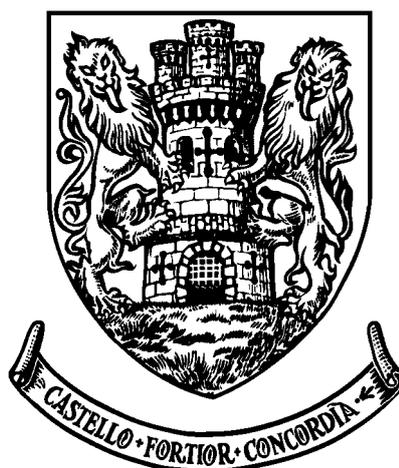


NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL



COUNCIL

Monday, 2 November 2020

YOU ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL, WHICH WILL BE HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM:

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/USER/NORTHAMPTONBCTV](https://www.youtube.com/user/northamptonbctv) 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 14th and 28th September 2020.

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 Meredith to make a statement on "Rose of the Shires"

9. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE AND NEXT STEPS

(Copy herewith)

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

i) Councillor Roberts to propose and Councillor Birch to second:

“1 in 10 children in Northamptonshire receive free school meals. For many of these children this is the only hot and substantial meal they receive.

Free School meals are not customarily available during school holidays. Working parents incur additional childcare costs around the holidays. Families already struggling with low budgets find it difficult to feed their children. Children most at risk of hunger during the holidays may also suffer from social isolation, loneliness, and inactivity. These factors combined can lead to significant weight loss or gain, and negative impacts on physical and mental well-being.

This is a problem highlighted further with the current pandemic and one that is likely to increase and definitely not go away. Covid-19 is a natural phenomenon, poverty is not, and the containment of the virus will not end this plight.

We call on this Council to write to:-

- Support a call to action for Northampton MPs to support the extension of the of the voucher scheme to all school holiday periods and to look to embed the scheme all year round.
- Call on National Government to act to ensure this gap is filled.
- To support calls to protect pupils forced to self-isolate, who will not receive their free school meal and may go hungry.

We further call on this Council:-

- To work with Partners to establish Holiday Clubs where children can access social activities as well as food, providing financial relief for parents on very low incomes, so that no child goes hungry over any school holiday.
- To scope and investigate the possibility of harnessing additional funding targeted to identified groups who already do or wish to offer these services.
- To scope and investigate the potential for directing a portion of the community fund budget into community organisations, who already do, or wish to, offer these services.

What is needed is joined up working with the County Council and a commitment to take this motion forward into the West Northants authority.”

ii) Councillor Roberts to propose and Councillor Joyce to second:

Northampton Borough Council’s Tree Policy was written in 2016, with no serious amendments or considerations since that time. The policy is out of date and falls short of those used by other councils.

There are no pictures to show what a good tree in Northampton looks like, and it fails to join up planning policy.

There is a negative bias that over-emphasises the challenges and conflicts without enough content about the benefits or solutions that would lead to improvement of Northampton’s urban forest and community engagement around them.

There are many more positive benefits that trees bring to urban environments. For example, they can increase house prices, improve health and wellbeing. They can also encourage more sustainable lifestyle choices. There is very little on the biodiversity benefit.

We call on this Council to:

1. Note the significant role trees play in enhancing accessible green spaces, improving air quality, restoring and protecting soil health, creating wildlife habitat, mitigating flood risk and benefiting public health;
2. Recognise the contribution trees make to the environment in our towns including shading and cooling, pollution and noise mitigation, as well speeding up floodwater drainage and improving the quality of our street scene.

3. Call for a review of current policies on, and attitude towards, the planting of trees appropriate to our urban areas with a view to introducing a more proactive policy, which looks to increase the number and regularity of trees planted in our town and residential streets and parks and other open spaces;
4. Call for a new strategy to include providing opportunities to educate children in understanding the benefits of trees and to get involved in tree planting;
5. Recommends closer partnership working with the, and landowners seeking sites for new tree planting
6. Recommends a Tree Summit bringing together the Local Councils, Park Rangers, Landowners and partners responsible for land maintenance, the Woodland Trust and members of the public to work out how to plant more trees in our town, residential streets and in our parks and other open spaces.
7. Culminate this action into a working Tree Policy that includes but is not exhaustive of the following:
 - To allow for ‘replacement in situ’ of valuable urban trees.
 - For a regular maintenance plan to be outlined.
 - There should be a mapping exercise. This is not just for existing trees, but for planting opportunities.
 - Stronger tree policies that informs infrastructure design and prevents conflicts.
 - Arboricultural Officer (s) at the heart of plans
 - Parameters agreed on what residents can and can’t do to trees.
 - A clear inclusion of the responsibilities for Trees on Council owned/NPH run land, taking account of the tree size and maintenance requirements
 - More information on tree benefits.
 - Detail references that reflect the growing research and evidence into the benefits of trees.
 - Recognises an opportunity for the council to adopt CAVAT – a way of valuing its stock when the trees need removing for development, so they can get money back for replanting: <https://www.ltoa.org.uk/resources/cavat>.

iii) Councillor B Markham to propose and Councillor Beardsworth to second:

“During the 2019 General Election Campaign the Prime Minister promised that he had a plan for the reform of Adult Social Care and that a Green Paper on the future of care would be produced within 100 Days of a Conservative victory.

No green paper has been forthcoming and so far there have not been the promised All Party Talks designed to produce a financially sustainable long term answer to the Social Care Crisis, in England and Wales.

1. This council believes that the continued failure of national government to reform social care threatens the lives and well-being of our residents and poses serious financial risks to the new West Northamptonshire Unitary.
2. This council therefore supports 'The lives we want to lead' – the LGA green paper for adult social care and asks our local MPs and the Government to engage with the Adult Social Care, All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) to achieve a non-party sustainable long term answer to the future provision of Adult Social Care.”

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

'Whilst this Council does everything it can to combat the COVID19 virus it is important to raise awareness of the impact that this pandemic can have on the mental health and well-being of the people of Northampton. At the beginning of October, during Mental Health Week, we recognised the work of the charity Action for Happiness and delivered their free online session aimed at improving the mental health and wellbeing of Northamptonians.

This Council resolves to extend these sessions through the mandate of NBC's Health and Well-being Forum and work with the voluntary, public and private sectors with immediate effect to make this a regular event and free for all residents, workers and visitors to Northampton.'

11. 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 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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