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## COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council Meeting held on Thursday 21 November 2019 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock at 6.00 pm.

**PRESENT** Councillor Richard FitzHerbert - In the Chair

Councillors Jacqueline Allison, Robert Archer, Jason Atkin, Richard Bright, Matthew Buckler, Sue Bull, Martin Burfoot, Sue Burfoot, Neil Buttle, David Chapman, Paul Cruise, Tom Donnelly, Graham Elliott, Steve Flitter, Helen Froggatt, Chris Furness, Clare Gamble, Alyson Hill, Susan Hobson, David Hughes, Stuart Lees, Elisa McDonagh, Tony Morley, Michele Morley, Peter O'Brien, Joyce Pawley, Garry Purdy, Mike Ratcliffe, Lewis Rose OBE, Mark Salt, Andrew Shirley, Peter Slack, Andrew Statham, Colin Swindell and Steve Wain.

Paul Wilson (Chief Executive), Sandra Lamb (Head of Corporate Services), Lee Gardener (Legal Services Manager), Tim Braund (Head of Regulatory Services), Karen Henriksen (Head of Resources), Steve Capes (Head of Regeneration and Policy), Giles Dann (Economic Development Manager), Rob Cogings (Head of Housing), Mike Galsworthy (Estates and Facilities Manager), Jim Fearn (Communications and Marketing Manager) and Jackie Cullen (Committee Assistant).

2 members of the public.

The meeting was recorded and broadcast live on YouTube.

The Chairman called for one minute's silence in memory of Annie Hall, former High Sheriff of Derbyshire who had died as a result of the recent floods, and David Barker, former Councillor of both the Derbyshire Dales District Council and Derbyshire County Council. Cllrs Jason Atkin, Tom Donnelly, Steve Flitter and Garry Purdy paid tribute to Mrs Hall and Mr Barker.

## APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Claire Raw, Alasdair Sutton and Mark Wakeman.

## 189/19 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In accordance with the procedure for public participation, Mr Frederick Burgess (local resident) commented on the recent flooding within the Derbyshire Dales, with particular reference to the issue of Climate Change in respect of the National Policy Framework; and Mrs Heather Clifton-Smith (local resident) commented on the recent floods, with particular reference to the risk of flooding at the Wolds Rise development in Matlock.

At the Chair's discretion, Cllrs Peter O'Brien and David Chapman also spoke on the issue of the recent floods and paid tribute to the DDDC volunteers, including the Clean & Green Team, who had helped at short notice. Cllr Chapman advised Members of a leaflet on National Flood Management produced for the Environment Agency by the Moors for the Future Partnership, copies of which were available on request.

### 190/19 – MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Richard FitzHerbert, seconded by Councillor Jason Atkin and

**RESOLVED** That the Minutes of the Annual meeting of the Derbyshire Dales (unanimously) District Council held on 26 September 2019 be approved as a correct record.

The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

### 191/19 – INTERESTS

Councillor Clare Gamble declared a potential personal interest as a member of a Community Interest Group in respect of Agenda Item 11: FORMER PUBLIC CONVENIENCES & LAND TRANSFER – MONSAL HEAD.

### **192/19 - LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Leader of the Council advised Members that he had met with the Prime Minister during a briefing regarding the flood crisis in Matlock and brought to his attention the fact that whilst the Environment Agency registered the River Derwent as being a 1 in 100 year flood risk, it was happening on a more regular basis.

Cllr Purdy gave credit to the Clean & Green team and other Council staff for their efforts on the night, and reiterated that more needed to be done to address the future risk of flooding. On receipt of the feedback from the emergency team, the Council could decide what steps to take.

Cllr Purdy paid tribute to Mrs Annie Hall, and advised that he would represent the Council at a memorial service on 9<sup>th</sup> December.

## **193/19 – CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman of the District of Derbyshire Dales thanked colleagues and residents for their support and attendance at the many Remembrance events throughout the district.

Cllrs Jacqueline Allison, Paul Cruise and Elisa McDonagh presented their Maiden Speeches to the Council.

### 195/19 – COMMITTEES

It was moved by Councillor Tom Donnelly, seconded by Councillor Jason Atkin and

**RESOLVED** That the non-exempt minutes of the Committees listed in the Minute Book for the period 26 September 2019 to 14 November 2019 be received.

## 196/19 – QUESTIONS (RULE OF PROCEDURE 15)

## (A) Councillor Andrew Shirley asked the following question of Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:

"As the search of the site for Travellers referred to in minute 182/19 of the last C&E meeting is now much rumoured as being a site in Clifton Parish, please could you update Council on the progress made on this site and when and how local residents will be consulted?"

Councillor Purdy advised that this site was not proposed for such use at the present time, and provided the following response:

Members have agreed across this Chamber that the provision of a permanent Traveller site a key priority for this Council.

Following reports considered at the Community and Environment Committee in recent months, it has been public knowledge for some considerable time that the Council, through its Officers, have been looking for a site and that search continues. In recent months we have looked at many sites and approached numerous landowners, but at this stage it should be noted that there is no firm proposal on any site.

In due course, if the Council is in a position to bring a site forward for consideration, that will be done though the appropriate Committee and will be a totally open and transparent process. It will then be for Members to decide how they wish to progress the matter. However, we are not at that stage yet.

Councillor Shirley thanked Cllr Purdy for his response and requested that a proper review of the whole system of selecting traveller sites be carried out, as it would appear that the current system resulted in only one site being identified. The final selection should not be made as a result of the looming deadline to provide a site, which may not necessarily be the best option. Cllr Shirley asked if the Leader considered it acceptable to move the current problems brought about by Travellers in Matlock Bath, Rowsley, Bakewell and Wirkswirth to a site rumoured to be in the village of Clifton, which could interfere with the Royal Shrovetide football game, due to the deadline for providing a Traveller site.

Cllr Purdy agreed that the system needed to be re-assessed and that he would discuss the issue with the Chief Executive and Head of Regulatory Services.

### (B) Councillor Steve Wain asked the following question of Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:

*"Unfortunately the recent tragic flooding and subsequent clean-up have placed the Derbyshire Dales and particularly Matlock in the media spotlight. It has even resulted in a visit from the Prime Minister to Matlock, where he is reported as saying,* 

*'We are seeing more and more serious flooding - perhaps because of building, almost certainly because of climate change'.* 

The flood defences in the Matlock area coped well and Environment Agency are seeking to undertake assessments to the flood wall on Bakewell Road. In a subsequent Public meeting with the Environment Agency it was disclosed that the Knowleston Place pumping station had been operating at capacity 24/7. It was also disclosed that water levels in the Bentley Brook had risen over the past few years and this was being attributed to run off from new housing developments, on the hills above the water course.

Being aware of this, I recently contacted the Local Flood Advisory Team where it was confirmed that surface water from the proposed Gritstone Road site is to be channelled into Bentley Brook. Flow rates are calculated at over 200 litres per second at significant times and no evaluation has been carried out to assess the resilience and viability of this important water course. The Flood Team say it is not their responsibility and the Environment Agency indicate they can only comment on planning issues on Flood Plains. It appears as though the two have not consulted with each other! The Pumping Station at Knowleston Place is an Environment Agency Strategic Located Asset, which consists of three pumps to protect 140 homes and 150 businesses in the Matlock Green area.

I understand in the recent flooding it was running at capacity and just coped with the flow of water, thereby protecting Matlock Green residents from threat to life.

Will the Leader of the Council please ensure that a full and robust evaluation of the impact of any further housing development where water runoff will impact on Bentley Brook is undertaken as a matter of extreme urgency?

Will you take the lead in ensuring that the Environment Agency and Local Flood Team work collaboratively to assess the resilience and effectiveness of this water course, before any future planning determinations are made?

Does Councillor Purdy agree that it is wholly unacceptable for the Derbyshire County Council Local Flood Team and the Environment Agency to work so independently of each other that they overlook serious issues such as the viability of Bentley Brook?

Our residents' lives, homes and businesses are in danger if this council fails to act to protect and ensure their safety and well-being."

Councillor Purdy provided the following response:

The tragic events of the last week have certainly highlighted the need for those agencies who have a statutory responsibility for the management of flood risk to assess their response and ensure that such events are not repeated with the same tragic consequences in the future.

However, it is important to be clear as to the role of the District Council in such matters, which is extremely limited. As Local Planning Authority, the District Council is reliant upon the relevant statutory agencies assessing the capacity of their infrastructure and responding accordingly to the planning consultations that are undertaken. Where the resilience and effectiveness of strategic infrastructure is impacted by specific development proposals, it is for the responsible agencies to advise accordingly. The District Council in its capacity as Local Planning Authority can then seek to mitigate such impacts through the planning process.

As Leader of the Council, I have no responsibility for either the Environment Agency or Local Flood Team; however I do know that the County Council will be undertaking an investigation into the causes of the flooding under section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and this will be an opportunity to draw the concerns of members to the attention of those agencies.

