

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Your attendance is requested at a meeting to be held at
The Jeffrey Room, St. Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE.

on Monday, 21 October 2013

at 6:00 pm.

D Kennedy
Chief Executive

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Minutes**
- 3. Declarations of Interest**
- 4. Deputations / Public Addresses**
- 5. Matters of Urgency which by reason of special circumstances the chair is of the opinion should be considered**
- 6. Petition submitted to Council**
(Copy herewith.)
- 7. Craft Terms and Conditions Project Update**
(Copy herewith.)
- 8. Exclusion of Public and Press**

THE CHAIR TO MOVE:

“THAT THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING ON THE GROUNDS THAT THERE IS LIKELY TO BE DISCLOSURE TO THEM OF SUCH CATEGORIES OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED BY SECTION 100(1) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AS LISTED AGAINST SUCH ITEMS OF BUSINESS BY REFERENCE TO THE APPROPRIATE PARAGRAPH OF SCHEDULE 12A TO SUCH ACT.”

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 10 September 2013

PRESENT: Councillor Hibbert (Chair); Councillors Duncan, Ford, Gowen and King.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Beardsworth.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2013 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Ford declared a personal, non-pecuniary interest in the motion referred from the Council meeting held on 15 July 2013. He also initially declared pre-determination as Far Cotton Recreation Ground was in his ward and he had been one of the instigators initiating a protest against the use of the land for car parking. Following clarification by the Borough Secretary Councillor Ford was advised that this did not constitute pre-determination.

4. DEPUTATIONS / PUBLIC ADDRESSES

There were none.

5. MATTERS OF URGENCY WHICH BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE CHAIR IS OF THE OPINION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED

None.

6. NOTICE OF MOTION REFERRED FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15 JULY 2013

A motion regarding the decision to use Far Cotton Recreation Ground for car parking during the Delapre Alive music event on 19-21 July 2013 had been referred to the Committee by the Council meeting held on 15 July 2013 owing to the approach of the guillotine at the Council meeting. The motion, had been proposed at the Council meeting by Councillor Glynane and seconded by Councillor Meredith.

It was noted that the recreation ground had not been used for car parking during the Delapre music event on 19-21 July 2013 and that the decision not to use it had been made before the Council meeting on the 15th July 2013.

The Chair stated that as neither the proposer nor the seconder of the motion were

present at the meeting to move the motion, the motion fell and there was therefore nothing for the Committee to consider.

Councillor Ford had declared a personal, non-pecuniary interest in this matter.

The meeting concluded at 6:04 pm.

Appendices
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NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE REPORT

Report Title	Petition submitted to Council
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Committee Meeting Date:	21 st October 2013
Policy Document:	No
Directorate:	Borough Secretary
Accountable Cabinet Member:	N/A

1. Purpose

1.1 To consider the petition, submitted to Council, at the meeting on the 16th September 2013.

2. Recommendations

2.1 To consider the petition (attached at Appendix 1) and make a decision on the matter referred to in the petition in accordance with one of the options outlined in paragraphs 3.2.1 to 3.2.3.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

3.1.1 A petition was submitted to Council on the 16th September 2013 which petitioned the Council to change the Council policy on accepting petitions to include the submission of petitions in forms such as works of art to convey messages of public discontent. The petition is attached at Appendix 1.

3.1.2 Part 5 of the Council's Constitution includes a Scheme to Respond to Petitions. The Scheme states that, 'we treat as a petition any communication, which is signed by or sent to us on behalf of a number of people. For practical purposes, we normally set a requirement for at least 10 signatories or petitioners before we treat it as a petition'. The Petition Scheme also currently states, a petition should include, 'a clear statement of your concerns and what you want the authority to do'.

3.1.3 In this case, the petition was an 'ordinary petition' having more than 10 but less than 2000 signatories. (The Scheme states that petitions must have more than 2000 signatures if they are to be debated at a meeting of the Council).

3.1.4 The petition is calling for a change to Council policy. If the Council was to change how it treats petitions, it would necessitate making a change to the Council's Constitution, which is a function reserved to the Full Council. This Committee can make recommendation to Full Council to make changes to the Constitution if it considers it necessary following consideration of the petition.

3.2 Choices (Options)

3.2.1 Option 1

Resolve that the Council should take no further action in respect of the petition.

3.2.2 Option 2

Make a recommendation to Full Council to make changes to the Petition Scheme included in the Constitution to reflect the proposal in the petition (ie. that petitions that are in forms such as works of art conveying messages of public discontent be accepted as petitions by the Council).

