# AT A MEETING of the Economy, Transport and Environment Select Committee of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL held at The Castle, Winchester on Thursday, 18th November, 2021

## Chairman: \* Councillor Stephen Philpott

- \* Councillor Derek Mellor
- \* Councillor Nick Adams-King
- \* Councillor Debbie Curnow-Ford
- \* Councillor Barry Dunning
- \* Councillor Tim Groves
- \* Councillor Gary Hughes
- \* Councillor Louise Parker-Jones
- \* Councillor Rupert Kyrle
- \* Councillor Hugh Lumby

- \* Councillor Elaine Still
- \* Councillor Martin Tod
- \* Councillor Rupert Kyrle
- \* Councillor Hugh Lumby
- \* Councillor Elaine Still
- \* Councillor Martin Tod
- \* Councillor Rhydian Vaughan MBE
- \* Councillor Bill Withers Lt Col (Retd)

#### \*Present

Also present with the agreement of the Chairman: Councillor Rob Humby, Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment Councillor Jan Warwick, Executive Member for Climate Change and Sustainability

#### 21. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All Members were present and no apologies were noted.

Councillor Louise Parker-Jones was welcomed to the Committee as a new Member and Councillor Kim Taylor was thanked for her contribution on the Committee.

#### 22. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3, Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Non-Pecuniary interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 2 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

#### 23. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was confirmed that the figure was £79 *million* in section 18 of the minutes. The minutes of the last meeting were then agreed.

#### 24. **DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations for the meeting.

#### 25. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no formal Chairman's Announcements.

### 26. GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON REGULATORY REVIEW OF ZERO EMISSIONS VEHICLES

Councillor Martin Tod declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Economic Recovery at Winchester City Council.

Councillor Rupert Kyrle declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Environment at Eastleigh Borough Council.

Councillor Nick Adams-King declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Strategic Regeneration and Partnership (South), Recycling, Environmental Services and Cark Parking at Test Valley Borough Council.

Councillor Barry Dunning declared an interest as a Member of the Community, Partnerships & Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Panel at New Forest District Council.

The Select Committee considered a report from the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment (item 6 in the minute book), regarding progress on the County Council's draft response to the Government's consultation on a regulatory review of zero emission vehicles and in particular the recharging of electric vehicles (EV).

Members made the following observations:

- It was important to consider future-proofing how charging was done in case of any longer-term changes and have some standardisation of sockets and cables.
- Planning processes should be developed to ensure that new residential and retail areas are designed with electric vehicle charging in mind.
- It was important that private companies were not able to choose the most financially beneficial areas to install charging points and the priority was a viable network of sustainable points across the County.
- Working closely with District Councils going forward was crucial.
- Having enough electricity in the right areas was another factor to be considered

Officers welcomed the views of the Committee and agreed there were many aspects to consider going forward. It was confirmed that guidance had been published on charging vehicle points at home<sup>1</sup>, which was available to all residents.

The Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment agreed that technology advanced quickly but that it shouldn't deter the Council from looking at options and enforced the importance of joined-up working with partners and suppliers. The Executive Member for Climate Change and Sustainability also highlighted that not all residents could afford to invest in electric vehicles and that public transport was also important going forward.

#### **RESOLVED**

The committee considered and offered comments on the proposed basis for the County Council's response to the consultation as set out in the minute above.

#### 27. ENVIRONMENT BILL UPDATE

Councillor Martin Tod declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Economic Recovery at Winchester City Council.

Councillor Rupert Kyrle declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Environment at Eastleigh Borough Council.

Councillor Nick Adams-King declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Strategic Regeneration and Partnership (South), Recycling, Environmental Services and Cark Parking at Test Valley Borough Council.

Councillor Barry Dunning declared an interest as a Member of the Community, Partnerships & Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Panel at New Forest District Council.

The Select Committee received a presentation from the Assistant Director for Waste, Planning and Environment (item 7 in the minute book) on the waste & resource related elements of the Environment Act 2021.

proposed Environment Bill.

The proposals were summarised, which included environmental targets and waste measures as well as increased enforcement powers to tackle Fly-Tipping. The Committee was informed about potential implications for the County Council and the challenges around recycling as well as timescales involved.

During questions, Members learned that whilst there were still some unknowns around proposals, the County Council were still able to plan changes needed to infrastructure and work with Districts as more information emerged. The increased fines around Fly-Tipping would be particularly beneficial as currently the fines were often not enough to cover the costs of pursuing and prosecution.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/electric-vehicles/ev-charging-guidance

The Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment agreed that it was good to have some direction with the Environment Act despite there still being some further details to be released.

Members thanked officers for their work and for the update.

#### 28. WORK PROGRAMME

The Chairman confirmed that the 7 April meeting would be brought forward to 10 March to better align with departmental business. An extraordinary meeting would also be looked at for February 2022, which would allow the Select Committee to analyse the results of the School Streets Pilot as well as receive further information and be able to input on LTP4.

At Full Council on 4 November the Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment mentioned a review on the 20mph Speed Limit Policy and further details of this would come to the January 2022 Select Committee meeting as a potential Working Group.

It was agreed that flexibility was needed on many items currently on the work programme but these would be reviewed regularly and updated when necessary.

Following discussion, the work programme was agreed by the Select Committee.

Chairman,	_