*Cllr Swain thanked Cllr Purdy for his response and commented that the Environment Agency had genuine concerns about the viability of their asset at Bentley Brook.* 

Cllr Purdy said that the Council would keep a sharp focus on the issue and once the emergency team had carried out their work and submitted a report, this would be brought to Council to see what further steps should be taken.

## (C) Councillor Martin Burfoot asked the following question of Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:

"Is Cllr Purdy aware that the increasing tendency of Blue Badge holders to park (legally) on the roadside, on double yellow lines, significantly threatens both driver and pedestrian safety and increases congestion in our towns, and in Matlock in particular?

Does the Leader also agree that this tendency is a direct result of the decision to introduce car park charges for disabled drivers or blue badge holders, who find it more convenient to park on the roadside instead? Can he investigate this problem, given that waiting restrictions are imposed by the County Council on road junctions etc. where roadside parking is likely to cause a hazard to other road users? These include wheelchair bound and sight impaired disabled people forced to use dropped kerb, tactile paved crossing points, which can and sometimes are obstructed by parked vehicles?

Finally, does Cllr Purdy accept that the removal of car park charges for Blue Badge holders may be the only solution to this significant problem, which annoys so many road users, especially when most car parks regularly have vacant disabled parking spaces?"

Councillor Purdy provided the following response:

The Blue Badge is not a licence to park anywhere.

If road users park where they would cause an obstruction or danger to other road users they are liable for a fine or could receive a Penalty Charge Notice or in extreme cases, have their vehicle removed.

Blue Badge holders have always had an entitlement to park vehicles on the highway and must act responsibly in doing so. Generally they should not park within 10 metres of a junction in order to ensure that they do not endanger, inconvenience or obstruct pedestrians or other road users. Where this is not the case, such matters should be reported to the Police.

The decision to introduce charges for blue Badge holders was taken by the Community and Environment Committee in October 2013 and with the exception of one specific location in Matlock, has not resulted in blue Badge holders parking indiscriminately elsewhere on a

regular basis. The issue of car parking charges is neither the cause nor the solution to the problem. Even with the removal of car parking charges, blue Badge holders will still park where they consider to be most convenient as was the case before charges were introduced.

Cllr Martin Burfoot refuted Cllr Purdy's response and proposed that this was an enforcement issue and had been brought about by the Council's decision to charge for disabled parking in the Council's car parks.

Cllr Purdy reiterated that obstruction did not constitute an offence; however, unnecessary obstruction did, and in such cases this became a police matter.

## (D) Councillor Colin Swindell asked the following question of Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:

*"Will the council leader join me in calling for a public inquiry into the events leading up to, the cause of and response to the flooding in large parts of the Derbyshire Dales?* 

With the floods causing significant damage to property and businesses, financial cost to residents, emotional distress and the sad loss of life, the people and communities affected deserve answers."

Councillor Purdy advised that a public inquiry would be a ministerial decision. He then provided the following response:

Firstly, a public inquiry is a ministerial decision.

As per my earlier reply, the tragic events of the last week have certainly highlighted the need for those agencies who have a statutory responsibility for the management of flood risk to assess their response and ensure that such events are not repeated with the same tragic consequences in the future.

As part of the work of the Local Resilience Forum, all appropriate agencies will come together to review and identify any lessons to be learned. In addition the County Council will be undertaking an investigation under section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Whilst this will not be in the form of a Public Inquiry which would need to be initiated at a national level, it is nonetheless an important opportunity which the District Council will participate fully in.

Cllr Purdy advised that he had recently attended a Sheffield Mayoral Combined Authority meeting at which he spoke with Mayor Dan Jarvis about this matter, who believed a collaborative approach between all political leaders could be taken.

Cllr Swindell thanked Cllr Purdy for his response and asked that Members be kept up to date with these discussions. Cllr Swindell thanked DDDC staff and the emergency services for their efforts during the floods.

## 197/19 – PROPOSAL OF A NOTICE OF MOTION (RULE OF PROCEDURE 16)

It was moved by Councillor Elisa McDonagh, seconded by Councillor Mike Ratcliffe and

**RESOLVED** That the following motion, submitted by Councillor Elisa McDonagh is received:

Works with the Emergency Services to:

- amend the wording relating to noise and smoke nuisance in its existing Bonfire and Firework Safety Scheme to state that because noise and smoke may affect elderly, young children, pets, etc., your display should be advertised in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people;
- actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people, including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks.

## 198/19 – FORMER PUBLIC CONVENIENCES & LAND TRANSFER – MONSAL HEAD

The Council considered an updating report on the closure of the Monsal Head Public Conveniences in May 2017, since which time discussions had taken place with the neighbouring landowner (Penelope Thornton Hotels) with the aim of agreeing terms for the freehold transfer of the former public conveniences building together with some adjacent leased land to enable future provision of public convenience facilities at this site at no cost to the District Council. The report updated members on the outcome of the negotiations and recommended a course of action should final agreement not be reached. The site requested by Penelope Thornton Hotels (PTH) was shown outlined in red on the plan at Appendix 1 to the report, with the area of land which they currently leased for hotel car parking shown cross hatched green.

The current situation was set out in Section 2 of the report, from which it could be seen that the solicitors for PTH were refusing to accept any overage, pre-emption or any other encumbrances on the transfer. The proposed revised terms were listed in paragraph 3.1 of the report, and these had been proposed to PTH on a non-negotiable basis. Should the terms not be accepted subject to contract by 16 December 2019 and should the transfer not complete by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020, it was proposed that the offer to transfer the site to PTH be withdrawn.

It was reported that in the last few days, an approach had been received from a group who had expressed an interest in forming a Community Interest Company to take over the ownership and operation of the public conveniences by way of a Community Asset Transfer should the proposal to transfer to the hotel not proceed.

Should transfer to PTH be withdrawn, it was therefore proposed that the Estates and Facilities Manager be given delegated authority to negotiate, agree and implement a Community Asset Transfer of the facility to the proposed Community Interest Company within 6 months of the date of this decision and should this not be achieved, the asset be placed on the open market for freehold sale by public auction. No other expressions of interest had been received.

It was reported that as at the date of the meeting, no response had been received from PTH.

It was moved by Councillor Garry Purdy, seconded by Councillor Susan Hobson, and

**RESOLVED** 1. That the revised terms and timescales outlined in paragraph 3 of this report for transferring the freehold of an area of land and the public conveniences at Monsal Head as shown on the plan at

Appendix 1 to the report to Penelope Thornton Hotels (PTH) for use as car park and public conveniences are agreed.

- 2. That should the terms proposed not be accepted by PTH and/or should the transfer not complete by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020, the offer to transfer the site to PTH is withdrawn and that the Estates and Facilities Manager be given delegated authority to negotiate, agree and implement a Community Asset Transfer of the facility to the proposed Community Interest Company referred to in paragraph 2.5 of this report within 6 months of the date of this decision and should this not be achieved, the asset be placed on the open market for freehold sale by public auction.
- 3. That it be noted that the transfer described in paragraph 1 above comprises an undervalue transaction as permitted by the General Disposal Consent 2003.

For	32
Against	2
Abstentions	2

Voting:

The chairman declared the motion CARRIED.

The following two items were brought to the Council as urgent items from the Governance & Resources Committee meeting on 14 November 2019 that had been cancelled due to the flood situation.

## 199/19 – ARC LEISURE, MATLOCK – REPAIRS TO MAIN POOL

The Council considered a report that outlined recent problems experienced with the main pool at Arc Leisure Matlock and the actions taken to arrange the necessary repairs. It explained the position relating to responsibility for the problems and sought approval for the costs to be funded from the District Council's Revenue Budget.

Under the Leisure Operating Contract from 1<sub>st</sub> August 2018, Freedom Leisure were responsible for the repairs and maintenance of the 4 Leisure Centre buildings and replacement of lifecycle items (subject to lease arrangements in respect of Bakewell and Wirksworth). Responsibility for defects within the Council's leisure facilities depended on the origin of those defects, as set out in the report.

In March 2019 a section of tiling on the base of the main swimming pool at Arc Leisure Matlock in March 2019 failed and Freedom Leisure arranged for the necessary remediation and repair work to be undertaken by their contractors. The total cost of the defect, including remediation measures, repair works and loss of income amounted to £11,268.04, inclusive of VAT. The details of the claim were set out in the report, for which Freedom Leisure now wished to apply for reimbursement via a variation notice. The defect was considered to be a latent defect and therefore the responsibility of the Council.

A similar issue relating to defective tiling in the training pool at Arc Leisure Matlock was considered by the Committee in June 2016. Legal advice had been taken previously, and this advice had now been reviewed by the Council's Legal Team, who had indicated that this would again be a very costly claim to pursue, with no direct evidence to prove who was liable. Their recommendation was that the Council should not pursue a claim in this case.

