



NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING

You are hereby summoned to a meeting of the EPPING FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL to be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, HIGH STREET, EPPING at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 25 February 2020 for the purpose of transacting the business set out in the agenda.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G Blakemore'.

Georgina Blakemore
Chief Executive

Democratic Services
Officer:

Democratic Services Tel: (01992) 564243
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WEBCASTING/FILMING NOTICE

Please note: this meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site - at the start of the meeting the Chairman will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed. The meeting may also be otherwise filmed by third parties with the Chairman's permission.

You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act. Data collected during this webcast will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy.

Therefore by entering the Chamber and using the lower public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for web casting and/or training purposes. If members of the public do not wish to have their image captured they should sit in the upper council chamber public gallery area or otherwise indicate to the Chairman before the start of the meeting.

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the Public Relations Manager on 01992 564039.

BUSINESS**1. WEBCASTING INTRODUCTION**

This meeting is to be webcast. Members are reminded of the need to activate their microphones before speaking. The Democratic Services Officer will read the following announcement:

“The Chairman would like to remind everyone present that this meeting will be broadcast live to the internet (or filmed) and will be capable of repeated viewing (or another use by such third parties).

If you are seated in the lower public seating area it is likely that the recording cameras will capture your image and this will result in the possibility that your image will become part of the broadcast.

This may infringe your human and data protection rights and if you wish to avoid this you should move to the upper public gallery.”

2. DAVID BARRETT

The Council is invited to stand for a minute’s silence in tribute to the memory of David Barrett, the former Area Housing Manager (South) who recently passed away.

3. MINUTES (Pages 9 - 38)

To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2019 (attached).

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To declare interests in any item on the agenda.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (a) Apologies for Absence
- (b) Chairman’s Announcements

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

To answer questions asked after notice in accordance with the provisions contained within Part 4 of the Council Rules of the Constitution on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the District:

- (a) to the Leader of the Council;
- (b) to any Portfolio Holder; or
- (c) to the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Questions, if any, will follow if not received in time to be incorporated into the agenda.

7. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS UNDER NOTICE

To answer questions asked after notice in accordance with the provisions contained

within the Council's rules in Part 4 of the Constitution on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the District:

- (a) to the Chairman of the Council;
- (b) to the Leader of the Council;
- (c) to any Member of the Cabinet; or
- (d) the Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee.

The Council's rules provide that answers to questions under notice may take the form of:

- (a) direct oral answer;
- (b) where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, a reference to that publication; or
- (c) where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated later to the questioner.

Answers to questions falling within (a) and (b) above will be made available to the member asking the question one hour before the meeting. Answers to questions falling within (c) above will be circulated to all councillors.

Councillor C C Pond is invited to read out his question to the Planning Services Portfolio Holder

"What was his reasoning behind the release of planning permission on EPF/2092/18, Lippitts Hill, Waltham Abbey, when the increase in emissions in an area very close to the Special Area of Conservation would be likely to be significant when compared with the current (as opposed to some theoretical maximisation of the currently permitted) use."

Any further questions will follow, if not received in time to be incorporated into the agenda and are in accordance with Council procedure rule Q1 Questions by Members Following Notice.

8. REPORTS FROM THE LEADER & MEMBERS OF THE CABINET (Pages 39 - 64)

To receive reports and any announcements from the Leader and members of the Cabinet on matters falling within their area of responsibility:

- (a) Report of the Leader;
- (b) Report of the Business Support Services Portfolio Holder (attached);
- (c) Report of the Contract and Technical Services Portfolio Holder (attached);
- (d) Report of the Commercial and Regulatory Services Portfolio Holder (attached);
- (e) Report of the Community and Partnership Services Portfolio Holder (attached);
- (f) Report of the Customer Services Portfolio Holder (attached);

- (g) Report of the Housing and Property Services Portfolio Holder (attached);
- (i) Report of the Planning Services Portfolio Holder (attached); and
- (j) Report of the Strategic Projects Portfolio Holder (attached).

9. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS WITHOUT NOTICE

The Council's rules provide for questions by any member of the Council to the Leader or any Portfolio Holder, without notice on:

- (i) reports under the previous item; or
- (ii) any other matter of a non operational character in relation to the powers and duties of the Council or which affects all or part of the District or some or all of its inhabitants.

The Council's rules provide that answers to questions without notice may take the form of:

- (a) a direct oral answer from the Leader or, at the request of the Leader, from another member of the Cabinet;
- (b) where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, a reference to that publication;
- (c) where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated later to the questioner; or
- (d) where the question relates to an operational matter, the Leader or a member of the Cabinet will request that a response be given direct to the questioner by the relevant Service Director.

In accordance with the Council's rules, a time limit of thirty minutes is set for questions. Any question not dealt with within the time available will receive a written reply. The Chairman may extend this period by up to a further ten minutes at their discretion.

