

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL



COUNCIL

Monday, 14 December 2015

YOU ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL, WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE GUILDHALL NORTHAMPTON ON MONDAY, 14 DECEMBER 2015 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 Extraordinary Meeting of Council held on the 2nd November 2015 and the Meeting of Council held also on the 2nd November 2015.

3. APOLOGIES.

4. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS

6. MEMBER AND PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

(Copy herewith)

7. CABINET MEMBER PRESENTATIONS

8. OPPOSITION GROUP BUSINESS

Councillor Ashraf to make a statement on the "Crisis in Social and Affordable Housing".

9. TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REPORT 2015-16

(Copy herewith)

10. NOMINATION OF MAYOR AS PRESIDENT OF NORTHAMPTON SEA CADETS

(Copy herewith)

11. DUSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

(Copy herewith)

12. CHANGE TO COMMITTEE PLACES

(Copy herewith)

13. EXTENSION OF THE 6 MONTHS RULE FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

(Copy herewith)

14. POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES REVIEW

(Copy herewith)

15. PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

(Copy herewith)

16. NOTICES OF MOTION

- i) Councillor Birch to propose and Councillor Marriott to second:

“This Council recognises the ongoing problem of HIMO’s in many parts of the town.

It is further recognised that in recent times this Council has taken action (with cross party support) in tackling this ongoing problem.

This Council asks the relevant Cabinet members and the appropriate senior officers to investigate the possibility of having no more than 10 per cent of HIMO’S in 50 metres in the Article 4 area and 10% of 100 metres for the rest of the borough”.

- ii) Councillor Stone to propose and Councillor Ashraf to second:

“This council notes:

That the Housing and Planning Bill is currently being debated in Parliament, and if passed would threaten the provision of affordable homes for rent and buy through:

- forcing 'high-value' council homes to be sold on the open market
- extending the right-to-buy to housing association tenants
- undermining section 106 requirements on private developers to provide affordable homes.

That there is no commitment in the Bill that affordable homes will be replaced like-for-like in the local area.

That whilst measures to help first-time buyers are welcome, the 'starter homes' proposals in the Bill will be unaffordable to families and young people on ordinary incomes in most parts of the country; will not preserve the taxpayer investment; and will be built at the expense of genuinely-affordable homes to rent and buy.

That the Bill undermines localism by taking 32 new wide and open-ended powers for the secretary over councils and local communities, including the ability to override local plans, to mandate rents for social tenants, and to impose a levy on stock-holding councils, violating the terms of the housing revenue account self-financing deal.

That the Bill, whilst introducing some welcome measures to get to grips with rogue landlords, does not help with the high rents, poor conditions and insecurity affecting many of England's 11m private renters – including one in four families with children - and does nothing to help arrest the recent rise in homelessness.

This council resolves:

To analyse and report on the likely impact of the forced sale of council homes, the extension of right-to-buy and the 'starter homes' requirement on the local availability of affordable homes. Such a report should be presented to a Cabinet meeting.

To analyse and report on any further likely impacts of the Bill on the local area.

To use this information to:

1. Support the Leader of the Council in writing to the Secretary of State with our concerns about the Bill.
2. Set up an urgent meeting between the Leader of the Council, Leaders of the Labour and Lib Dem Groups and the Chief Executive with the local members of Parliament to raise our concerns.
3. Make public our concerns, including by publishing the above information on the council's website and promoting through the local press”.

iii) Councillor Davenport to propose and Councillor G Eales to second:

“This Council believes that all houses with gardens should have wheelie bins. Providing there is suitable access for both the wheelie bin to be brought to the front of the property and a refuse lorry.

This Council further believes it is more economical to have wheelie bins than pay for a truck following the contractor to collect the 'unofficial bags' and we now have a big problem with rats.

This Council also believes that Section 46 notices are important tool in tackling the problem of putting out too many sacks. However, the effectiveness is limited as usually people do not leave evidence and there are not the resources to police it.

This Council asks the Cabinet to cost how much it would be to ensure all houses with gardens (providing there is suitable access) have wheelie bins. Once this is done the Cabinet will seek to ensure this will happen once the present contract comes to an end and/or is renewed at the latest”.

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

“The Conservative party reportedly received £36,000 in donations on the run up to the

2015 General Election from individuals connected to the Cobblers loan.

Given that this loan money has currently gone missing, it is essential we retrieve as much as possible of the £10.25m, and that we avoid any perception of impropriety beyond what cannot be avoided.

Therefore, this Council resolves to formally request the return of all and any donations linked to anyone that could have financially benefitted from this loan to this Council from the Conservative Party, to be accounted against the NTFC loan”.

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

“Project Angel, the County Council’s new offices are expected to be complete by this time next year, Despite bringing thousands of extra workers into the town centre the project officers little new parking provision

At this moment in time, it is understood that NCC is in discussions with NBC regarding staff parking,

However, over the last several years we have seen a substantial reduction in parking capacity in the town centre, particularly in the South. At the same time, developments on these former parking sites increase pressure on the service

This Council therefore resolves to undertake a full audit of car parking capacity within the town centre, to ensure that future provision is adequate, to be presented to Council within 3 months”.

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

The Guildhall
Northampton

D. Kennedy Chief Executive

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 and 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, faxed or 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

Democratic Services: e-mail democraticservices@northampton.gov.uk

Tel 01604 837722

Mail Democratic Services
Northampton Borough Council
The Guildhall
St Giles Square
Northampton NN1 1DE