

THE MEETING OF EXETER CITY COUNCIL

Guildhall
Tuesday 14 December 2010

The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor (Cllr Choules)

The Deputy Lord Mayor (Cllr Sheldon)

Councillors M A Baldwin, D Baldwin, Branston, S Brock, Crow, Coates, Cole, Mrs Danks, Edwards, Fullam, A Hannaford, R M Hannaford, Mrs Henson, Hobden, Macdonald, Martin, Mitchell, Morris, Mrs J Morrish, Mottram, Newby, Payne, Prowse, Robson, Ruffle, Shiel, Spackman, Sterry, Sutton, Taghdissian, Thompson, Wadham, Wardle and Winterbottom

66

MINUTES

The minutes of the Extraordinary and Ordinary meetings of Council held on 12 October 2010 were taken as read and signed as correct.

67

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

The Council sent their best wishes to Councillor David Morrish who was currently unwell.

68

PLANNING COMMITTEE - 1 NOVEMBER 2010

The minutes of the Planning Committee of 1 November 2010 were taken as read.

Members declared the following personal interests:

COUNCILLOR	MINUTE
Councillor Hannaford	117 (member of Devon County Council on the Hele Trust)
Councillor Prowse	117 (member of Devon County Council on the Hele Trust) 118 (student landlord) 119 (knows the applicant)
Councillor Winterbottom	118 (knows the agent) 119 (knows the applicant and the objector)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 1 November 2010 be received.

69

PLANNING COMMITTEE - 6 DECEMBER 2010

The minutes of the Planning Committee of 6 December 2010 were taken as read.

Members declared the following personal (*prejudicial) interests and left the meeting where appropriate:

COUNCILLOR	MINUTE
Councillor D Baldwin	127 and 128 (member of the Co-operative Society)
Councillor Branston	127 and 128 (trustee of Exeter Municipal Charities)

Councillor Mottram	132 (had been asked to take down the trees)
Councillor Prowse	127 and 128 (member of the Police Choir who practice on the site, member of the Co-operative Society, former employee of the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary adjacent to the site, regular shopper at Costcutter store at the rear of the site) 129 (student landlord)
Councillor Sutton	127 and 128 (member of the Co-operative Society)
Councillor Wadham	*130 (member of Alphington Community Association and agent of the application)
Councillor Winterbottom	127 and 128 (trustee of Exeter Municipal Charities)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee of 6 December 2010 be received.

70

LICENSING COMMITTEE - 30 NOVEMBER 2010

The minutes of the Licensing Committee of 30 November 2010 were taken as read.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Licensing Committee of 30 November be received and, where appropriate, adopted.

71

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - COMMUNITY - 9 NOVEMBER 2010

The minutes of the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee – Community were taken as read.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee – Community be received.

72

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - ECONOMY - 11 NOVEMBER 2010

The minutes of the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee – Economy of 11 November 2010 were taken as read.

Members declared the following personal interests:

COUNCILLOR	MINUTE
Prowse	45 and 47 (student landlord)
Ruffle	44 (individual stallholder at Exeter Respect Festival)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee - Economy of 11 November 2010 be received.

73

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - RESOURCES - 24 NOVEMBER 2010

The minutes of the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee – Resources of 24 November 2010 were taken as read.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee – Resources of 24 November 2010 be received.

74

EXECUTIVE - 23 NOVEMBER 2010

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive of 23 November 2010 were taken as read.

Members declared the following personal (*prejudicial) interests and left the meeting where appropriate.

COUNCILLOR	MINUTE
Councillor Prowse	110 (member of Devon County Council)
Councillor Taghdissian	110 (member of Parking and Traffic Regulation Outside London Adjudication Joint Committee)
Councillor Thompson	*106 (landowner in Monkerton Masterplan area)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Executive of 23 November 2010 be received and, where appropriate, adopted.

