

NOTE: All Members are requested to sign, before the Meeting, the Attendance Register which will be placed in the **Conference Chamber**

ST EDMUNDSBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

JOY BOWES
Head of Legal
and Democratic Services

West Suffolk House
Western Way
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP33 3YU

14 February 2014

To: All Members of the Council

You are hereby summoned to a meeting of the Council to be held in the **Conference Chamber** at **WEST SUFFOLK HOUSE**, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds on **Tuesday 25 February 2014 at 7.00 pm**, when it is proposed to transact the business on the agenda set out below.



Head of Legal and Democratic Services

The Meeting will be opened with Prayers by the Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Canon Jonathan Alderton-Ford of Christ Church, Moreton Hall, Bury St Edmunds.

(Note: Those Members not wishing to be present for prayers should remain in the Members' Breakout Area and will be summoned at the conclusion of prayers.)

PART 1 – PUBLIC

1. **To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 17 December 2013 (Page 1)** (copy attached)
2. **Mayor's communications**
3. **Announcements (if any) from the Leader of the Council or Members of the Cabinet**
4. **Announcements by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (including apologies for absence)**
5. **Declarations of Interests**

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary or local non pecuniary interest which they have in any item of business on the Agenda **no later than when that item is reached** and, when appropriate, to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.

6. **Public Question Time under Section 9 of the Council Procedure Rules**

To hear and answer any questions from members of the public in the public gallery who are residents of the Borough.

(Note: The maximum time to be set aside for this item is 30 minutes, but if all questions are dealt with sooner, or if there are no questions, the Council will proceed to the next business.

*Each such person will be allowed up to a total of **five minutes for their question to be put and answered**. One further question will be allowed arising directly from the reply, **provided that the original time limit of five minutes is not exceeded**.*

***Written questions** may be submitted by members of the public to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services **no later than 10.00 am on Monday 24 February 2014**. The written notification should **detail the full question** to be asked at the meeting of the Council.)*

7. **Mayoralty 2014/2015**

To receive the informal report of the Chairman of the Mayoral Advisory Committee.

8. **Amendment of Standing Orders (Rules of Procedure)**

Central Government has made regulations, coming into force on 25 February 2014, which require Councils to make amendments to their standing orders (known in our Constitution as Rules of Procedure) as soon as is practicable. One of the effects of this is that there has to be a recorded vote when the decision is taken on the budget. The timescale allows the provisions to be adopted in time for the budget decision at this meeting but there has not been the opportunity to consider their wider implications for other meetings. Council is therefore asked to **RESOLVE** that:

- (a) With immediate effect, the Council's Rules of Procedure be amended so as to include the provisions of the Local Government (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014;
- (b) The Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make the necessary textual amendments to the Rules of Procedure to include the new provisions and to make any minor changes (such as to numbering) which arise from those amendments; and
- (c) Democratic Renewal Working Party give consideration to the implications of the Regulations for other meetings.

9. **Schedule of Referrals from Cabinet and Mayoral Advisory Committee**

Schedule attached as Report **E291 (Page 15)**.

A. Referrals from Cabinet – 11 February 2014

- (1) West Suffolk Strategic Plan 2014/2016
- (2) Annual Treasury management and Investment Strategy Statements 2014/2015
- (3) Treasury Management Code of Practice
- (4) Budget and Council Tax Setting: 2014/2015 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2014/2015
- (5) Policy to Discharge Homelessness Duties through the Private Rented Sector
- (6) Guidance Policy on Criminal Convictions
- (7) Joint Statement of Community Involvement (SCI): Adoption
- (8) Moreton Hall, Bury St Edmunds, Masterplan
- (9) Vision 2031: Infrastructure Delivery Plans

B. Referrals from Mayoral Advisory Committee – 5 February 2014

- (1) Mayor Making and Annual Council 2014

10. **Joint Development Management Policies: Consideration of Modifications**

Report **E292** attached. (**Page 45**)

11. **Budget and Council Tax Setting 2014/2015 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2014-2016**

Report **E293** attached. (**Page 49**)

12. **Motion on Notice**

Councillor Mrs Wakleam has given notice under paragraph 12.1 of the Council Procedure Rules of the following motion:

'Council is asked to note:

- 1 *The receipt by the Council of £0.59m by way of New Homes Bonus (NHB) during financial year 2012-13 and £0.757m during 2013-14*
- 2 *That the provision of Homes for our Communities is one of three priorities in the proposed West Suffolk Strategic Plan 2014-16*
- 3 *That the availability of housing for all underpins Strategic Priorities 1: Increased opportunities for economic growth and 2: Resilient families and communities that are healthy and active*
- 4 *That the purpose of NHB is to return the economic benefits of new housing to the community*
- 5 *That research by the Centre for Housing Policy (2011), the National Housing Federation (2013 2014) amongst others, is clear that new*

affordable housing is key to economic growth and that the converse is also true

- 6 *That the number of applicants on the Housing Register, people accepted as homeless and living in temporary accommodation in the Borough continues to rise*
- 7 *That the market cost of housing is unaffordable for increasing numbers of people in the Borough thanks to high prices and low incomes*