3.2.3 Option 3

Resolve to take some other action in response to the petition.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

4.1.1 The Council policy on petitions is contained in the Scheme to Respond to Petitions in the Constitution.

4.2 Resources and Risk

4.2.1 None

4.3 Legal

4.3.1 As outlined in the body of the Report.

4.4 Equality

4.4.1 There are no equalities implications arising directly from this Report.

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

4.5.1 N/A

5. Background Papers

5.1 None
Francis Fernandes

Monitoring Officer
0300 330 7000

PETITION TO CHANGE
NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH
COUNCIL POLICY ON
ACCEPTING PETITIONS
TO INCLUDE FORMS
SUCH AS WORKS
OF ART TO
CONVEY MESSAGES
OF PUBLIC
DISCONTENT

NAME

ADDRESS

SIGNATURE

Vicki
Rose

8 Lapstone House
N.pton

KAY
ORMSBY

64 Addington Rd
Wellingborough

Alma

46 Broadway
Northampton

PHIL
LEACH

152 KINGSLEY ROAD
NORTHAMPTON

Drew
Rosie

Byfield Rd.
N.pton

Emma
Murdoch

Bevoir Drive
Kettering Northants

STEVE
LAREN

BRAUNSTON LANE
STAVENTON NORTHANTS

MIKEY
AUSTIN

26 Louie Road.
Northampton

Marco
Drillings

8 Spicer Road

Joanne
Pennell

45 Cloutsham St
Northampton

Abbey
Allen

35 Cliftonville Court
NORTHAMPTON

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
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CEMMA MOMILLAN	37 CLIFFENVILLE COURT	
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LEWIS GWINNELL	44 SIR JOHN PARCOE WAY	
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JAMES ALANGLER	Topsham G.U. 52 KINGSLEY RD.	
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G. RACZONK	73 COLWYN RD	
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R. WILSON	25 STEVENSON ST. FOR COTTON	
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R. HEWITT	103 BALLIF ST NORTHAMPTON	
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NUTTON JAMES	24, HELMSTON SUNNYSIDE, N'YON	
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OLIE	64 LANGFORD RD	
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Appendices
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NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE REPORT

Report Title	Craft Terms and Conditions Project Update
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Committee Meeting Date:	22/10/2013
Policy Document:	No
Directorate:	Housing
Accountable Cabinet Member:	Councillor Markham

1. Purpose

1.1 It was agreed at General Purposes Committee on 9 July 2013 that the Committee be updated about the change of conditions to the Craft workforce which was approved by the Committee on the 26th March 2013.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee notes the report.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

At General Purposes Committee on 26 March 2013, the following points regarding the Craft workforce were resolved:

1. That the proposals to change the conditions of the existing Craft workforce to the NBC conditions of service to employees of the Council covered the Joint Negotiating Committee for Local Authority Craft and Associated Employees (Red Book) be approved and adopted.
2. That the power to take any direct or indirect actions required to implement the revised terms and conditions and any other issues arising from this report be delegated to the Chief Executive as the Council's Head of Paid Service.

3. That the pay protection arrangements of one year, to run from 1 May 2013 until 30 April 2014, be approved and adopted.

3.2 Update

- 3.2.1 As there was non-agreement with the Trade Unions, the proposals were presented to the Craft Workforce. This duly occurred and 25 out of a workforce of 69 accepted the terms and conditions.
- 3.2.2 The remainder were dismissed and re-engaged on the revised terms and conditions with an effective start date of 1 August 2013. All of those employees who were dismissed and re-engaged continued to work beyond 1 August 2013 on the revised terms and conditions.
- 3.2.3 The Interim Property Maintenance Manager has, via a series of designation appeals ensured that those who are eligible for the Multi Task grades have been designated as such. Training plans have been implemented for those who have development needs and there are robust records for all staff to document their level of training/experience. This will continue to be built upon in order to develop a multi task workforce.

4.1 Other Implications

- 4.1.1 Implications/choices were considered by the Committee on 26 March 2013, the actions carried out have been as per the report provided at the time therefore there are no further implications to consider at this stage.

5. Background Papers

- 5.1 General Purposes Committee Report – Revised Terms and Conditions of Service for Craft Employees 26 March 2013, including the attached Terms and Conditions of Service – Craft Employees April 2013.

Martin Cox, Head of People, LGSS