

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL



COUNCIL

Monday, 20 January 2014

YOU ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL, WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE GUILDHALL NORTHAMPTON ON MONDAY, 20 JANUARY 2014 AT 6:30 PM WHEN THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS IS PROPOSED TO BE TRANSACTED

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2. MINUTES.

To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of the Council held on 9th December 2013.

3. APOLOGIES.

4. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS

6. MEMBER AND PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Copy herewith

7. CABINET MEMBER PRESENTATIONS

(Copy herewith)

8. OPPOSITION GROUP BUSINESS

Councillor Beardsworth to make a statement on "Consultation; the need for public

scrutiny”.

9. LOCAL COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME - YEAR 2 - PROPOSED CHANGES

Report of the Chief Finance Officer – LGSS (Copy herewith)

10. COUNCIL TAX BASE

Report of the Chief Finance Officer – LGSS (Copy herewith)

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

- i. Councillor Stone to propose and Councillor Wire to second:

“This council is mindful of our responsibility to protect our citizens in the event of bad weather, flooding and other environmental disasters.

This Council asks Cabinet to put in train the necessary refresh of all emergency policies and procedures and training for local authority staff, members and partners”.

- ii. Councillor Stone to propose and Councillor Wire to second:

“This Council notes fuel poverty is becoming an ever increasing issue in the town. In order to ameliorate this and to help bring down the cost of domestic consumption this council resolves to work with energy companies on a favourable tariff for consumers willing to bulk switch to the same provider”.

- iii. Councillor Glyname to propose and Councillor Beardsworth to second:

“This Council notes that since the current administration has overseen shocking decline of the town centre, highlighted by:

- A record number of empty shops
- Dropping footfall
- A misunderstanding of what people want from the town centre, evidenced by public resistance to Administration plans. (i.e the removal of the market square fountain, reopening of Abington Street etc.)
- The stalling of the Legal and General agreement that was progressing under the Liberal Democrat administration, even in the worst economic climate for regeneration.

The Council therefore concludes that:

- The current Administration is failing the town centre, and as such, the town.
- A radical policy shift is needed to undo the damage caused by the Administration

over the last three years.

- The Administration either lacks, or is not motivated by a clear understanding of what is required for the health of the town centre

This Council resolves:

- Embrace, promote and deliver the “town centre first; policy.

12. MATTERS OF URGENCY WHICH BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE MAYOR IS OF THE OPINION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED.

The Guildhall
Northampton

D. Kennedy Chief Executive

Public Participation

1. Comments and Petitions

- 1.1 A member of the public (or an accredited representative of a business ratepayer of the Borough) may make a comment or present a petition on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers. A comment or presentation of a petition shall be for no more than three minutes. No notice of the nature of the comment to be made or of the petition is required except for the need to register to speak by 12 noon on the day of the meeting.

(Public comments and petitions will not be taken and the Annual Council Meeting or other civic or ceremonial meetings.)

NOTES

- i. Comments may be on one or more subjects but each person has no longer than three minutes to have their say.*
- ii. The same person may make a comment and present a petition on different subjects. In such instances that person will have three minutes to make their comment and a separate three minutes to present a petition.*

2. Member and Public Questions

- 2.1 A member of the public (or business ratepayer of the Borough) may ask a maximum of two written questions at each meeting, each limited to a maximum of 50 words, on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers. Each question shall:
- be submitted in writing and delivered, faxed or e-mailed to Democratic Services no later than 10.00am seven calendar days before the day of the meeting; and
 - include the name and address of the questioner and the name of the Cabinet member/Committee Chair to whom the question is put.

- 2.2 At the meeting, copies of all questions and the responses to them from the public and Members will be made available to the public and press. The Mayor may allow one

supplementary question, without notice, that arises directly from the original question or response.

(Questions will not be taken at the Annual Council Meeting or at civic or ceremonial meetings or meetings called to deal with specific items of business.)

NOTES

In respect of paragraph 2.1 above, questions may be rejected on certain grounds that are set out on page 4-12 of the Council's Constitution and which may be viewed at www.northampton.gov.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?fileID=1919 or by seeking advice using the contact details below.

3. Motions

- 3.1 A member of the public may register to speak to a motion under the 'Notices of Motion' item on the agenda. Registration to speak must be made to Democratic Services by 12 noon on the day to the meeting. Speaking to a motion is restricted to three minutes per person.

(The 'Notices of Motion' item will not be taken at the Annual Council meeting or meetings called for civic or ceremonial purposes.)

4. General

A member of the public may make a comment, present a petition, ask a question or speak to a motion at the same meeting subject to the restrictions set out above.

5. Contacts

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Tel 01604 837722

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