It was moved by Councillor Sue Bull, seconded by Councillor Susan Hobson and

**RESOLVED** 1. That Council be requested to approve additional expenditure of £11,268.04 as part of the revised estimates for 2019/20;

 That Freedom Leisure be reimbursed the sum of £11,268.04 (including VAT) from the District Council's Revenue Budget to cover the cost of remedying a latent defect at Arc Leisure Matlock.

# 200/19 – PROPOSED LEASE OF LAND AT DERBY ROAD / BLENHEIM ROAD, ASHBOURNE

The Council considered a report that recommended extending the demise of an existing lease between the District Council and Central England Co-operative Ltd of an area of former roadway verge at the junction of Derby Road and Blenheim Road in Ashbourne to incorporate an additional strip of land to extend the car park of a newly developed convenience store and associated retail units.

The Estates and Facilities Manager advised that with regard to concerns raised over the fence around the car park, he had spoken that day to the Acquisitions Manager at the Co-op who had confirmed that they would address the issue of damage.

The land in the District Council's ownership was shown edged in light brown on the plan at Appendix 1 to the report. The adjacent site shown edged in blue was formerly a vehicle showroom and was acquired and developed by Central England Co-operative Ltd (the Co-Op) for use as a convenience store in June last year. Additionally, 2 units within the building had been sublet by the Co-Op to Greggs and Queens fish and chip shop.

Due to ongoing problems with congestion in the car park, the Co-Op had now asked for an additional strip of land of area 176 sq.m. to be included in the lease, shown edged red in the plan at Appendix 1 to the report.

Since there was already a lease in place of the larger car park area, it was proposed to grant an additional lease of term 29 years of the subject area at a rent of £3,600 per annum subject to the terms listed in the report. The Council's Valuer considered this rent to represent the best price reasonably obtainable for the subject site.

It was reported that no other specific expressions of interest had been received in relation to any of the sites/properties included in the report.

It was moved by Councillor Sue Bull, seconded by Councillor Tom Donnelly and

**RESOLVED** That an additional lease for a term of 29 years is granted to Central (unanimously) England Co-operative Ltd on the terms stated in paragraph 3.1 of the report, subject to planning permission being obtained.

#### Council Minutes – 21 November 2019 201/19 – REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS, PLACES AND STATIONS 2019 – FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council considered a report on the final stage of the Polling Review including comments received during the second consultation period and comments of the Returning Officer.

The purpose of the review was set out in Section 2 of the report.

The second period of consultation was from 27 September 2019 to 25 October 2019, at which comments were invited in response to the representations received and the comments of the Acting Returning Officer. The comments received were detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

Proposed changes to the Polling Scheme were detailed in Appendix 1 to the report and tabled in Section 4 of the report. The final decision on the Polling Scheme for Derbyshire Dales rested with the Council, bearing in mind the considerations set out in paragraph 2.2 of the report. Details of the final scheme and copies of any representations received would be published.

The grounds under which a right of appeal to the Electoral Commission could be made were listed in paragraph 5.3 of the report.

However, during the period of the Review, a snap UK Parliamentary Election had been called placing the Acting Returning Officer (ARO) under a duty to organise an election and provide suitable polling stations throughout the Constituency at short notice. Without prejudice to the outcome of the review the ARO had, in consultation with the relevant Ward Members, decided to amend the polling scheme as follows for the 12 December event:

Polling Area	Polling Station
Ashbourne Parkside	Ashbourne Library, 2 Compton,
	Ashbourne
Cressbrook	St John the Evangelist Church Hall,
	Cressbrook
Mappleton	Thorpe Village Hall, Thorpe
Eyam	Church Hall, Eyam
Cromford	Greyhound Hotel, Market Place,
	Cromford

All other existing polling stations would be in use as per the current Polling Scheme.

It was moved by Councillor Peter O'Brien, seconded by Councillor Neil Buttle and

**RESOLVED**That the deletion of the Curbar polling station as illustrated in<br/>paragraph 4.1 of the report be deferred pending further discussions**Voting:**with the Parish Council.

For	2
Against	26
Abstentions	2

The Chairman declared the motion DEFEATED.

It was then moved by Councillor David Chapman, seconded by Councillor Jason Atkin and

**RESOLVED** (unanimously)

- 1. That the Council approves each of the proposed changes to the Derbyshire Dales Polling Scheme detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.
- 2. That any changes to polling places that are necessary before the next Review be delegated to the Head of Corporate Services, in consultation with the appropriate Ward Members.

## 202/19 – AMENDMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2019/20: PROTOCOL ON ATTENDANCE OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS – SCR AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES AND MEMBER OF THEMATIC BOARDS

Council considered an amendment to the Outside Bodies list for 2019/20 to make appropriate provision for the attendance of Substitute Members at the Sheffield City Region (SCR) Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and attendance of Members on the Thematic boards.

Further to the Annual Council meeting on 30 May 2019 at which the schedule of Outside Bodies representation for 2019/20 was agreed, it was reported that the District Council would be leaving the SCR Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) at the end of March 2020, but would remain a non-constituent member of the SCR Mayoral Combined Authority (CA) for the foreseeable future. Council was therefore asked to consider nominating Councillor Chris Furness to act as substitute member from the Conservative Group in addition to Councillor Sue Hobson.

Furthermore, at its meeting on 17th December 2018 the SCR proposed to develop and strengthen governance within the organisation with the creation of five Thematic Boards, the primary aim of which was set out in the report. Under the CA and LEP governance arrangements the District Council was permitted to nominate a Member to sit on the Thematic Board. Council was therefore also asked to consider nominating Councillor Chris Furness to act as Member from the Conservative Group on the five Thematic Boards. It was reported that any confirmation of approved duty status would be backdated to October.

It was moved by Councillor Jason Atkin, seconded by Councillor Peter Slack and

**RESOLVED** That an appointment is made for Councillor Chris Furness to act as Substitute Member for the Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and as Member on the five Thematic Boards, to serve until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

# 203/19 – APPOINTMENT TO INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL AND INDEPENDENT PERSON

The Council considered the appointment of independent persons to join the Independent Remuneration Panel and to support the Monitoring Officer in the assessment of complaints about elected Members, in accordance with Section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011.

The Independent Person remit was set out in the report.

Following a selection and interview process with the Monitoring Officer and Councillor Sue Bull, as Chairman of the Governance and Resources Committee, it was recommended that Stephen J Dunning be appointed to the vacancy for a four year term expiring in October 2023.

Section 99 of the Local Government Act 2000, which made provision in relation to allowances

and pensions for members of local authorities, required local authorities to establish and maintain a panel to make recommendations about the Scheme. Two of the existing Independent Panel were willing to continue in that role, and a supplementary appointment was recommended from the shortlisted Panel for Independent Person. The appointment of Susan Whitfield was recommended for a term of four years expiring in October 2023.

All candidates met the legal requirements regarding independence.

It was moved by Councillor Sue Bull, seconded by Councillor Helen Froggatt and

- **RESOLVED** 1. That Stephen J. Dunning is appointed as Independent Person to assist in the assessment of complaints regarding elected member behaviour, for a four year term expiring in October 2023.
  - 2. That Susan Whitfield is appointed to serve on the Independent Remuneration Panel for a four year term expiring in October 2023.

### 204/19 – CORPORATE PLAN 2020-2024

Councillor Michele Morley left the meeting at 8.30pm during discussion of this item.

The Council considered the Corporate Plan, which is the District Council's primary policy document. The report set out the results of extensive consultation with Derbyshire Dales residents and proposed a completely new Corporate Plan for the period 2020-2024. A headline Corporate Plan was recommended for adoption, and development of a detailed action plan with specific targets, with Member involvement, would follow and be reported to Council for consideration alongside the Budget in March 2020. Performance against targets in 2019/20, the final year of the current Corporate Plan, was also reported.

The current Corporate Plan was adopted by Council in November 2015. However, with resources shrinking and a new Council with new aims, it was considered timely to revisit priorities and budgeting. In view of this, a comprehensive review had been carried out based on extensive public, staff and member consultation and, as resolved by Members at the full Council meeting on 29 November 2018, extensive additional consultation had been undertaken during 2019 with a view to a total refresh of the Corporate Plan and Members' future priorities. Details of the consultation were illustrated in paragraph 2.2 of the report, and explained in further detail in the subsequent paragraphs. The conclusions were that the District Council should focus on jobs and homes, alongside improved customer service and digital access.

It was recommended that the progress against the Corporate Plan shown in detail in Appendix 1 to the report for the period 2020 to 2024 be noted.

For 2019/20, there were fifteen Corporate Plan targets in total. A summary of mid-year performance for the financial year 2019/20 was tabled in paragraph 5.2 of the report. Performance was broadly on track, with further details set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

An amended Recommendation was proposed, as shown below.

