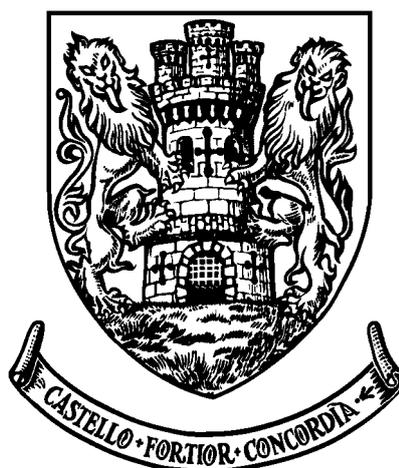


# NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL



## COUNCIL

Monday, 20 January 2020

**YOU ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL, WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE GUILDHALL NORTHAMPTON ON MONDAY, 20 JANUARY 2020 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 4 November 2019.

**3. APOLOGIES.**

**4. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS**

**6. MEMBER AND PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**7. CABINET MEMBER PRESENTATIONS**

**8. OPPOSITION GROUP BUSINESS**

Councillor Beardsworth to make a statement on "Democracy in this day and age"

**9. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

(Copy herewith)

**10. LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME - 2020/21**

(Copy herewith)

**11. COUNCIL TAX BASE 2020 2021**

(Copy herewith)

**12. PAY POLICY 2018/19**

(Copy herewith)

**13. CLIMATE EMERGENCY CARBON FOOTPRINT**

(Copy herewith)

**14. CORPORATE PLAN**

(Copy herewith)

**15. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

(Copy herewith)

**16. NOTICES OF MOTION**

1) Councillor Roberts to propose and Councillor Russell to second:

“This Council notes:

- That analysis of the 2019 Local Election results by the Fawcett Society found that only 35% of councillors in England are women, up 1% since 2018. Of the seats that were up for election in 2019, 35% went to women, up just 3 percentage points on 2015 when these seats were last contested;
- Following the 2019 local elections, 45% of Labour councillors are female, 30% of Conservative councillors are female and 34% of Liberal Democrat councillors are female;
- As of October 2019, 36 councils have passed a Parental Leave policy.
- In 2019, the LGA co-produced the 21st Century Councils Equalities Toolkit with MHCLG. The toolkit recommends that councils adopt a parental leave policy, and that they link to the LGA Labour’s Parental Leave policy as a model to adopt;
- That the role of a councillor should be open to all, regardless of their background, and that introducing a parental leave policy is a step towards encouraging a wider range of people to become councillors, and is also a step to encourage existing councillors who may want to start a family to

remain as councillors;

- That parental leave must apply to parents regardless of their gender, and that it should also cover adoption leave to support those parents who choose to adopt.

**This Council resolves:**

To adopt a parental leave policy to give all councillors an entitlement to parental leave after giving birth or adopting;  
To ensure that councillors with children and other caring commitments are supported as appropriate; “

2) To be proposed by Councillor Stone and seconded by Councillor Duffy:

“We note that all the party manifestos promised new money for youth. This council recognises that well-resourced youth work in Northampton will deliver many benefits.

It will:-

provide meaningful and enriching activities for young people  
provide jobs and career pathways for young people  
deflect young people from gangs and criminal activity  
enable young people to develop a voice and contribute to the regeneration of the town.  
To this end we agree to support the local campaign for a Youth Centre for Northampton.  
The centre will be multifaceted and provide a focus for developing our understanding of what young people in the town need, for developing youth work, and developing a youth voice for the town.  
A youth centre, particularly in the town centre, will bring new energy and commitment to the town.”

3) Councillor Beardsworth to propose and Councillor Meredith to second:

“In addition to expected elections to choose members of the new West Northants Unitary Authority, May 2020 will see elections for a new Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire and also, elsewhere, for a new Mayor of London.

Both the Commissioner and Mayoral posts will be elected via the Supplementary Vote system but Councillors for the West Northamptonshire authority will be elected to three-member divisions/wards under the First Past The Post (FPTP) system. On the basis of previous election results in the county, it is likely that many of those elected will not secure an absolute majority of votes cast.

This Council believes that:

- the adoption of proportional representation for some English elections, as well as elections elsewhere in the UK, recognises the weakness of the first past the post system;
- elections to a new authority which replaces Northamptonshire County and

Northampton Borough are based on outdated electoral boundaries, most of which were single-member divisions, and these do not best represent voters.

- a supplementary vote system would ensure that councillors representing Northampton are more representative of the views of those who elect them.

This Council resolves to make representations to national government to consider the introduction of the Single Transferable Voting system for future elections to the West Northants. Unitary Authority.”

4) Councillor King to propose and Councillor Nunn to second:

“We encourage the celebration of religious, cultural, and historical occasions, of which fireworks can be an integral part, but we discourage public nuisance. Unsocial hours, and prolonging periods over which fireworks are used, can cause anxiety to many people and to their pets. We believe in keeping our town and its residents safe, for them to be able to enjoy a peaceful life, whilst ensuring that their health and wellbeing is maintained.

Well promoted and supervised, public firework events are one way in which fireworks can be enjoyed safely and responsibly, such as the council’s bonfire night which 10,000 attended and enjoyed last year.

**This Council resolves:**

- to request all public firework displays within the local authority boundaries to be advertised in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people
- to actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people – including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks
- Well-meaning celebration can become public nuisance”

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

George Candler – Chief Executive  
The Guildhall  
Northampton

**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 at 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, 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](http://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

Democratic Services: e-mail [democraticservices@northampton.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@northampton.gov.uk)

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