

3 July 2024

Our Ref Council 11 July 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, 11TH JULY, 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 - 23 MAY 2024 To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 23 May 2024.	7 - 18
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 19 - 30
To consider any items referred from other Committees.

8A) Annual Report on Risk Management Governance – **to be considered with item 12**

8B) Referral from Cabinet: Investment Strategy (Capital and Treasury) End of Year Review 2023/24 - **to be considered with item 13**

8C) Referral from Cabinet: Revenue Budget Outturn 2023/24 – **to be considered with item 14**

8D) Annual report of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee – **to be considered with item 17**

8E) Referral from Cabinet: Leisure Investment Options – **to be considered with item 20**

Any further referrals from other Committees will be circulated as soon as they are available.

9. KEY DECISIONS - LEADER'S ANNUAL REPORT ON CASES OF SPECIAL URGENCY 31 - 36
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.

10. DISREGARD OF WAR DISABLEMENT INCOME 37 - 52
REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – CUSTOMERS

To consider the adoption of a policy which ensures that members of the armed forces who have been disabled during service or the widows, widowers or surviving civil partner of those who died in service are recognised and not financially penalised when calculating entitlement to housing benefit.

11. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW TERMS OF REFERENCE 53 - 74
REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER

For Council to agree the Terms of Reference for the Community Governance Review (CGR) - to signify the formal start of the Review and launch of the first stage of consultation.

12. ANNUAL REPORT ON RISK MANAGEMENT GOVERNANCE 2023-24 75 - 98
REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES

A year end report on the Councils' Risk Management Governance for 2023/24.

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| 13. | INVESTMENT STRATEGY (CAPITAL AND TREASURY) END OF YEAR REVIEW 2023/24
REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES | 99 - 132 |
| | To consider the Investment Strategy (Capital and Treasury) End of Year Review. | |
| 14. | REVENUE BUDGET OUTTURN 2023/24
REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR - RESOURCES | 133 -
152 |
| | To consider the Revenue Budget Outturn 2023/24. | |
| 15. | LAND TO THE NORTH OF THE GRANGE (LG1) - STRATEGIC MASTERPLAN FRAMEWORK
REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – REGULATORY | 153 -
312 |
| | To approve the Strategic Masterplan Framework for land to the north of Letchworth Garden City. | |
| 16. | NORTH STEVENAGE STRATEGIC MASTERPLAN FRAMEWORK
REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – REGULATORY | 313 -
436 |
| | To approve the Strategic Masterplan Framework for land to the north of Stevenage. | |
| 17. | FINANCE, AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24
REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES | 437 -
450 |
| | To consider the Annual Report of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee for the 2023/24 Civic Year. | |
| 18. | OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24
REPORT OF THE VICE CHAIR OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2023-24 | 451 -
462 |
| | To consider the Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the 2023-24 Civic Year. | |
| 19. | ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE
REPORT OF MONITORING OFFICER | 463 -
474 |
| | This is the Annual Report in relation to ethical standards for the last year. It covers the work of the Committee as well as the issues that have arisen locally and nationally on ethical standards matters. | |
| 20. | LEISURE INVESTMENTS AND DECARBONISATION PROJECT
REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – PLACE | 475 -
488 |
| | This report provides an update to Council on Phase 3c of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) project for the Council's three leisure centres and seeks approval to take the next steps to deliver the project. It also seeks an increase in the capital allocation for the fitness extension at Royston Leisure Centre. | |