It was moved by Councillor Garry Purdy, seconded by Councillor Susan Hobson and

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<b>RESOLVED</b> 1.	That progress against the Corporate Plan 2019/20 targets is noted;	
	2.	That the results of the Corporate Plan consultation are noted;
	3.	That progress in developing the Corporate Plan 2020/2024 is noted;
Voting:	4.	That the Corporate Plan 2020-2024 action plan and specific targets are developed with Member involvement (including a Member Workshop in January 2020 and the Leader's Advisory Group) for consideration by Council in March 2020 alongside the Budget.
For Against Abstentions	28 5 2	

The Chairman declared the motion CARRIED.

## 205/19 - MOTION TO CONTINUE

It was moved by Councillor Richard FitzHerbert, seconded by Councillor Tom Donnelly and

**RESOLVED** That, in accordance with Rule of Procedure 13, the meeting continue beyond 2 ½ hours to enable the business on the agenda to be concluded.

There was a brief adjournment, after which the Chairman advised that due to time constraints, Agenda Items 21-25 inclusive would be deferred until the next general meeting of the Council in January 2020.

## 206/19 – ORGANISATIONAL HEALTH – KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – MID-YEAR 2019/20

Councillor Colin Swindell left the meeting at 8.56pm prior to discussion of this item.

The Council considered a summary of the half-year performance against the District Council's 12 Key Performance Indicators for 2019/20 (excluding Corporate Plan Targets), highlighting where the organisation was performing strongly and where improvements were to be made. The District Council's <u>Performance Management Handbook</u> set out how progress against KPIs was measured and continually reviewed using a 'traffic light' system, according to the classification and interpretation set out in the report.

It was reported that at this mid-year point 9 of the 12 KPIs for 2019/20 were on track to be achieved in 2019/20, as illustrated in paragraph 4.1 of the report and detailed in Appendix 1 to the report. The data for the household waste recycling was due in mid-December.

It was moved by Councillor Chris Furness, seconded by Councillor Mike Ratcliffe and

**RESOLVED** Mid-year performance against the Key Performance Indicators for 2019/20 is noted.

## 207/19 – DERBYSHIRE DALES ECONOMIC PLAN 2019-2033

The Council considered approval of the Derbyshire Dales Economic Plan 2019-2033 that had

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been developed within the context of the Council's emerging Corporate Plan, updated evidence base, emerging D2N2 Local Industrial Strategy, a Members' workshop held in October, and consultation with local businesses and partners.

The Draft Plan updated the 2014-2019 Economic Plan. Key achievements during the previous plan were listed in Section 1 of the report. The remainder of the report summarised the strategic aim and priorities of the new Plan and outcome of consultation with businesses and partners. The Draft Economic Plan was attached in summary as Appendix 1 to the report and in full as Appendix 2 to the report.

The evidence base underpinning the new plan highlighted a number of key issues, as set out in paragraph 2.3 of the report, together with the key principles that underpinned the Plan and guided the approach to delivery in paragraph 2.4 of the report.

The five strategic priorities proposed to provide the focus for activity were set out in paragraph 2.6 of the report, with the delivery of six strategic growth sites listed in paragraph 2.7 of the report.

Comments received at the Member workshop held on 14 October were incorporated into the Draft Plan which was then circulated to businesses and partners. It was reported that eight responses had been received, the key points of which were summarised in paragraph 3.2 of the report. Following consideration of the comments, the Derbyshire Dales Economic Plan was attached for approval.

It was moved by Councillor Sue Bull, seconded by Councillor David Hughes and

<b>RESOLVED</b> (unanimously)	1.	Achievements from the previous Derbyshire Dales Economic Plan 2014-19 are noted
	2.	The outcome of consultation with businesses and partners on
		the draft plan is noted
	3.	The Derbyshire Dales Economic Plan 2019-2033 is adopted

4. Progress reviews against Action Plan priorities are reported to Members annually for consideration.

## 208/19 – REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING FOR QUARTER 2 2019/20, REVISED BUDGET 2019/20 AND UPDATE OF MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN PROGRESS

Councillor Graham Elliott left the meeting at 9.18pm prior to discussion of this item.

The Council considered a report that summarised the forecast outturn position as at the end of September 2019, sought approval for a revised 2019/20 revenue budget and provided an update on medium term financial plan progress.

On 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019 Council set a net revenue budget of £9,586,000 for 2019/20. The full year forecast to March 2020 based on quarter 2 (September 2019) indicated an £103,000 underspend, as tabled in the report. The major variances were described in the subsequent paragraphs.

The Council's MTFP continued to be developed alongside the current year monitoring, as set out in Section 2 of the report.

It was reported that a major element of the 2020/21 MTFP would be the final impact of the waste contract negotiation, the final costs of which would not be known until the contract had

been awarded, currently planned for December 2019. Due to the potential significant changes in the funding position and the waste contract cost, a separate report on the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) had not been produced at this time, but would be brought to Council in January 2020 after the provisional local government finance settlement had been received, together with an updated MTFP.

It was moved by Councillor Garry Purdy, seconded by Councillor Susan Hobson and

<b>RESOLVED</b> (unanimously)	1.	That the identified variances and current overall forecast position for 2019/20 are noted.
	2.	That the revised budget of £8,869,000 for 2019/20 shown in table 1 is approved.

- 3. That the service underspend of £103,000 is transferred to the vehicles renewal reserve to contribute towards the purchase of new waste vehicles.
- 4. That the update on Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) progress is noted.

#### 209/19 – CRM PROJECT

The Council considered an updating report on the implementation of the Customer Relationship Management system and associated technology.

An update on the work of the Customer Innovation Hub, established in 2018, was presented to the Governance and Resources Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019, where it was resolved to allocate financial resources in the Capital Programme to enable the procurement of a Customer Relationship Management system and associated technology in order to transform our processes and services to the public. The objectives were listed in the report.

The contract for the provision of a CRM system was signed with the preferred supplier; Meritec Ltd, at the end of March 2019 for an initial period of two years. The contract included professional services to configure the system to replicate the Council's existing e-Forms, the development of a new website home page built to encourage customer use of the CRM system and the integration of the system with the council's network infrastructure and core systems. A further update on the project was presented to members at the Governance and Resources Committee in September 2019.

Glenn Burton was appointed to the role of Digital Transformation Project Manager on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019, and Ian Brailsford was appointed internally as Digital Transformation Project Officer.

However, as the project had progressed, it became clear that in order to maximise the benefits available, additional capital funding would be required, as detailed in Sections 2, 3 and 4 of the report.

In light of this, the Council was recommended to include the additional sum of £46,077 in the Capital Programme to enable the procurement of the additional software, integration work, mobile application, payment portal and associated technology as outlined in the report and supporting documentation.

**RESOLVED** That the sum of £46,077 is included in the Capital Programme to enable the procurement of the additional software integration work, mobile application, payment portal and associated technology as outlined in the report and supporting documentation.

## 210/19 – CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2019/20 TO 2023/24

The Council considered a report that:

- Provided members with a mid-year update on the previously approved capital programme;
- Set out a plan to update the capital programme in the coming months to reflect the new corporate plan priorities;
- Outlined potential future liabilities not included in the Capital Programme.

The Council approved the initial Capital Programme for 2019/20 at the Council meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The programme had subsequently been updated at the Council meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> May following closure of the Council's accounts for 2018/19. The Revised Programme for 2019/20, together with changes for financial years 2020/21 through to 2023/24, was now presented for Members' consideration and approval. The changes were explained in the report.

In view of the Resolution regarding Agenda Item 15 – CORPORATE PLAN 2020-24, the capital programme would be reviewed and updated in due course to reflect the new corporate plan priorities, when finalised. A new Capital Programme based on the new priorities identified in the new corporate plan would be reported to Council in January 2020 for approval.

The revised Capital Programmes for 29019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 to 2023/24 were all detailed in sections 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 of the report.

The impact on the Council's Reserves and Balances of the above proposals were tabled in paragraph 1.6.1 of the report, together with Officer comments.

An amendment to Recommendation 4 was proposed, to change the date in respect of the new Capital Programme from January 2020 to March 2020 to align with the Corporate Plan.

It was moved by Councillor Garry Purdy, seconded by Councillor Steve Flitter and

RESOLVED	1.	That the revised Capital Programme and financing
(unanimously)		arrangements for 2019/20, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the
		report, in the sum £4,102,658 be approved;
	2.	That the revised Capital programme for 2020/21, as detailed in
		Appendix 1 to the report, in the sum of £2,147,013 be approved;
	3.	That the programme for years 2021/22 through to 2023/24, as
		detailed in Appendix 1 to the report in the sum of £2,926,822

be approved;
4. That a new Capital programme based on the new priorities identified in the new corporate plan will be reported to Council in March 2020 for approval.

5.

That the potential future liabilities outlined in Appendix 2 to the report be noted.

### 211/19 - SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

It was moved by Councillor Neil Buttle, seconded by Councillor Garry Purdy and

**RESOLVED** That the common seal of the Council be affixed to those documents, (unanimously) if any, required to complete transactions undertaken by Committees or by way of delegated authority to officers since the last meeting of the Council.

