

11 September 2024

Our Ref Council 19 September 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, GERNO
N ROAD, LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY, SG6 3JF**

on

THURSDAY, 19TH SEPTEMBER, 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 - 11 JULY 2024 To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 11 July 2024. | 5 - 24 |
| 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. <u>Ecological Emergency</u> 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.

25 - 34

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.

9. MEMBER AND OFFICER INDEMNITY

REPORT OF THE LEGAL MANAGER AND DEPUTY MONITORING OFFICER

35 - 44

To obtain Council's endorsement of an updated Member and Officer Indemnity Policy, and to bring this issue to the attention of the membership (and Officers) in terms of limit to any insurance or indemnity that is provided.

10. COUNCIL PLAN AND PRIORITIES 2024-2028

REPORT OF THE POLICY AND COMMUNITIES MANAGER

45 - 64

This report proposes a new Council Plan and process for finalising the Plan.

11. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2025-30

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES

65 - 82

To consider the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

- 12. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT AND RESERVE INDEPENDENT PERSONS** 83 - 90
REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – LEGAL AND COMMUNITY AND MONITORING OFFICER
- This report seeks approval to appoint an Independent Person ('IP'), and two Reserve IPs for a period of up to 4 years (as per the recommendation below) 2 years and potential extension for a further 2 years), such appointments to take effect from 24 September 2024.
- 13. FIRST QUARTER INVESTMENT STRATEGY (CAPITAL AND TREASURY) REVIEW 2024/25** 91 - 116
REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES
- To receive an update on progress with delivering the capital and treasury strategy for 2024/25, as at the end of June 2024.
- 14. UPDATED CONTRACT PROCUREMENT RULES FOR 2024-25** 117 -
REPORT OF THE CONTROLS RISK & PERFORMANCE MANAGER 162
- This report sets out the proposed changes to the Contract Procurement Rules for review.
- 15. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS MADE FOLLOWING TEMPORARY RESTRUCTURE** 163 -
REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR: LEGAL & COMMUNITY & MONITORING OFFICER 166
- To confirm the amendments made following the Managing Director's Delegated Decision of 25 July 2024, to implement a temporary restructure, in respect of the Licensing and Community Safety teams from the Legal & Community Directorate to the Housing and Environmental Health Directorate.
- 16. NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON BALDOCK UNITED ALMSHOUSES CHARITY (OUTSIDE ORGANISATION)** 167 -
REPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER 172
- To consider a further appointment of a Member Representative to the Baldock United Almshouses Charity, following notification that 4 Member Trustees are required.