

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL



COUNCIL

Monday, 28 April 2014

YOU ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL, WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE GUILDHALL NORTHAMPTON ON MONDAY, 28 APRIL 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 10th March 2014 and the adjourned meeting of the 24th February 2014.

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 Stone to make a statement on 'Women's Issues'.

9. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

(Copy herewith)

10. PINEHAM BUSINESS PARK

(Copy herewith)

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

- i) Councillor Eldred to propose and Councillor Larratt to second that:

“This Council recognises the importance of the town's three sports clubs and celebrates having cricket, football and rugby teams in Northampton.

Despite years of delays under the Liberal Democrats, this Council is pleased that, under Conservative control, we have now seen developments agreed at Sixfields Stadium, Franklin's Gardens and the County Ground.

This Council welcomes the positive attitude demonstrated by all the clubs and their help in promoting the town and wishes them every success for the coming seasons”.

- ii) Councillor Hadland to propose and Councillor Nunn to second:

“This Council welcomes the announcement by leading financial company Experian that Northampton is the number one place in Britain to do business.

The company released its findings in March outlining the four key areas it measured with the number of start-ups, rate of insolvencies, level of financial health and business turnover.

Council recognises that Northampton achieved top marks for turnover, start-up and insolvency rates and dropped just one point for financial strength.

Council welcomes this report which recognises the important partnerships with leading businesses, public authorities and the local enterprise partnerships as part of the Northampton Alive programme”.

- iii) Councillor Markham to propose and Councillor Oldham to second:

“This Council recognises the benefit of Tenant Engagement which, which has been absent for many years.

This Council has benefited since opening the doors and introducing not only the Tenant Panel but also the additional six service improvement panels.

This Council is committed to continue to engage with tenants and recognises the added value it brings to the authority”.

- iv) Councillor Markham to propose and Councillor Bottwood to second:

“Council congratulates this administration's commitment to the creation of new council houses in Northampton, and welcomes the announcement that this Conservative administration will be building 100 new council houses at Dallington Grange.

This project will bring the first significant development of new council homes in our town for two decades, and as one of the largest in the country, will put Northampton at the forefront of the creation of new council homes.

Council also welcomes the Government's efforts to address the national housing shortage, increase the supply of affordable housing and to help people get on the housing ladder".

v) Councillor Beardsworth to propose and Councillor Glynane to second :

The Conservative election manifesto of 2011 made several pledges, including "Northampton needs a Council that listens and delivers what the people want; not one that is out of touch."

Council therefore calls upon the administration to deliver on this manifesto promise as a priority.

vi) Councillor Eldred to propose and Councillor King to second:

'Council welcomes the opening of the new Northamptonshire Credit Union access and information point at the Guildhall One Stop Shop. The new access point will make it easier for people in Northampton to use the services offered by the Credit Union and help those experiencing financial difficulties.

'Council supports the work of Northamptonshire Credit Union and their efforts to help those experiencing financial hardship, and to give people alternatives to loan sharks and pay day lenders.'

vii) Councillor Markham to propose and Councillor King to second:

'Preventing abuse and domestic violence is a high priority for this Administration.

'Council notes that the Borough Council is working closely with relevant organisations in Northampton that deal with issues around abuse and domestic violence, and that officers from the Borough Council are working proactively with Northamptonshire County Council on this issue.

'Council supports the work of these associated organisations, and notes that the Administration will continue to monitor this situation to see what further support can be given to help victims of domestic violence.'

viii) Councillor Mason to propose and Councillor N Choudary to second:

This council is committed to ensuring that all people can live free of fear of violence at home, and is totally opposed to the domestic violence that led to women in our county making 12,000 complaints to the police in the last year for which figures are available

This council is aware of the difficulties that agencies working with women who are victims of domestic abuse are facing.

This council recognises that this is a safeguarding issue and resolves to work with the relevant agencies in the town to find local solutions to these difficulties.

This council further resolves to work with county wide agencies to develop a strategy for support that meets the needs of the women and the children at risk of abuse and who are victims of abuse.

ix) Councillor Stone to propose and Councillor N Choudary to second:

This Council notes the proliferation and concentration of betting shops is contributing to community decline, especially the decline in valued community assets like pubs. England's poorest spend £13bn a year on the gambling machines in these shops according to a study published by the Campaign for Fairer Gambling. The ongoing spread of betting shops has also been linked to gambling addiction and crime.

This council also notes that gambling machines in the Betting Shops and in pubs is adding to the vulnerability of our local communities.

This Council therefore resolve to write a letter to Central Government asking them to create a separate planning use class for betting shops so that local authorities have new powers to address the problem.

x) Councillor Capstick to propose and Councillor Palethorpe to second:

“This Council notes that the WNDC finished on 31st March. This Council believes ongoing WNDC projects must still be monitored to ensure their completion. This Council resolves to establish a working party to monitor the progress on the completion of the WNDC legacy projects. The working party would receive bi-monthly reports of progress and in turn the Working Party reports back to Full Council”.

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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