

15 May 2024

Our Ref Council 23 May 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,
LETCWORTH GARDEN CITY, SG6 3JF**

on

THURSDAY, 23RD MAY, 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.	ELECTION OF THE CHAIR OF COUNCIL FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2024-25	
2.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
3.	ELECTION OF THE VICE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2024-25	
4.	MINUTES - 18 APRIL 2024	5 - 14
	To take as read and approve as a true record the public minutes of the meeting held on the 18 April 2024.	
5.	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.

- 6. DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS (INCLUDING ALL POLLS) – 15 - 32**
2 MAY 2024
REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER
- To receive a report detailing the results of the District and Police and Crime Commissioner polls held on 2 May 2024, including uncontested Parish Council elections.
- 7. ELECTION OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL 2024-28**
- 8. APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY LEADER OF COUNCIL AND MEMBERS 33 - 36**
OF THE CABINET FOR 2024/25
REPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER
- To inform the Council of the Leader's appointment of members of the Cabinet for 2024/25.
- 9. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES, JOINT COMMITTEES 37 - 52**
AND PANELS FOR 2024/25
REPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER
- To inform the Council of the appointment of members of Committees for 2024/25.

- 10. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES FOR 2024/25** 53 - 58
REPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER
- To inform the Council of the appointment of Chairs and Vice Chairs for 2024/25
- 11. ADJOURNMENT**
- The Annual Meeting of Council will adjourn to allow meetings of each Community Forum to convene and elect Chairs and Vice Chairs for the civic year 2024- 2025.
- 12. KEY DECISIONS - LEADER'S ANNUAL REPORT ON CASES OF SPECIAL URGENCY** 59 - 64
REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
- To inform the Council of any occasions over the past year where provisions relating to "Special Urgency" have been used in connection with the publication of an intention to make a Key Decision, as required by legislation.
- 13. SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL MEETINGS 2024/25** 65 - 72
REPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER
- To seek approval of a programme of ordinary meetings of the Council for the Civic Year 2024/25.
- 14. NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER BODIES FOR 2024/25** 73 - 80
REPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER
- To present a list to Council setting out the nomination of representatives on Outside Organisations and Other Bodies for 2024/25.
- 15. 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)
- 16. PART 2 MINUTES - 18 APRIL 2024** 81 - 86
- To take as read and approve as a true record the Part 2 minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 18 April 2024.