#### **MEETING CLOSED 9.53PM**

#### **CHAIRMAN**



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committee@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

## COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council Meeting held on Thursday 21 November 2019 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock at 6.00 pm.

**PRESENT** Councillor Richard FitzHerbert - In the Chair

Councillors Jacqueline Allison, Robert Archer, Jason Atkin, Richard Bright, Matthew Buckler, Sue Bull, Martin Burfoot, Sue Burfoot, Neil Buttle, David Chapman, Paul Cruise, Tom Donnelly, Graham Elliott, Steve Flitter, Helen Froggatt, Chris Furness, Clare Gamble, Alyson Hill, Susan Hobson, David Hughes, Stuart Lees, Elisa McDonagh, Tony Morley, Michele Morley, Peter O'Brien, Joyce Pawley, Garry Purdy, Mike Ratcliffe, Lewis Rose OBE, Mark Salt, Andrew Shirley, Peter Slack, Andrew Statham, Colin Swindell and Steve Wain.

Paul Wilson (Chief Executive), Sandra Lamb (Head of Corporate Services), Lee Gardener (Legal Services Manager), Tim Braund (Head of Regulatory Services), Karen Henriksen (Head of Resources), Steve Capes (Head of Regeneration and Policy), Giles Dann (Economic Development Manager), Rob Cogings (Head of Housing), Mike Galsworthy (Estates and Facilities Manager), Jim Fearn (Communications and Marketing Manager) and Jackie Cullen (Committee Assistant).

2 members of the public.

The meeting was recorded and broadcast live on YouTube.

The Chairman called for one minute's silence in memory of Annie Hall, former High Sheriff of Derbyshire who had died as a result of the recent floods, and David Barker, former Councillor of both the Derbyshire Dales District Council and Derbyshire County Council. Cllrs Jason Atkin, Tom Donnelly, Steve Flitter and Garry Purdy paid tribute to Mrs Hall and Mr Barker.

## APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Claire Raw, Alasdair Sutton and Mark Wakeman.

## 189/19 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In accordance with the procedure for public participation, Mr Frederick Burgess (local resident) commented on the recent flooding within the Derbyshire Dales, with particular reference to the issue of Climate Change in respect of the National Policy Framework; and Mrs Heather Clifton-Smith (local resident) commented on the recent floods, with particular reference to the risk of flooding at the Wolds Rise development in Matlock.

At the Chair's discretion, Cllrs Peter O'Brien and David Chapman also spoke on the issue of the recent floods and paid tribute to the DDDC volunteers, including the Clean & Green Team, who had helped at short notice. Cllr Chapman advised Members of a leaflet on National Flood Management produced for the Environment Agency by the Moors for the Future Partnership, copies of which were available on request.

### 190/19 – MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Richard FitzHerbert, seconded by Councillor Jason Atkin and

**RESOLVED** That the Minutes of the Annual meeting of the Derbyshire Dales (unanimously) District Council held on 26 September 2019 be approved as a correct record.

The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

### 191/19 – INTERESTS

Councillor Clare Gamble declared a potential personal interest as a member of a Community Interest Group in respect of Agenda Item 11: FORMER PUBLIC CONVENIENCES & LAND TRANSFER – MONSAL HEAD.

### **192/19 - LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Leader of the Council advised Members that he had met with the Prime Minister during a briefing regarding the flood crisis in Matlock and brought to his attention the fact that whilst the Environment Agency registered the River Derwent as being a 1 in 100 year flood risk, it was happening on a more regular basis.

Cllr Purdy gave credit to the Clean & Green team and other Council staff for their efforts on the night, and reiterated that more needed to be done to address the future risk of flooding. On receipt of the feedback from the emergency team, the Council could decide what steps to take.

Cllr Purdy paid tribute to Mrs Annie Hall, and advised that he would represent the Council at a memorial service on 9<sup>th</sup> December.

## **193/19 – CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman of the District of Derbyshire Dales thanked colleagues and residents for their support and attendance at the many Remembrance events throughout the district.

Cllrs Jacqueline Allison, Paul Cruise and Elisa McDonagh presented their Maiden Speeches to the Council.

### 195/19 – COMMITTEES

It was moved by Councillor Tom Donnelly, seconded by Councillor Jason Atkin and

**RESOLVED** That the non-exempt minutes of the Committees listed in the Minute Book for the period 26 September 2019 to 14 November 2019 be received.

## 196/19 – QUESTIONS (RULE OF PROCEDURE 15)

## (A) Councillor Andrew Shirley asked the following question of Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:

"As the search of the site for Travellers referred to in minute 182/19 of the last C&E meeting is now much rumoured as being a site in Clifton Parish, please could you update Council on the progress made on this site and when and how local residents will be consulted?"

Councillor Purdy advised that this site was not proposed for such use at the present time, and provided the following response:

Members have agreed across this Chamber that the provision of a permanent Traveller site a key priority for this Council.

Following reports considered at the Community and Environment Committee in recent months, it has been public knowledge for some considerable time that the Council, through its Officers, have been looking for a site and that search continues. In recent months we have looked at many sites and approached numerous landowners, but at this stage it should be noted that there is no firm proposal on any site.

In due course, if the Council is in a position to bring a site forward for consideration, that will be done though the appropriate Committee and will be a totally open and transparent process. It will then be for Members to decide how they wish to progress the matter. However, we are not at that stage yet.

Councillor Shirley thanked Cllr Purdy for his response and requested that a proper review of the whole system of selecting traveller sites be carried out, as it would appear that the current system resulted in only one site being identified. The final selection should not be made as a result of the looming deadline to provide a site, which may not necessarily be the best option. Cllr Shirley asked if the Leader considered it acceptable to move the current problems brought about by Travellers in Matlock Bath, Rowsley, Bakewell and Wirkswirth to a site rumoured to be in the village of Clifton, which could interfere with the Royal Shrovetide football game, due to the deadline for providing a Traveller site.

Cllr Purdy agreed that the system needed to be re-assessed and that he would discuss the issue with the Chief Executive and Head of Regulatory Services.

### (B) Councillor Steve Wain asked the following question of Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:

*"Unfortunately the recent tragic flooding and subsequent clean-up have placed the Derbyshire Dales and particularly Matlock in the media spotlight. It has even resulted in a visit from the Prime Minister to Matlock, where he is reported as saying,* 

*'We are seeing more and more serious flooding - perhaps because of building, almost certainly because of climate change'.* 

The flood defences in the Matlock area coped well and Environment Agency are seeking to undertake assessments to the flood wall on Bakewell Road. In a subsequent Public meeting with the Environment Agency it was disclosed that the Knowleston Place pumping station had been operating at capacity 24/7. It was also disclosed that water levels in the Bentley Brook had risen over the past few years and this was being attributed to run off from new housing developments, on the hills above the water course.

Being aware of this, I recently contacted the Local Flood Advisory Team where it was confirmed that surface water from the proposed Gritstone Road site is to be channelled into Bentley Brook. Flow rates are calculated at over 200 litres per second at significant times and no evaluation has been carried out to assess the resilience and viability of this important water course. The Flood Team say it is not their responsibility and the Environment Agency indicate they can only comment on planning issues on Flood Plains. It appears as though the two have not consulted with each other! The Pumping Station at Knowleston Place is an Environment Agency Strategic Located Asset, which consists of three pumps to protect 140 homes and 150 businesses in the Matlock Green area.

I understand in the recent flooding it was running at capacity and just coped with the flow of water, thereby protecting Matlock Green residents from threat to life.

Will the Leader of the Council please ensure that a full and robust evaluation of the impact of any further housing development where water runoff will impact on Bentley Brook is undertaken as a matter of extreme urgency?

Will you take the lead in ensuring that the Environment Agency and Local Flood Team work collaboratively to assess the resilience and effectiveness of this water course, before any future planning determinations are made?

Does Councillor Purdy agree that it is wholly unacceptable for the Derbyshire County Council Local Flood Team and the Environment Agency to work so independently of each other that they overlook serious issues such as the viability of Bentley Brook?

Our residents' lives, homes and businesses are in danger if this council fails to act to protect and ensure their safety and well-being."

Councillor Purdy provided the following response:

The tragic events of the last week have certainly highlighted the need for those agencies who have a statutory responsibility for the management of flood risk to assess their response and ensure that such events are not repeated with the same tragic consequences in the future.

However, it is important to be clear as to the role of the District Council in such matters, which is extremely limited. As Local Planning Authority, the District Council is reliant upon the relevant statutory agencies assessing the capacity of their infrastructure and responding accordingly to the planning consultations that are undertaken. Where the resilience and effectiveness of strategic infrastructure is impacted by specific development proposals, it is for the responsible agencies to advise accordingly. The District Council in its capacity as Local Planning Authority can then seek to mitigate such impacts through the planning process.

As Leader of the Council, I have no responsibility for either the Environment Agency or Local Flood Team; however I do know that the County Council will be undertaking an investigation into the causes of the flooding under section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and this will be an opportunity to draw the concerns of members to the attention of those agencies.