And that Council therefore resolves that

- 8 *Not less than 30% of the New Homes Bonus be hypothecated to the provision of affordable housing, such sum to be an accretion to the allocated sum in the budget; and*
- 9 *The Council affirm their public commitment to ensuring that the right new housing in the right place at the right price is provided in the Borough by signing up to the Yes to New Homes campaign organised by the National Housing Federation.'*

Paragraph 12.5 of the Council Procedure Rules states:

'Any motion under paragraph 12.1 of these Rules, on being moved and seconded, will, without discussion, be referred to the appropriate forum for consideration and report except that the Mayor may, if he/she considers it appropriate, allow the motion to be dealt with at the meeting at which it is moved and seconded; provided that the motion, if carried, would not involve the Council in expenditure not included in the Council's approved revenue or capital budget.'

13. **Question on Notice**

Councillor Nettleton has given notice under paragraph 11.2 of the Council Procedure Rules of the following question to Councillor Pugh, Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth:

'If free car parking is to continue in Haverhill or elsewhere in the borough, will bus users be able to reclaim their fare from the borough council on production of a valid ticket?'

Paragraph 11.5 of the Council Procedure Rules states that:

'Every question will be answered without discussion. The Member who is asked the question may decline to answer or may ask another Member to answer but that Member may also decline to answer. An answer may take the form of:-

- (a) *a direct oral answer summarised in the minutes;*
- (b) *where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, a reference to that publication; or*
- (c) *where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally at the meeting, a written answer sent by the appropriate officer and/or relevant Member to all Members within 10 working days of the Council meeting'.*

Paragraph 11.6 states that:

'A Member asking a question under paragraph 11.2 or 11.3 of these Rules may ask one supplementary question, without notice, of a Member to whom the first question was asked. The supplementary question must arise directly from the original question or the reply'.

14. **Report on Special Urgency**

Part 4, Access to Information Procedural Rules, of the Constitution (paragraphs 17.3.1 and 17.3.2) requires the Leader of the Council to submit quarterly reports to the Council on the executive decisions taken, if any, in the circumstances set out in Rule 16, Special Urgency, in the preceding three months.

Accordingly, the Leader of the Council reports that no executive decisions have been taken under the Special Urgency provisions of the Constitution.

15. **Reports and Questions**

(Note: Council Procedure Rule 11.1 of the Constitution requires that:

(a) the time limit for all questions and answers under this item is one and a half hours; and

(b) a maximum of 7 minutes to be initially allocated to each report and questions on that report (to include up to two minutes if necessary for the report writer to present their report). After every report has been received, the Mayor will determine if further questions can be put to the relevant Member(s) in the balance of the hour and a half left available for this session.)

	<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>Cabinet Member</u>	<u>Report No</u>	<u>Page No</u>
(i)	<i>Report from the Leader of the Council</i>	<i>Cllr John Griffiths</i>	E294 attached	121
(ii)	<i>Reports from each Member of the Cabinet, namely:-</i>			
(a)	Deputy Leader	Cllr Sara Mildmay-White	E295 attached	125
(b)	Waste and Property	Cllr Peter Stevens	E296 attached	129
(c)	Housing	Cllr Anne Gower	E297 attached	133
(d)	Resources and Performance	Cllr David Ray	E298 attached	137
(e)	Economic Growth	Cllr Alaric Pugh	E299 attached	147

(f)	Planning and Regulation	Cllr Terry Clements	E300 attached	151
(g)	Communities	Cllr Robert Everitt	E301 attached	155
(h)	Heritage, Arts and Culture	Cllr Sarah Stamp	E302 attached	157
	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Report No</u>	<u>Page No</u>
(iii)	<i>Report from the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee</i>	Cllr Ian Houlder	E303 attached	159
(iv)	<i>Report from the Chairman of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee</i>	Cllr Sarah Broughton	E304 attached	163
(v)	<i>Questions to Chairmen of other Committees</i>		No reports or minutes attached	

Under this item, Members may ask the relevant Chairman questions relating to meetings of the following committees on the dates indicated:-

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Date of Meeting</u>
Development Control	Cllr Jim Thorndyke	2 January 2014 6 February 2014
Licensing & Regulatory Committee	Cllr Frank Warby	21 January 2014