NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL



COUNCIL

Monday, 18 January 2021

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

HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/USER/NORTHAMPTONBCTV ON MONDAY, 18

JANUARY 2021 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 September, 28th September and 2nd November 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 Stone to make a statement on "Looking Ahead"

9. NORTHAMPTON LOCAL PLAN PART 2: SUBMISSION VERSION

10. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - NEXT STEPS (A)

11. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - NEXT STEPS (B)

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

i) Councillor Cali to propose and Councillor Ashraf to second:

Fireworks have gone from being a once a year, bonfire night event to being used throughout the year to mark many different events. In fact, over Christmas and New year they seem as popular as on Guy Fawkes. While they can bring much enjoyment to some people, they can cause significant problems and fear for animals and other people.

It is not only domestic animals but also farm livestock and wild animals who can suffer psychological distress and injuries, sometimes very serious ones, as they attempt to run away or hide from the noise.

The unpredictable loud and high intensity noises that many fireworks make can cause fear.

The RSPCA believes the law is failing as it does not prevent or sufficiently reduce the risk of fireworks causing distress, injury or anxiety to people, as well as death, injury or distress to animals.

The RSPCA believes that further research is needed to properly understand the impact of noise on animals and a number of things can be done to improve the situation for animals and people by:

- introducing a limit on the public use of fireworks on or close to specific dates and times
- tightening restrictions on the sale of fireworks in the run up to Bonfire night
- reducing the maximum noise level of fireworks sold to the public, ensuring they are labelled accurately
- licensing all public firework displays and ensuring displays are better advertised to the public.

Whilst we recognise that this is a regulated activity, the regulation of which is via trading standards through the County Council, we believe that Northampton Boroug Council can play a part in supporting the RSPCA campaign.

This Council resolves:

- 1. to require 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.
- 2. to actively promote a public awareness campaign via social media and other 'Let's Talk' opportunities about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks.
- 3. that the Leader of Northampton Borough Council write to the UK Government urging them to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90dB for those sold to the public for private displays.
- 4. to share this information with the local suppliers of fireworks to encourage them to stock 'quieter' fireworks for public display.

13. 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 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, 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

<u>www.northampton.gov.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?fileID=1919</u> 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

Fax 01604 837057

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