*Cllr Swain thanked Cllr Purdy for his response and commented that the Environment Agency had genuine concerns about the viability of their asset at Bentley Brook.* 

Cllr Purdy said that the Council would keep a sharp focus on the issue and once the emergency team had carried out their work and submitted a report, this would be brought to Council to see what further steps should be taken.

## (C) Councillor Martin Burfoot asked the following question of Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:

"Is Cllr Purdy aware that the increasing tendency of Blue Badge holders to park (legally) on the roadside, on double yellow lines, significantly threatens both driver and pedestrian safety and increases congestion in our towns, and in Matlock in particular?

Does the Leader also agree that this tendency is a direct result of the decision to introduce car park charges for disabled drivers or blue badge holders, who find it more convenient to park on the roadside instead? Can he investigate this problem, given that waiting restrictions are imposed by the County Council on road junctions etc. where roadside parking is likely to cause a hazard to other road users? These include wheelchair bound and sight impaired disabled people forced to use dropped kerb, tactile paved crossing points, which can and sometimes are obstructed by parked vehicles?

Finally, does Cllr Purdy accept that the removal of car park charges for Blue Badge holders may be the only solution to this significant problem, which annoys so many road users, especially when most car parks regularly have vacant disabled parking spaces?"

Councillor Purdy provided the following response:

The Blue Badge is not a licence to park anywhere.

If road users park where they would cause an obstruction or danger to other road users they are liable for a fine or could receive a Penalty Charge Notice or in extreme cases, have their vehicle removed.

Blue Badge holders have always had an entitlement to park vehicles on the highway and must act responsibly in doing so. Generally they should not park within 10 metres of a junction in order to ensure that they do not endanger, inconvenience or obstruct pedestrians or other road users. Where this is not the case, such matters should be reported to the Police.

The decision to introduce charges for blue Badge holders was taken by the Community and Environment Committee in October 2013 and with the exception of one specific location in Matlock, has not resulted in blue Badge holders parking indiscriminately elsewhere on a

regular basis. The issue of car parking charges is neither the cause nor the solution to the problem. Even with the removal of car parking charges, blue Badge holders will still park where they consider to be most convenient as was the case before charges were introduced.

Cllr Martin Burfoot refuted Cllr Purdy's response and proposed that this was an enforcement issue and had been brought about by the Council's decision to charge for disabled parking in the Council's car parks.

Cllr Purdy reiterated that obstruction did not constitute an offence; however, unnecessary obstruction did, and in such cases this became a police matter.

## (D) Councillor Colin Swindell asked the following question of Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:

*"Will the council leader join me in calling for a public inquiry into the events leading up to, the cause of and response to the flooding in large parts of the Derbyshire Dales?* 

With the floods causing significant damage to property and businesses, financial cost to residents, emotional distress and the sad loss of life, the people and communities affected deserve answers."

Councillor Purdy advised that a public inquiry would be a ministerial decision. He then provided the following response:

Firstly, a public inquiry is a ministerial decision.

As per my earlier reply, the tragic events of the last week have certainly highlighted the need for those agencies who have a statutory responsibility for the management of flood risk to assess their response and ensure that such events are not repeated with the same tragic consequences in the future.

As part of the work of the Local Resilience Forum, all appropriate agencies will come together to review and identify any lessons to be learned. In addition the County Council will be undertaking an investigation under section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Whilst this will not be in the form of a Public Inquiry which would need to be initiated at a national level, it is nonetheless an important opportunity which the District Council will participate fully in.

Cllr Purdy advised that he had recently attended a Sheffield Mayoral Combined Authority meeting at which he spoke with Mayor Dan Jarvis about this matter, who believed a collaborative approach between all political leaders could be taken.

Cllr Swindell thanked Cllr Purdy for his response and asked that Members be kept up to date with these discussions. Cllr Swindell thanked DDDC staff and the emergency services for their efforts during the floods.

## 197/19 – PROPOSAL OF A NOTICE OF MOTION (RULE OF PROCEDURE 16)

It was moved by Councillor Elisa McDonagh, seconded by Councillor Mike Ratcliffe and

**RESOLVED** That the following motion, submitted by Councillor Elisa McDonagh is received:

Works with the Emergency Services to:

- amend the wording relating to noise and smoke nuisance in its existing Bonfire and Firework Safety Scheme to state that because noise and smoke may affect elderly, young children, pets, etc., your display should be advertised in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people;
- actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people, including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks.

## 198/19 – FORMER PUBLIC CONVENIENCES & LAND TRANSFER – MONSAL HEAD

The Council considered an updating report on the closure of the Monsal Head Public Conveniences in May 2017, since which time discussions had taken place with the neighbouring landowner (Penelope Thornton Hotels) with the aim of agreeing terms for the freehold transfer of the former public conveniences building together with some adjacent leased land to enable future provision of public convenience facilities at this site at no cost to the District Council. The report updated members on the outcome of the negotiations and recommended a course of action should final agreement not be reached. The site requested by Penelope Thornton Hotels (PTH) was shown outlined in red on the plan at Appendix 1 to the report, with the area of land which they currently leased for hotel car parking shown cross hatched green.

The current situation was set out in Section 2 of the report, from which it could be seen that the solicitors for PTH were refusing to accept any overage, pre-emption or any other encumbrances on the transfer. The proposed revised terms were listed in paragraph 3.1 of the report, and these had been proposed to PTH on a non-negotiable basis. Should the terms not be accepted subject to contract by 16 December 2019 and should the transfer not complete by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020, it was proposed that the offer to transfer the site to PTH be withdrawn.

It was reported that in the last few days, an approach had been received from a group who had expressed an interest in forming a Community Interest Company to take over the ownership and operation of the public conveniences by way of a Community Asset Transfer should the proposal to transfer to the hotel not proceed.

Should transfer to PTH be withdrawn, it was therefore proposed that the Estates and Facilities Manager be given delegated authority to negotiate, agree and implement a Community Asset Transfer of the facility to the proposed Community Interest Company within 6 months of the date of this decision and should this not be achieved, the asset be placed on the open market for freehold sale by public auction. No other expressions of interest had been received.

It was reported that as at the date of the meeting, no response had been received from PTH.

It was moved by Councillor Garry Purdy, seconded by Councillor Susan Hobson, and

**RESOLVED** 1. That the revised terms and timescales outlined in paragraph 3 of this report for transferring the freehold of an area of land and the public conveniences at Monsal Head as shown on the plan at

Appendix 1 to the report to Penelope Thornton Hotels (PTH) for use as car park and public conveniences are agreed.

- 2. That should the terms proposed not be accepted by PTH and/or should the transfer not complete by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020, the offer to transfer the site to PTH is withdrawn and that the Estates and Facilities Manager be given delegated authority to negotiate, agree and implement a Community Asset Transfer of the facility to the proposed Community Interest Company referred to in paragraph 2.5 of this report within 6 months of the date of this decision and should this not be achieved, the asset be placed on the open market for freehold sale by public auction.
- 3. That it be noted that the transfer described in paragraph 1 above comprises an undervalue transaction as permitted by the General Disposal Consent 2003.

For	32
Against	2
Abstentions	2

Voting:

The chairman declared the motion CARRIED.

The following two items were brought to the Council as urgent items from the Governance & Resources Committee meeting on 14 November 2019 that had been cancelled due to the flood situation.

## 199/19 – ARC LEISURE, MATLOCK – REPAIRS TO MAIN POOL

The Council considered a report that outlined recent problems experienced with the main pool at Arc Leisure Matlock and the actions taken to arrange the necessary repairs. It explained the position relating to responsibility for the problems and sought approval for the costs to be funded from the District Council's Revenue Budget.

Under the Leisure Operating Contract from 1<sub>st</sub> August 2018, Freedom Leisure were responsible for the repairs and maintenance of the 4 Leisure Centre buildings and replacement of lifecycle items (subject to lease arrangements in respect of Bakewell and Wirksworth). Responsibility for defects within the Council's leisure facilities depended on the origin of those defects, as set out in the report.

In March 2019 a section of tiling on the base of the main swimming pool at Arc Leisure Matlock in March 2019 failed and Freedom Leisure arranged for the necessary remediation and repair work to be undertaken by their contractors. The total cost of the defect, including remediation measures, repair works and loss of income amounted to £11,268.04, inclusive of VAT. The details of the claim were set out in the report, for which Freedom Leisure now wished to apply for reimbursement via a variation notice. The defect was considered to be a latent defect and therefore the responsibility of the Council.

A similar issue relating to defective tiling in the training pool at Arc Leisure Matlock was considered by the Committee in June 2016. Legal advice had been taken previously, and this advice had now been reviewed by the Council's Legal Team, who had indicated that this would again be a very costly claim to pursue, with no direct evidence to prove who was liable. Their recommendation was that the Council should not pursue a claim in this case.

