

**NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

Your attendance is requested at a meeting to be held at  
The Jeffrey Room, The Guildhall, St. Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE  
on Wednesday, 21 January 2015 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. Combined Elections 7 May 2015**  
Presentation by the Chief Executive.

A copy of the presentation given at the meeting is included in this updated agenda.

**7. 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.”

**SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

**Exempted Under Schedule  
12A of L.Govt Act 1972  
Para No:-**

**8. 2015/16 Pay Award**

## NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

### GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Monday, 20 October 2014

**PRESENT:** Councillor Hibbert (Chair); Councillors Beardsworth, Duncan and King.

#### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ford, Parekh and Stone.

#### 2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 25 March 2014 and 17 September 2014 were agreed and signed by the Chair, subject to the addition of Councillor Beardsworth's apologies for the meeting on 25 March 2014.

#### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

#### 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

There were none.

#### 6. TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO. 229 AT 17 HILLCREST AVENUE, NORTHAMPTON NN3 2AB

The Arboricultural Officer presented a report asking the Committee to consider an objection to Tree Preservation Order (TPO) No. 229 at 17 Hillcrest Avenue, Northampton with regard to a sycamore tree. The objection to the TPO had been made by an adjoining owner at 27 Lindale Close. The Arboricultural Officer recommended that following consideration of the objection the TPO be confirmed.

The Committee considered the objection and the Arboricultural Officer's comments as set out in the report.

In response to Members' questions the Arboricultural Officer stated that:

- Following the making of the TPO permission had been granted for minor pruning works to the tree which had reduced the lower branches overhanging the garden of 27 Lindale Close by approximately two metres and the works

had been carried out.

- The works initially intended to be carried out by the owners of 27 Lindale Close would have reduced the crown overhanging their garden by 5m and would have affected the appearance of the tree.
- The crown of the tree was unlikely to grow much beyond its current size of 17m and the final height of the tree was likely to be 20m or 22m (currently 18m). The tree could reasonably be expected to have a safe, useful life expectancy of at least 20-40 years.

Having considered the objection made and the comments of the Arboricultural Officer on the objection it was:

**RESOLVED:**

That Tree Preservation Order No. 229 at 17 Hillcrest Avenue, Northampton NN3 2AB be confirmed.

The meeting concluded at 6:08 pm.

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# General, Borough and Parish Elections

## 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015



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# Points to Cover

- Context
- Organisational arrangements
- Significant issues
- Officer

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# Context

- Largest ever elections in Northampton
- 2 Parliamentary Constituencies
- 5 • 33 Borough Council wards
- 10 Parishes
- 45 Elections



# Number of Ballots (roughly)

- 118,000 Parliamentary electors
- 142,000 Borough electors
- 27,600 postal voters
- 80% turnout = 208,000. 60% turnout = 156,000
- plus Parishes



# Staffing Requirements

- Postal Vote Centre: 40
- Polling Stations and Poll Inspectors: 300 (approx)
- Counts: 250
- Core Team: 10
- Miscellaneous Others: 10

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# Venues

- Main Hub: Northampton Guildhall
- Postal Vote Centre: Court Room at the Guildhall
- ∞
  - 91 Polling Stations
  - Verification and Count Centre 1: Lings Leisure Centre
  - Verification and Count Centre 2: Derngate Auditorium
  - Parish Count Centre: Great Hall, Guildhall



# Verifications and Counts

- Verifications at Lings and Derngate ASAP after close of poll (General, 29 wards, 2 Parishes)
- 4 Borough wards and 8 Parishes in Northamptonshire South verified at Towcester
- Before 2am (hopefully) Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May General Election counts start
- Borough Count held over to 4pm Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May
- Parish Counts start 10am Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May



# Simplified Timetable

- 30<sup>th</sup> March: Dissolution of Parliament
- 30<sup>th</sup> March: Notice of Local Elections
- 31<sup>st</sup> March: Receipt of General Election Writ
- by 2<sup>nd</sup> April: Notice of General Election
- 9<sup>th</sup> April: deadline day for nominations
- 20<sup>th</sup> April: Registration deadline
- 21<sup>st</sup> April: Postal Vote application deadline
- 23<sup>rd</sup> April – 7<sup>th</sup> May: Postal Vote Centre working
- 7<sup>th</sup> May: Polling Day
- 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> May: Counts
- 12<sup>th</sup> June: deadline for expenses returns



# Significant Issues

- Split venues for verifications and counts
- Verification and count rules
- 11 • Northamptonshire South
- Space limitations
- Fees and Charges



# Issues for the Council

- Staffing levels required vs. service requirements
- Impact on service delivery
- Purdah and political neutrality

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# Agenda Item 8

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3, 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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