



**Devizes**  
**Town Council**

[www.devizes-tc.gov.uk](http://www.devizes-tc.gov.uk)

# **SPECIAL** **DEVIZES TOWN** **COUNCIL**

You are summonsed to attend a meeting of the Devizes Town Council Committee at the following, place and date.

**Date: 26 JULY 2016**

**Time: 7.30PM**

Venue: Council Chamber, Town Hall, St John's Street, Devizes

Enquiries: Town Hall - Tel: 01380 722160

Councillors:	Mrs Bridewell	Mrs Burton	Carter
	Corbett	East	Evans
	Mrs Evans	Geddes	Giraud-Saunders
	Hopkins	Johnson	Nash
	Ody	Parker	Mrs Rose
	Smith	Wooldridge	

## **AGENDA**

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. DISCLOSURE(S) OF INTEREST**

To receive any disclosures by a Councillor(s) and/or Officers in matters to be considered at this meeting in accordance with the provisions of Sections 94 or 117 of the Local Government Act 1972 or the National Code of Local Government Conduct.

- 3. To receive announcements and communications.**

4. To answer questions (if any) under standing order No. 15.

**NOTE:** Before dealing with the next item (No 7) the Council will wish to consider whether or not to suspend Standing Order No 5 (members to stand when speaking). If the Standing Order is to be suspended, it must be done by way of a proposition, duly seconded and carried.

**5. REPORT FOR DECISION – TRANSFER OF ASSETS AND DEVOLUTION OF SERVICES FROM WILTSHIRE COUNCIL**

**Recommendation**

To formalise the outcomes of the discussions that took place at Forward Planning to authorise officers to enter negotiations with Wiltshire Council for consideration of the transfer and devolution of assets as set out in the report.

**Purpose of the Report**

To formalise the outcomes of discussions that took place at Forward Planning.

**Background**

The members of Devizes Town Council and Roundway Parish Council had the opportunity to discuss future service delivery in the town and what assets and services might best be delivered locally at an informal meeting on 12 July.

The members present considered the briefing notes that summarised the outcomes of previous workshop sessions on this issue – doc 5/1-5/3 circulated alongside this agenda.

The consensus of the meeting was that negotiations should include all of the services and assets that received strong support, include a withdrawal from the leisure centre agreement, buildings associated with the wharf and farm land as an income generator. The library was noted but not widely supported, however it is not discounted.

The consensus was that the following would not be pursued:

- Children's Centres
- Educational Establishments
- Highways Land
- Housing & Extra Care Housing
- Highways Depot
- Water Supply & Treatment

Once a framework for the negotiations has been established it will be necessary for member involvement and this will be brought back to a future meeting.

### **Options Considered**

It is recommended that the Council supports officers in open negotiations with Wiltshire Council on the basis of the following services & assets:

- Market Services
- Market Place & Shambles
- Car Parks & Car Parking Services
- Retail Units
- Woodlands at Drew's Pond and at Waiblingen Way
- Grounds Maintenance Service
- Urban Street Cleaning Service
- Emptying of Public Litter Bin Service
- Play & Recreation Land
- Closed Churchyards
- Wharf Theatre & Kennet and Avon Trust Building
- Farms
- Library

And

To pursue a release from the Leisure Centre Agreement

And

That the negotiations should be broadly cost neutral

### **Implications & Risks**

#### **Financial and Resource Implications**

The process of negotiations will have significant financial and resource implications and is difficult to quantify.

It will be necessary for member support in the developing negotiations once a framework has been established.

#### **Legal Implications and Legislative Powers**

The Council will be considering this matter under its General Power of Competence.

#### **Environmental Implications**

Officers are not aware of any environmental implications associated with this decision in itself, however, the outcomes of the negotiations could have positive environmental implications in terms of the condition and appearance of the town.

#### **Risk Assessment**

The risk of not entering into negotiations is that services are not delivered to the level desired by the local community.

There is a risk of greater cost to the local community in the long run, which should be offset by a better public realm.

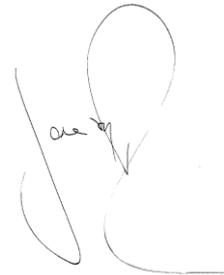
**Crime and Disorder**

Officers are not aware of any issues the Council should consider under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder act 1998.

**6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

At the Chairman's discretion, members of the public attending the meeting will be allowed to ask questions addressed to the Chairman concerning the administration, function or responsibilities of the Council or upon a matter, which was the subject of debate at the meeting.

A person may also be permitted to make a statement or address the Council upon a matter of concern to that person which is relevant to local government, or to the Council's administration or upon a subject, which may be of general interest to the Council. A time limit of 5 minutes per person will be permitted, but this may be extended at the Chairman's discretion and a maximum period of 20 minutes has been allocated by the Council for this item of business.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. E.', written over a horizontal line.

**TOWN MAYOR**