It was moved by Councillor Sue Bull, seconded by Councillor Susan Hobson and

**RESOLVED** 1. That Council be requested to approve additional expenditure of £11,268.04 as part of the revised estimates for 2019/20;

 That Freedom Leisure be reimbursed the sum of £11,268.04 (including VAT) from the District Council's Revenue Budget to cover the cost of remedying a latent defect at Arc Leisure Matlock.

# 200/19 – PROPOSED LEASE OF LAND AT DERBY ROAD / BLENHEIM ROAD, ASHBOURNE

The Council considered a report that recommended extending the demise of an existing lease between the District Council and Central England Co-operative Ltd of an area of former roadway verge at the junction of Derby Road and Blenheim Road in Ashbourne to incorporate an additional strip of land to extend the car park of a newly developed convenience store and associated retail units.

The Estates and Facilities Manager advised that with regard to concerns raised over the fence around the car park, he had spoken that day to the Acquisitions Manager at the Co-op who had confirmed that they would address the issue of damage.

The land in the District Council's ownership was shown edged in light brown on the plan at Appendix 1 to the report. The adjacent site shown edged in blue was formerly a vehicle showroom and was acquired and developed by Central England Co-operative Ltd (the Co-Op) for use as a convenience store in June last year. Additionally, 2 units within the building had been sublet by the Co-Op to Greggs and Queens fish and chip shop.

Due to ongoing problems with congestion in the car park, the Co-Op had now asked for an additional strip of land of area 176 sq.m. to be included in the lease, shown edged red in the plan at Appendix 1 to the report.

Since there was already a lease in place of the larger car park area, it was proposed to grant an additional lease of term 29 years of the subject area at a rent of £3,600 per annum subject to the terms listed in the report. The Council's Valuer considered this rent to represent the best price reasonably obtainable for the subject site.

It was reported that no other specific expressions of interest had been received in relation to any of the sites/properties included in the report.

It was moved by Councillor Sue Bull, seconded by Councillor Tom Donnelly and

**RESOLVED** That an additional lease for a term of 29 years is granted to Central (unanimously) England Co-operative Ltd on the terms stated in paragraph 3.1 of the report, subject to planning permission being obtained.

#### Council Minutes – 21 November 2019 201/19 – REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS, PLACES AND STATIONS 2019 – FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council considered a report on the final stage of the Polling Review including comments received during the second consultation period and comments of the Returning Officer.

The purpose of the review was set out in Section 2 of the report.

The second period of consultation was from 27 September 2019 to 25 October 2019, at which comments were invited in response to the representations received and the comments of the Acting Returning Officer. The comments received were detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

Proposed changes to the Polling Scheme were detailed in Appendix 1 to the report and tabled in Section 4 of the report. The final decision on the Polling Scheme for Derbyshire Dales rested with the Council, bearing in mind the considerations set out in paragraph 2.2 of the report. Details of the final scheme and copies of any representations received would be published.

The grounds under which a right of appeal to the Electoral Commission could be made were listed in paragraph 5.3 of the report.

However, during the period of the Review, a snap UK Parliamentary Election had been called placing the Acting Returning Officer (ARO) under a duty to organise an election and provide suitable polling stations throughout the Constituency at short notice. Without prejudice to the outcome of the review the ARO had, in consultation with the relevant Ward Members, decided to amend the polling scheme as follows for the 12 December event:

Polling Area	Polling Station
Ashbourne Parkside	Ashbourne Library, 2 Compton,
	Ashbourne
Cressbrook	St John the Evangelist Church Hall,
	Cressbrook
Mappleton	Thorpe Village Hall, Thorpe
Eyam	Church Hall, Eyam
Cromford	Greyhound Hotel, Market Place,
	Cromford

All other existing polling stations would be in use as per the current Polling Scheme.

It was moved by Councillor Peter O'Brien, seconded by Councillor Neil Buttle and

**RESOLVED**That the deletion of the Curbar polling station as illustrated in<br/>paragraph 4.1 of the report be deferred pending further discussions**Voting:**with the Parish Council.

For	2
Against	26
Abstentions	2

The Chairman declared the motion DEFEATED.

It was then moved by Councillor David Chapman, seconded by Councillor Jason Atkin and

**RESOLVED** (unanimously)

- 1. That the Council approves each of the proposed changes to the Derbyshire Dales Polling Scheme detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.
- 2. That any changes to polling places that are necessary before the next Review be delegated to the Head of Corporate Services, in consultation with the appropriate Ward Members.

## 202/19 – AMENDMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2019/20: PROTOCOL ON ATTENDANCE OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS – SCR AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES AND MEMBER OF THEMATIC BOARDS

Council considered an amendment to the Outside Bodies list for 2019/20 to make appropriate provision for the attendance of Substitute Members at the Sheffield City Region (SCR) Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and attendance of Members on the Thematic boards.

Further to the Annual Council meeting on 30 May 2019 at which the schedule of Outside Bodies representation for 2019/20 was agreed, it was reported that the District Council would be leaving the SCR Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) at the end of March 2020, but would remain a non-constituent member of the SCR Mayoral Combined Authority (CA) for the foreseeable future. Council was therefore asked to consider nominating Councillor Chris Furness to act as substitute member from the Conservative Group in addition to Councillor Sue Hobson.

Furthermore, at its meeting on 17th December 2018 the SCR proposed to develop and strengthen governance within the organisation with the creation of five Thematic Boards, the primary aim of which was set out in the report. Under the CA and LEP governance arrangements the District Council was permitted to nominate a Member to sit on the Thematic Board. Council was therefore also asked to consider nominating Councillor Chris Furness to act as Member from the Conservative Group on the five Thematic Boards. It was reported that any confirmation of approved duty status would be backdated to October.

It was moved by Councillor Jason Atkin, seconded by Councillor Peter Slack and

**RESOLVED** That an appointment is made for Councillor Chris Furness to act as Substitute Member for the Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and as Member on the five Thematic Boards, to serve until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

# 203/19 – APPOINTMENT TO INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL AND INDEPENDENT PERSON

The Council considered the appointment of independent persons to join the Independent Remuneration Panel and to support the Monitoring Officer in the assessment of complaints about elected Members, in accordance with Section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011.

The Independent Person remit was set out in the report.

Following a selection and interview process with the Monitoring Officer and Councillor Sue Bull, as Chairman of the Governance and Resources Committee, it was recommended that Stephen J Dunning be appointed to the vacancy for a four year term expiring in October 2023.

Section 99 of the Local Government Act 2000, which made provision in relation to allowances

and pensions for members of local authorities, required local authorities to establish and maintain a panel to make recommendations about the Scheme. Two of the existing Independent Panel were willing to continue in that role, and a supplementary appointment was recommended from the shortlisted Panel for Independent Person. The appointment of Susan Whitfield was recommended for a term of four years expiring in October 2023.

All candidates met the legal requirements regarding independence.

It was moved by Councillor Sue Bull, seconded by Councillor Helen Froggatt and

- **RESOLVED** 1. That Stephen J. Dunning is appointed as Independent Person to assist in the assessment of complaints regarding elected member behaviour, for a four year term expiring in October 2023.
  - 2. That Susan Whitfield is appointed to serve on the Independent Remuneration Panel for a four year term expiring in October 2023.

### 204/19 – CORPORATE PLAN 2020-2024

Councillor Michele Morley left the meeting at 8.30pm during discussion of this item.

The Council considered the Corporate Plan, which is the District Council's primary policy document. The report set out the results of extensive consultation with Derbyshire Dales residents and proposed a completely new Corporate Plan for the period 2020-2024. A headline Corporate Plan was recommended for adoption, and development of a detailed action plan with specific targets, with Member involvement, would follow and be reported to Council for consideration alongside the Budget in March 2020. Performance against targets in 2019/20, the final year of the current Corporate Plan, was also reported.

The current Corporate Plan was adopted by Council in November 2015. However, with resources shrinking and a new Council with new aims, it was considered timely to revisit priorities and budgeting. In view of this, a comprehensive review had been carried out based on extensive public, staff and member consultation and, as resolved by Members at the full Council meeting on 29 November 2018, extensive additional consultation had been undertaken during 2019 with a view to a total refresh of the Corporate Plan and Members' future priorities. Details of the consultation were illustrated in paragraph 2.2 of the report, and explained in further detail in the subsequent paragraphs. The conclusions were that the District Council should focus on jobs and homes, alongside improved customer service and digital access.

It was recommended that the progress against the Corporate Plan shown in detail in Appendix 1 to the report for the period 2020 to 2024 be noted.

For 2019/20, there were fifteen Corporate Plan targets in total. A summary of mid-year performance for the financial year 2019/20 was tabled in paragraph 5.2 of the report. Performance was broadly on track, with further details set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

An amended Recommendation was proposed, as shown below.

