 *Provisional Training Day***