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COUNCIL – 21 May 2020

DECISION LIST



EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Agenda Item No.	Report Ref.	Item	Issue	Decision	Action by
1.	-	Public Question Time	To answer questions from members of the public	A Question was received from Ms Gavinet relating to assistance to European Community residents of the District seeking Settled Status. The Leader responded outlining the work the Council was doing regarding the issues.	
2.	-	Election of Chairman 2020/21	To elect a Chairman for the District Council for 2020/21	It was resolved: That Councillor Lis Every be elected as Chairman of East Cambridgeshire District Council for the municipal year 2020/21.	
3.	-	Apologies for Absence	To note any apologies for the absence of Members	There were no apologies for absence.	
4.	-	Declarations of Interest	To note any declarations of Interests from Members	There were no declarations of interest.	
5.	-	Minutes – 20 February 2020	To confirm the minute of the previous Council meeting	It was resolved: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2020, as amended, be confirmed	

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				as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.	
6.	-	Election of Vice Chairman 2020/21	To appoint a Vice Chairman for the District Council for 2020/21	It was resolved: That Councillor Alan Sharp be appointed as Vice-Chairman of East Cambridgeshire District Council for the municipal year 2020/21.	
7.	-	Chairman's Announcements	Announcement of items of interest	There were no Chairman's announcements.	
8.	-	To Receive Petitions	To receive public petitions	No petitions had been received.	
9.	-	Notice of Motions Under Procedure Rule 10	Rebuilding from the Coronavirus Pandemic	It was resolved: That the Motion, as amended, be agreed. [See end of Decision List for full agreed motion]	Chief Executive Democratic Services Manager
10.	-	To answer Questions from Members	To receive questions from Members of Council	The Leader of Council responded to questions from Councillors Cane, Inskip, A Whelan and C Whelan.	

11.	V1	Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, Group Leaders and Deputy Group Leaders	To note the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council; Political Groups; and Group Leaders and Deputies for the forthcoming year.	<p>It was resolved:</p> <p>That the details of the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council; Political Groups; and Group Leaders and Deputies for the forthcoming municipal year, as reported at the Annual Council meeting be noted.</p>	Democratic Services Manager
12.	V2	Political Proportionality	To consider the political balance of the Council and the implications for the allocation of seats on Committees, Sub-Committees and other Member Bodies.	<p>It was resolved:</p> <p>That the details of the political balance of the Council as set out in Appendix 1 be noted and the allocation of seats on Committees, Sub-Committees and other Member Bodies as set out in Appendix 2 be approved.</p>	Democratic Services Manager

14(b).	-	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority – Reports from Constituent Representatives on the Combined Authority	To consider reports on the activities of the Combined Authority from the Council’s appointees.	<p>It was resolved:</p> <p>That the reports on the activities of the Combined Authority from the Council’s appointees be noted.</p>	
15.	V4	The Making (Adoption) of the Witchford Neighbourhood Plan	To consider the formal adoption of the Witchford Neighbourhood Plan to become part of the Development Plan for East Cambridgeshire.	<p>It was resolved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Witchford Parish Council be congratulated on its preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan and a successful referendum outcome, becoming the third parish council to do so in East Cambridgeshire. • That the Witchford neighbourhood Plan (as attached at Appendix 1) be formally made part of the Development Plan for East Cambridgeshire with immediate effect. 	Strategic Planning Manager

16.	V5	COVID 19 Update	To consider the Council's updated response to COVID 19.	<p>It was resolved:</p> <p>That the contents of the submitted report be noted and officers instructed to provide a further update to the July Council meeting, specifically on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the impact of COVID 19 on the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy including recommendations arising from revisions to the ECTC and ECC Business Plans 2020/21; (ii) implementation of the Council's recovery plans in line with Government guidance; (iii) revisions to the agreed 2019/2023 Corporate Plan in light of the impact of COVID 19. 	Chief Executive
17.	V6	Action Taken by the Chief Executive on the Grounds of Urgency	To consider the action taken by the Chief Executive on the grounds of urgency.	<p>It was resolved:</p> <p>That the action taken by the Chief Executive on the grounds of urgency be noted.</p>	

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 MOTION, AS AMENDED

Rebuilding from the Coronavirus Pandemic

Council notes the Coronavirus pandemic is the worst health emergency in over a century and is predicted by the Bank of England to lead to the largest annual contraction in UK GDP for more than three centuries. The impact at national, international and local level is unprecedented in recent history.

Council recognises that the Coronavirus pandemic has had a significant impact on many people's health and well-being and has caused many deaths across our district. We offer our sympathy to all the people affected.

We also express our gratitude to the medical and care staff, and other key workers who have kept core services going, and to those Council staff in East Cambridgeshire who have maintained services to the public throughout the crisis. We are also grateful to our Parish Councils and the many community groups which are supporting residents across the district with shopping, gardening, prescription collection, pet care and many other imaginative initiatives.

As well as continuing to deliver services and support to assist our communities in their response, we recognise the challenges ahead that we face including:

1. The Bank of England predicting a 14% fall in GDP impacting many of our residents' lives and the local economy;
2. Likely continuing restrictions on retail and leisure providers including pubs, restaurants and businesses dependent on tourism;
3. Lord Deben, as chair of the UK Independent Committee on Climate Change, stating "the actions needed to tackle climate change are central to rebuilding our economy".

We need to focus the Council to address the challenges we face for the district's recovery and its longer-term resilience.

We also welcome new opportunities, notably:

1. To build on the community spirit demonstrated across the district by seeking to accelerate the partnership work already begun by Cambridgeshire County Council through the Think Communities approach;
2. To continue to support community support groups across our district that have provided essential support to residents;

3. To retain as far as possible the new enthusiasm for cycling, walking and the reduction in vehicle journeys and the consequent environmental improvements, whilst noting that currently people are being asked by the Government to avoid using public transport where possible.

This Council therefore resolves as a first step to set up a working party, modelled on the successful Bus working party, to work with businesses, community groups and other authorities from parishes through to central government to help drive an environmentally, socially and economically sustainable recovery for East Cambs.

Amongst the initiatives the working party should consider, but not be limited to, are:

1. A business survey, whether that be a new survey or seeking to utilise those already being undertaken, to fully understand the needs and concerns of our business community, including sector specific needs, together with opportunities taken to change/improve, and represent our district in discussions with the Combined Authority;
2. A parish council and community groups survey, to fully understand their needs and concerns and their capacity to assist with the recovery;
3. Alongside the collation of the results of the Bus, Walk, Cycle consultation, consideration of options for experimental transport initiatives which can be promoted to the Combined Authority and the County Council for speedy implementation to promote active modes of travel to and within economic centres within the district;
4. Engaging ECTC and the wider developer community to continue to maximise the delivery of affordable and social housing on sites across the district cognisant of economic viability;
5. Exploring further opportunities to facilitate working from home and remote locations throughout the district through the deployment across the district of initiatives such as 5G and ultrafast broadband infrastructure.