10. MOTIONS

(a) Impact of Sky Lanterns and Helium-filled Balloons

Proposed by: Councillor S. Murray

Seconded by: Councillor S. Neville

"That Epping Forest District Council

- (1) Notes the environmental and biological impact of the release of sky lanterns and helium-filled balloons;
- (2) Asks our environmental services team to prepare a report on the possibility and practicalities of banning their release on Council owned land; and
- (3) Resolves to write to the new Government to ask them to actively consider a general legal ban on their release".

(b) International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Guidelines on Antisemitism

Proposed by: Councillor C. Whitbread

Seconder: Councillor J. Philip

“Epping Forest District Council abhors racism in all forms and is particularly concerned at the rise in profile and frequency of antisemitism nationally.

We therefore welcome the Government’s announcement on 11 December 2016 that it will sign up to the internationally recognised International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) guidelines on antisemitism which define antisemitism as:

‘Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, towards Jewish Community institutions and religious facilities.’

The guidelines highlight manifestations of antisemitism as including:

- calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion;
- making mendacious, dehumanising, demonising or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective, such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions;
- accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews;
- denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust);
- accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust;
- accusing Jewish citizens as being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations;
- denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g. by claiming that the existence of the State of Israel is a racist endeavour;
- applying double standards by requiring of it a behaviour not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation;
- using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g. claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterise Israel or Israelis;
- drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis; and
- holding Jews collectively responsible for the actions of the state of Israel;

This Council therefore resolves to:

- (1) State its condemnation of all forms of racism in all of its manifestations; and
- (2) Adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism as the working model for challenging and confronting incidents of this form of racism.”

(c) To consider any further motions, notice of which has been given under the Council's procedure rules.

Reports of the Cabinet

11. PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2020/21 (Pages 65 - 72)

(Strategic Projects Portfolio Holder on behalf of the Business Service Portfolio Holder)
To consider the attached report.

12. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2020/21 (Pages 73 - 76)

(Customer Services Portfolio Holder) To consider the attached report.

13. STATUTORY STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS - 2018/19 (Pages 77 - 176)

(Leader) To consider the attached report.

14. COUNCIL BUDGET 2020/21 (Pages 177 - 288)

(Leader) To consider the attached report.

Notes

That a recorded vote is held on the recommendations contained within the report, in accordance with the Council Procedure Rule V3 'Voting at Budget Decision Council 18 February 2016 Meetings' which directs Members to comply with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, immediately after any vote is taken at a budget decision meeting there must be recorded in the minutes of the proceedings of that meeting the names of the persons who cast a vote for the decision or against the decision or who abstained from voting.

"Budget decision" means a meeting at which:

(a) a calculation is made (whether originally or by way of substitute) in accordance with any of the Sections 31A, 31B, 34 to 36A, 42A, 42B, 45 to 49, 52ZF, 52ZJ of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended; or

(b) a precept is issued under Chapter 4 of Part 1 of that Act,

and includes a meeting where making the calculation or issuing the precept as the case may be was included as an item of business on the agenda for that meeting.

References to a vote are references to a vote not only on the substantive budget motions agreeing the budget, setting council taxes or issuing precepts, but also on any amendments proposed at the meeting.

15. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS 2019/20 (Pages 289 - 290)

To consider the attached report.

16. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (Pages 291 - 294)

To receive the report of the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and to answer any questions without notice asked in accordance with Council Rules.

17. JOINT ARRANGEMENTS & EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

- (a) To receive from Council representatives the reports (attached - if any) on the business of joint arrangements and external organisations and to receive answers to any questions on those bodies which may be put without notice; and
- (b) To request written reports from representatives on joint arrangements and external organisations for future meetings.

18. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

Exclusion: To consider whether, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press should be excluded from the meeting for the items of business set out below on grounds that they will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the following paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended) or are confidential under Section 100(A)(2):

| Agenda Item No | Subject | Exempt Paragraph Number | Info |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Nil | Nil | Nil | |

The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, which came into effect on 1 March 2006, requires the Council to consider whether maintaining the exemption listed above outweighs the potential public interest in disclosing the information. Any member who considers that this test should be applied to any currently exempted matter on this agenda should contact the proper officer at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Background Papers: Article 17 of the Constitution (Access to Information) define background papers as being documents relating to the subject matter of the report which in the Proper Officer's opinion:

- (a) disclose any facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the report is based; and
- (b) have been relied on to a material extent in preparing the report and does not include published works or those which disclose exempt or confidential information and in respect of executive reports, the advice of any political advisor.

The Council will make available for public inspection for four years after the date of the meeting one copy of each of the documents on the list of background papers.