

10 April 2024

Our Ref Council 18 April 2024
Contact. Committee Services
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To: The Chair and Members of North Hertfordshire District Council

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

to be held in the

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES, GERON
ROAD, LETCHWORTH**

on

THURSDAY, 18TH APRIL, 2024

at

7.30 PM

Yours sincerely,

Jeanette Thompson
Service Director – Legal and Community

****MEMBERS PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU DOWNLOAD ALL AGENDAS AND REPORTS VIA THE MOD.GOV APPLICATION ON YOUR TABLET BEFORE ATTENDING THE MEETING****

Agenda

Part I

Item		Page
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2.	MINUTES - 25 JANUARY 2024 AND 29 FEBRUARY 2024	5 - 46
	To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 25 January 2024 and 29 February 2024.	
3.	NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS	
	Members should notify the Chair of other business which they wish to be discussed at the end of either Part I or Part II business set out in the agenda. They must state the circumstances which they consider justify the business being considered as a matter of urgency.	
	The Chair will decide whether any item(s) raised will be considered.	
4.	CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	
	<u>Climate Emergency</u>	
	The Council has declared a climate emergency and is committed to achieving a target of zero carbon emissions by 2030 and helping local people and businesses to reduce their own carbon emissions.	
	A Cabinet Panel on the Environment has been established to engage with local people on matters relating to the climate emergency and advise the council on how to achieve these climate change objectives. A Climate Change Implementation group of councillors and council officers meets regularly to produce plans and monitor progress. Actions taken or currently underway include switching to green energy, incentives for low emission taxis, expanding tree planting and working to cut food waste.	
	In addition the council is a member of the Hertfordshire Climate Change and Sustainability Partnership, working with other councils across Hertfordshire to reduce the county's carbon emissions and climate impact.	
	The Council's dedicated webpage on Climate Change includes details of the council's climate change strategy, the work of the Cabinet Panel on the Environment and a monthly briefing on progress.	

Ecological Emergency

The Council has declared an ecological emergency and is committed to addressing the ecological emergency and nature recovery by identifying appropriate areas for habitat restoration and biodiversity net gain whilst ensuring that development limits impact on existing habitats in its process.

The Council has set out to do that by a) setting measurable targets and standards for biodiversity increase, in both species and quantities, seeking to increase community engagement, b) to work with our partners to establish a Local Nature Partnership for Hertfordshire and to develop Nature Recovery Networks and Nature Recovery Strategy for Hertfordshire and c) to investigate new approaches to nature recovery such as habitat banking that deliver biodiversity objectives and provide new investment opportunities.

Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded that any declarations of interest in respect of any business set out in the agenda, should be declared as either a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Declarable Interest and are required to notify the Chair of the nature of any interest declared at the commencement of the relevant item on the agenda. Members declaring a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest must withdraw from the meeting for the duration of the item. Members declaring a Declarable Interest, wishing to exercise a 'Councillor Speaking Right', must declare this at the same time as the interest, move to the public area before speaking to the item and then must leave the room before the debate and vote.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public.

6. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

To consider any questions submitted by Members of the Council, in accordance with Standing Order 4.8.11 (b).

7. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

To consider any motions, due notice of which have been given in accordance with Standing Order 4.8.12.

8. ITEMS REFERRED FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

To consider any items referred from other Committees. Any items referred to this meeting will be published as a supplementary document.

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9. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT REPORT

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – LEGAL AND COMMUNITY AND MONITORING OFFICER

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This report covers proposed wording changes in respect of the appointment of the Executive Leader following the North Hertfordshire (Electoral Changes) Order 2023, and the elections in 2024. This is to correspond with the factual and legislative change post Local Government Boundary Review and The North Hertfordshire (Electoral Changes) Order 2023 and terminology, to improve certainty.

10. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To consider passing the following resolution:

That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the following report will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act (as amended).

11. PART 2 MINUTES - 28 SEPTEMBER 2023

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To take as read and approve as a true record the Part 2 minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 28 September 2023.

12. SALE OF LAND AT HITCHIN ROAD, WESTON KNOWN AS THE SNIPE - PART 2

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REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL ESTATES SURVEYOR AND THE ESTATE SURVEYOR

Report seeking approval of the sale of North Hertfordshire District Council's (NHDC's) freehold interest in land at The Snipe, Hitchin Road, Weston based on terms negotiated following Cabinet's resolution on 15th December 2020 (minute number 14). The land is an allocated housing site in the adopted North Herts Local Plan. This paper sets out the commercially sensitive terms referred to in Part 1.

13. SALE OF LAND AT HITCHIN ROAD, WESTON KNOWN AS THE SNIPE - PART 1

75 - 90

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL ESTATES SURVEYOR AND THE ESTATE SURVEYOR

Report seeking approval of the sale of North Hertfordshire District Council's (NHDC's) freehold interest in land at The Snipe, Hitchin Road, Weston based on terms negotiated following Cabinet's resolution on 15th December 2020 (minute number 14). The land is an allocated housing site in the adopted North Herts Local Plan. The commercially sensitive terms are set out in the Part 2 report.