It was moved by Councillor Garry Purdy, seconded by Councillor Susan Hobson and

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<b>RESOLVED</b> 1.	That progress against the Corporate Plan 2019/20 targets is noted;	
	2.	That the results of the Corporate Plan consultation are noted;
	3.	That progress in developing the Corporate Plan 2020/2024 is noted;
Voting:	4.	That the Corporate Plan 2020-2024 action plan and specific targets are developed with Member involvement (including a Member Workshop in January 2020 and the Leader's Advisory Group) for consideration by Council in March 2020 alongside the Budget.
For Against Abstentions	28 5 2	

The Chairman declared the motion CARRIED.

## 205/19 - MOTION TO CONTINUE

It was moved by Councillor Richard FitzHerbert, seconded by Councillor Tom Donnelly and

**RESOLVED** That, in accordance with Rule of Procedure 13, the meeting continue beyond 2 ½ hours to enable the business on the agenda to be concluded.

There was a brief adjournment, after which the Chairman advised that due to time constraints, Agenda Items 21-25 inclusive would be deferred until the next general meeting of the Council in January 2020.

## 206/19 – ORGANISATIONAL HEALTH – KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – MID-YEAR 2019/20

Councillor Colin Swindell left the meeting at 8.56pm prior to discussion of this item.

The Council considered a summary of the half-year performance against the District Council's 12 Key Performance Indicators for 2019/20 (excluding Corporate Plan Targets), highlighting where the organisation was performing strongly and where improvements were to be made. The District Council's <u>Performance Management Handbook</u> set out how progress against KPIs was measured and continually reviewed using a 'traffic light' system, according to the classification and interpretation set out in the report.

It was reported that at this mid-year point 9 of the 12 KPIs for 2019/20 were on track to be achieved in 2019/20, as illustrated in paragraph 4.1 of the report and detailed in Appendix 1 to the report. The data for the household waste recycling was due in mid-December.

It was moved by Councillor Chris Furness, seconded by Councillor Mike Ratcliffe and

**RESOLVED** Mid-year performance against the Key Performance Indicators for 2019/20 is noted.

## 207/19 – DERBYSHIRE DALES ECONOMIC PLAN 2019-2033

The Council considered approval of the Derbyshire Dales Economic Plan 2019-2033 that had

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been developed within the context of the Council's emerging Corporate Plan, updated evidence base, emerging D2N2 Local Industrial Strategy, a Members' workshop held in October, and consultation with local businesses and partners.

The Draft Plan updated the 2014-2019 Economic Plan. Key achievements during the previous plan were listed in Section 1 of the report. The remainder of the report summarised the strategic aim and priorities of the new Plan and outcome of consultation with businesses and partners. The Draft Economic Plan was attached in summary as Appendix 1 to the report and in full as Appendix 2 to the report.

The evidence base underpinning the new plan highlighted a number of key issues, as set out in paragraph 2.3 of the report, together with the key principles that underpinned the Plan and guided the approach to delivery in paragraph 2.4 of the report.

The five strategic priorities proposed to provide the focus for activity were set out in paragraph 2.6 of the report, with the delivery of six strategic growth sites listed in paragraph 2.7 of the report.

Comments received at the Member workshop held on 14 October were incorporated into the Draft Plan which was then circulated to businesses and partners. It was reported that eight responses had been received, the key points of which were summarised in paragraph 3.2 of the report. Following consideration of the comments, the Derbyshire Dales Economic Plan was attached for approval.

It was moved by Councillor Sue Bull, seconded by Councillor David Hughes and

<b>RESOLVED</b> (unanimously)	1.	Achievements from the previous Derbyshire Dales Economic Plan 2014-19 are noted
	2.	The outcome of consultation with businesses and partners on
		the draft plan is noted
	3.	The Derbyshire Dales Economic Plan 2019-2033 is adopted

4. Progress reviews against Action Plan priorities are reported to Members annually for consideration.

## 208/19 – REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING FOR QUARTER 2 2019/20, REVISED BUDGET 2019/20 AND UPDATE OF MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN PROGRESS

Councillor Graham Elliott left the meeting at 9.18pm prior to discussion of this item.

The Council considered a report that summarised the forecast outturn position as at the end of September 2019, sought approval for a revised 2019/20 revenue budget and provided an update on medium term financial plan progress.

On 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019 Council set a net revenue budget of £9,586,000 for 2019/20. The full year forecast to March 2020 based on quarter 2 (September 2019) indicated an £103,000 underspend, as tabled in the report. The major variances were described in the subsequent paragraphs.

The Council's MTFP continued to be developed alongside the current year monitoring, as set out in Section 2 of the report.

It was reported that a major element of the 2020/21 MTFP would be the final impact of the waste contract negotiation, the final costs of which would not be known until the contract had

been awarded, currently planned for December 2019. Due to the potential significant changes in the funding position and the waste contract cost, a separate report on the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) had not been produced at this time, but would be brought to Council in January 2020 after the provisional local government finance settlement had been received, together with an updated MTFP.

It was moved by Councillor Garry Purdy, seconded by Councillor Susan Hobson and

<b>RESOLVED</b> (unanimously)	1.	That the identified variances and current overall forecast position for 2019/20 are noted.
	2.	That the revised budget of £8,869,000 for 2019/20 shown in table 1 is approved.

- 3. That the service underspend of £103,000 is transferred to the vehicles renewal reserve to contribute towards the purchase of new waste vehicles.
- 4. That the update on Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) progress is noted.

#### 209/19 – CRM PROJECT

The Council considered an updating report on the implementation of the Customer Relationship Management system and associated technology.

An update on the work of the Customer Innovation Hub, established in 2018, was presented to the Governance and Resources Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019, where it was resolved to allocate financial resources in the Capital Programme to enable the procurement of a Customer Relationship Management system and associated technology in order to transform our processes and services to the public. The objectives were listed in the report.

The contract for the provision of a CRM system was signed with the preferred supplier; Meritec Ltd, at the end of March 2019 for an initial period of two years. The contract included professional services to configure the system to replicate the Council's existing e-Forms, the development of a new website home page built to encourage customer use of the CRM system and the integration of the system with the council's network infrastructure and core systems. A further update on the project was presented to members at the Governance and Resources Committee in September 2019.

Glenn Burton was appointed to the role of Digital Transformation Project Manager on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019, and Ian Brailsford was appointed internally as Digital Transformation Project Officer.

However, as the project had progressed, it became clear that in order to maximise the benefits available, additional capital funding would be required, as detailed in Sections 2, 3 and 4 of the report.

In light of this, the Council was recommended to include the additional sum of £46,077 in the Capital Programme to enable the procurement of the additional software, integration work, mobile application, payment portal and associated technology as outlined in the report and supporting documentation.

**RESOLVED** That the sum of £46,077 is included in the Capital Programme to enable the procurement of the additional software integration work, mobile application, payment portal and associated technology as outlined in the report and supporting documentation.

## 210/19 – CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2019/20 TO 2023/24

The Council considered a report that:

- Provided members with a mid-year update on the previously approved capital programme;
- Set out a plan to update the capital programme in the coming months to reflect the new corporate plan priorities;
- Outlined potential future liabilities not included in the Capital Programme.

The Council approved the initial Capital Programme for 2019/20 at the Council meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The programme had subsequently been updated at the Council meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> May following closure of the Council's accounts for 2018/19. The Revised Programme for 2019/20, together with changes for financial years 2020/21 through to 2023/24, was now presented for Members' consideration and approval. The changes were explained in the report.

In view of the Resolution regarding Agenda Item 15 – CORPORATE PLAN 2020-24, the capital programme would be reviewed and updated in due course to reflect the new corporate plan priorities, when finalised. A new Capital Programme based on the new priorities identified in the new corporate plan would be reported to Council in January 2020 for approval.

The revised Capital Programmes for 29019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 to 2023/24 were all detailed in sections 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 of the report.

The impact on the Council's Reserves and Balances of the above proposals were tabled in paragraph 1.6.1 of the report, together with Officer comments.

An amendment to Recommendation 4 was proposed, to change the date in respect of the new Capital Programme from January 2020 to March 2020 to align with the Corporate Plan.

It was moved by Councillor Garry Purdy, seconded by Councillor Steve Flitter and

<b>RESOLVED</b> (unanimously)	1.	That the revised Capital Programme and financing arrangements for 2019/20, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, in the sum £4,102,658 be approved;
	2.	That the revised Capital programme for 2020/21, as detailed in
	3.	Appendix 1 to the report, in the sum of $\pounds 2,147,013$ be approved; That the programme for years 2021/22 through to 2023/24, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report in the sum of $\pounds 2,926,822$

be approved;
4. That a new Capital programme based on the new priorities identified in the new corporate plan will be reported to Council in March 2020 for approval.

5.

That the potential future liabilities outlined in Appendix 2 to the report be noted.

### 211/19 - SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

It was moved by Councillor Neil Buttle, seconded by Councillor Garry Purdy and

**RESOLVED** That the common seal of the Council be affixed to those documents, (unanimously) if any, required to complete transactions undertaken by Committees or by way of delegated authority to officers since the last meeting of the Council.

#### **MEETING CLOSED 9.53PM**

#### **CHAIRMAN**