

A meeting of **EXETER CITY COUNCIL** will be held at the **GUILDHALL**, **HIGH STREET**, **EXETER** on **TUESDAY 18 DECEMBER 2018**, at 6.00 pm, at which you are hereby summoned to attend. The following business is proposed to be transacted:-

Pages 1 Minutes To approve and sign the minutes of the Ordinary and Extraordinary meetings held 5 - 14 on 16 October 2018. 2 Official Communications To receive minutes of the following Committees and to determine thereon:-3 Planning Committee - 29 October 2018 15 - 304 Planning Committee - 3 December 2018 -To follow Licensing Committee - 20 November 2018 31 - 345 35 - 40 6 People Scrutiny Committee - 1 November 2018 Place Scrutiny Committee - 8 November 2018 41 - 64 7 Corporate Services Committee - 22 November 2018 65 - 748 Audit and Governance Committee - 5 December 2018 - To follow 9 10 Executive - 13 November 2018 75 - 78 11 Executive - 11 December 2018 - To follow

Notices of Motion

- 12 Notice of Motion by Councillor Bialyk under Standing Order No. 6 Exeter City Council notes with concern that:-
 - On 11 October 2018 it was announced that 74 crown post offices across the UK, will be franchised to WHSmith. Taken together, successive franchise announcements mean the loss of 60% of the crown office network since 2013.

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- 2. These privatisations are financed using millions of pounds of public money, despite the fact that the public has never endorsed the closures, indeed they have only ever protested against them. In 2014/15 alone, £13 million of public money was used to pay compensation to get rid of post office staff, and the CWU estimates the staff compensation cost of the latest privatisation will be at least £30 million, affecting as it does, 800 staff.
- Reports by Consumer Focus (2012) and Citizens Advice (2016) have identified issues with the franchising of post offices to WHSmith including poor accessibility for people with mobility impairments, longer queuing times, and inferior service and advice on products.
- 4. Franchising means the loss of jobs with good terms and conditions at the Post Office. WHSmith replaces experienced post office staff with new employees in typically minimum wage part time roles. This is clearly bad for jobs in the local area and the Post Office workers, many of whom are CWU members
- 5. The closure of Crown post offices and relocation to a WHSmith, also means the loss of prime high street stores and this contributes to the demise of town centres. No explanation has been given as to why the profit-making Crown post offices are being handed to a failing retailer with an uncertain future, and what will happen to these services if WHSmith folds.
- 6. All Crown post offices are under threat of closure and/or franchising in future, and if the latest round of privatisations, are allowed to go ahead, it could prove the tipping point for the viability of the entire post office network.

This Council believes that:-

- 7. Our post offices are a key asset for the community and the expertise and experience of staff there is invaluable
- 8. The relentless franchising and closure programme of the profit-making Crown post Offices, points to a lack of vision rather than the plan for growth and innovation that is needed.
- 9. Government should therefore halt these closures and bring together stakeholders, including the CWU, and industry experts to develop a new strategy that safeguards the future of the Post office.

This Council resolves to:-

- 10. Write to Government to raise concern about the apparent managed decline of the post office network across the UK and the impact on high streets, as well as the service in the franchised premises, and the poor quality jobs that result
- 11. To join campaigns to raise awareness of the value of our Post Office and the need for it to remain an asset of and for the people.

13 Notice of Motion by Councillor Mitchell under Standing Order No 6

Exeter City Council notes that:

- 1. Green spaces within the city boundary are highly valued by residents and enhance our environment.
- 2. The green space surrounding the Clifton Hill Sports centre is approximately nine acres and provides an inner-city haven for wildlife and residents.
- 3. The "Save the Clifton Hill Green Space Group" has campaigned to keep the green space in public ownership, and to enhance biodiversity and community use of the site.
- 4. The Council is planning its Physical Activity strategy, which will inform future use of all green spaces and related amenities.

The Council therefore resolves that the whole of the green space surrounding the Clifton Hill Sports Centre will remain in Exeter City Council ownership and form part of the city-wide Physical Activity strategy.

14 Notice of Motion by Councillor Musgrave under Standing Order No 6

Exeter City Council notes that:-

- On 13th June 2018, the Council resolved that Minute 56 of the Executive held on 12 June, concerning the Clifton Hill Sports Centre and surrounding land, be received and adopted.
- 2. The decision to close the Clifton Hill Sports Centre, demolish the building and sell the land; as well as to delegate authority to the City Surveyor "to include the sale of the adjacent driving range, ski slope and Exeter Small Bore Rifle Club areas of the Clifton Hill site as a single development site if this offers the best value to the Council", without consultation, has proved highly controversial.
- 3. The report presented to the Executive on 12th June contained several inaccuracies and appears to have underestimated the number of residents who made use of the sports centre facilities. In addition, the report failed to describe the land surrounding the sports centre, including its size and amenity value.
- 4. A city-wide petition opposing closure of the sports centre, signed by 1,800 supporters of the "Save the Clifton Hill Sports Centre" campaign group, was received by the Council on October 16th 2018; and a further petition calling for the council to retain ownership of the land surrounding the sports centre and "keep it green", with 500 signatures collected door-to-door by the Save the Clifton Hill Green Space group, was received by Cllr. Pete Edwards on 13th November 2018.
- 5. The Council plans to hold a consultation before presenting its Physical Activity and Built Facilities strategies, clearly demonstrating that the above decision relating to the Clifton Hill Sports Centre -- and the other facilities and land surrounding the centre -- was taken prematurely.

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Exeter City Council, therefore, resolves that the decision taken at the Council meeting of 13th June be reversed.

Questions from Members of the Council under Standing Order No 8
Question from Councillor Mrs Thompson

Is the Leader able to please confirm how much of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is being set aside from the major housing developments to fund the Bus Station redevelopment/ St Sidwells Point?

Question from Councillor Mrs Thompson

In the absence of a Planning Solicitor at a meeting of the Planning Committee is the Leader able to confirm who would be the appropriate person able to give legal advice and interpret the Constitution at Planning Committees should a legal query or point of order be raised as per the example queried on 3 December 2018 by Cllr. Yolonda Henson?

Question from Councillor Mrs Thompson

Could the Leader please confirm how many agreed Planning Consents for housing developments in this municipal year have not met the City Council's policy of 35% affordable housing?

Question from Councillor Mrs Thompson

Could the Leader please confirm if Chairs of Committees when chairing meetings are able to effectively unilaterally override all other Standing Orders by way of Standing Order 49?

A plan of seating in the Guildhall is attached as an annexe

Date: Monday 10 December 2018

Karime Hassan Chief Executive & Growth Director

NOTE: Members are asked to sign the Attendance Register