75

EXECUTIVE - 7 DECEMBER 2010

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive of 7 December 2010 were taken as read.

Members declared the following personal interests:

COUNCILLOR	MINUTE
Councillor Prowse	117 and 118 (student landlord)

In relation to Minute 123 (New Executive Arrangements under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007) it was agreed that the proposed revised wording to the Constitution to reflect the changes be submitted to Council for approval.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Executive of 7 December 2010 be received and, where appropriate, adopted.

76

NOTICE OF MOTION BY COUNCILLOR MRS HENSON UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 6.

Councillor Mrs Henson, seconded by Councillor Taghdissian, moved a Notice of Motion in the following terms:

“The proposal of Devon County Council to switch off street lighting in the City for part of the night time has raised a good deal of concern with residents in the City. Whilst the contribution this would make to the financial savings required of the County Council and the reduction in energy consumption it would provide, is acknowledged, it is important that full and meaningful public consultation is undertaken before any decision is taken.

The City Council therefore requests Devon County Council to embark on a thorough consultation with members of the public, businesses and the City Council on its proposal before determining what action to take.”

Councillor Mrs Henson expressed particular concern about the impact of the proposal on younger residents of the city, including students, who were more likely to be out late at night. She felt that the proposals were in conflict with the aspiration to create a “café culture” in the City.

Councillor Macdonald, seconded by Councillor Edwards, proposed an amendment to the second sentence of the Notice of Motion to read:

"Whilst part-night lighting will -

- make a contribution to financial savings by the County Council
- reduce energy consumption,
- reduce Exeter's carbon footprint,
- enhance biodiversity and
- reduce the hours of light pollution of our night sky

- all in accord with the aims of Exeter's Green Infrastructure Strategy, it is important that full and meaningful public consultation is undertaken before any decision is taken."

In proposing the amendment, Councillor Macdonald stated that she was not wishing to detract from the intention of the original motion but to augment the points made. Whilst acknowledging some environmental benefits, other members commented on the detrimental effect the proposals would have on safety and security in the City.

The proposed amendment was put to the vote and carried and the substantive motion was amended accordingly.

Councillor Hobden, seconded by Councillor Fullam, proposed a further amendment in the following terms:-

“The proposal of Devon County Council to switch off street lighting in the City for part of the night time in order both to make financial savings and to reduce our carbon footprint has raised concern with residents in the City.

Exeter City Council notes that delay in reducing CO2 emissions or failing to reduce them will incur further penalties according to current legislation resulting in progressively increased costs to the environment and to the Council Taxpayer.

This Council therefore resolves to seek urgent consultation with Devon County Council to agree details of the proposal's implementation so as to produce the best and safest outcome for the people of Exeter.”

Cllr Hobden stated that, whilst not in conflict with the amended motion, the further amendment recognised that Devon County Council had already taken the decision regarding a reduction in street lighting, along with many other local authorities throughout the country. The amendment sought to emphasise the impact of failing to reduce CO2 emissions. She suggested that further consultations on the implementation of the proposals should be undertaken with community associations. Councillor Fullam commented that all cuts would impact on some sectors of the community and it was important that consultation was undertaken within wards.

The second amendment was put to the vote and lost.

The amended substantive motion was put to the vote and carried in the following terms:-

“The proposal of Devon County Council to switch off street lighting in the City for part of the night time has raised a good deal of concern with residents in the City.

Whilst part-night lighting will -

- make a contribution to financial savings by the County Council
- reduce energy consumption,
- reduce Exeter’s carbon footprint,
- enhance biodiversity and
- reduce the hours of light pollution of our night sky

- all in accord with the aims of Exeter’s Green Infrastructure Strategy, it is important that full and meaningful public consultation is undertaken before any decision is taken.

The City Council therefore requests Devon County Council to embark on a thorough consultation with members of the public, businesses and the City Council on its proposal before determining what action to take.”

(The meeting commenced at 6.00 pm and closed at 7.45 pm)

Chair