

Council (Council Tax) SUMMONS AND AGENDA

DATE: Thursday 26 February 2015

TIME: 7.30 pm

VENUE: Council Chamber, Harrow
Civic Centre

All Councillors are hereby summoned to attend the Council Meeting for the transaction of the business set out.



Hugh Peart
Director of Legal and Governance Services

Despatch Date: [18 February 2015]

PRAYERS

His Grace Srutidharma Das, Mayor's Chaplain, will open the meeting with Prayers.

1. COUNCIL MINUTES (Pages 9 - 24)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2014 and of the Extraordinary meeting held on 22 January 2015 be taken as read and signed as correct records.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary or non pecuniary interests, arising from business to be transacted at this meeting, from all Members of the Council.

3. PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

To receive and consider any procedural motions by Members of the Council in relation to the conduct of this Meeting. Notice of such procedural motions, received after the issuing of this Summons, will be tabled.

4. PETITIONS

To receive any petitions to be presented:

- (i) by a representative of the petitioners;
- (ii) by a Councillor, on behalf of petitioners;
- (iii) by the Mayor, on behalf of petitioners.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A period of up to 15 minutes is allowed for members of the public to ask questions of members of the Executive, Portfolio Holders and Chairmen of Committees, of which notice has been received no later than 3.00 pm two clear working days prior to the day of this Meeting. Any such questions received will be tabled.

6. PETITIONS (Pages 25 - 30)

In accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme, a petition containing more than 2,000 signatures will be considered/ debated by full Council. The following Petitions meet the threshold of signatures needed to engender a Council debate.

A representative of the petitioners will read the terms of the petition on behalf of the petition signatories. There is a period of one minute allocated to present. A period of ten minutes is permitted for Members to debate the Petition terms and issues.

Following discussion the Council may choose to refer the petition to the Cabinet, a Committee or Corporate Director to determine the matter, taking into account the views expressed by Council.

(a.) FUNDING TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR

A petition containing over 2,000 signatures has been received from MIND in Harrow in relation to funding to the voluntary sector and has the following terms:

“Please do not cut funding for Age Concern, Citizens’ Advice Bureau, MIND in Harrow, Harrow Association for the Disabled & other voluntary organisations.”

(b.) SAVE THE BOB LAWRENCE LIBRARY

A petition containing over 2,000 signatures has been received and has the following terms:

“We the undersigned residents would like the local authority to keep the library open at its present location 6-8 North Parade, Mollison Way, HA8 5QH.”

An Open letter from the Bob Lawrence Library Campaign Team and a petition from children attending Stag Lane Junior School had also been received by Cabinet and referred to Council for consideration alongside the aforementioned petition.

(c.) RAYNERS LANE LIBRARY CLOSURE

A petition containing over 2,000 signatures has been received from students of Nower Hill School and residents and has the following terms:

“We, the undersigned, deplore the proposed closure of Harrow Libraries, particularly that of Rayners Lane, which serves a densely populated area with very few facilities. This Library does excellent work with students and pre-school children and serves as a hub for its diverse community. The loss of this resource would be destructive to the life of the area.”

(d.) SAVE OUR LIBRARY - NORTH HARROW LIBRARY

A petition containing over 2,000 signatures has been received and has the following terms:

“We, the undersigned, ask Harrow Council to reconsider the proposal to close North Harrow Library. Closure will have a serious detrimental effect on the local community. It will also lead to a further decline of the North Harrow Town Centre.”

(e.) BROWN BIN 'GARDEN TAX'

A petition containing over 2,000 signatures has been received and has the following terms:

“Harrow Council’s Labour administration recently announced, as part of their budget proposals, that residents could face a £75 charge for the collection of their brown waste bins. The bins, which are currently used for garden and food waste, would change to being for garden waste only – and would be

collected once a fortnight for a £75 per year fee. We believe this proposal is an unreasonable 'garden tax' on Harrow residents, who already pay the third highest council tax in London, and who should reasonably expect waste collection to be included in their bills. The proposal is also unfair on low income households, and will likely have a disproportionate impact on elderly and disabled residents.

We the undersigned therefore petition the administration/Council to drop their plans for a £75 brown bin charge.”

7. LEADER AND PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive a presentation from the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holders on business since the last ordinary meeting, followed by a question and answer session. The item is allotted 20 minutes.

8. CORPORATE PLAN 2015-2019 (To Follow)

Recommendation I : Overview and Scrutiny Committee
(24 February 2015)

Recommendation II: Cabinet
(19 February 2015)

9. FINAL REVENUE BUDGET 2015/16 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2015/16 TO 2018/19 (To Follow)

Recommendation I : Cabinet
(19 February 2015)

10. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT INCLUDING PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS, MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY STATEMENT AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY FOR 2015/16 (To Follow)

Recommendation I : Cabinet
(19 February 2015)

11. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2015/16 TO 2018/19 (To Follow)

Recommendation I : Cabinet
(19 February 2015)

12. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET 2015/16 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2016/17 TO 2018/19 (To Follow)

Recommendation I : Cabinet
(19 February 2015)

13. STANDARDS COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE (Pages 31 - 46)

Recommendation I: Governance, Audit, Risk Management and Standards Committee
(26 January 2015)

14. PETITION SCHEME (Pages 47 - 60)

Report of the Director of Legal and Governance Services

15. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

A period of up to 15 minutes is allowed for asking written questions by Members of Council of a member of the Executive or the Chairman of any Committee:-

- (i) of which notice has been received at least two clear working days prior to the day of this Meeting; or
- (ii) which relate to urgent matters, and the consent of the Executive Member or Committee Chairman to whom the question is to be put has been obtained and the content has been advised to the Director of Legal and Governance Services by 12 noon on the day of the Council Meeting.

Any such questions received will be tabled.

16. MOTIONS

The following Motions have been notified in accordance with the requirements of Council Procedure Rule 14, to be moved and seconded by the Members indicated:

(1) **E-Cigarettes Motion**

To be moved by Councillor Adam Swersky and seconded by Councillor Anne Whitehead:

“Harrow Council moves to tackle the explosion of e-cigarette usage across the Borough.

E-cigarettes are a promising and effective tool to help smokers quit. However, they are also a highly addictive nicotine-based product, with a range of chemicals whose impact on “vapers” has not yet been properly researched.

E-cigarettes, which have been prominently advertised in St Ann’s Shopping centre and will soon be promoted on TV screens nationwide, have risen dramatically in popularity recently, with 2.1 million users in the UK alone. This equates to over 7,000 users in Harrow. Sales of e-cigarettes quadrupled in 2013, an exponential rate of growth for a product that is as addictive as heroin or cocaine.

This Council congratulates the efforts of Transport for

London to extend its ban of smoking to e-cigarettes, and welcomes the cautionary approach taken by cities such as New York. This is in line with the WHO's recommendations to ban e-cigarette smoking in public places and in work places.

To avoid a new generation of young people in Harrow becoming hooked on nicotine, this Council resolves to take action against the proliferation of e-cigarettes for uses other than to stop smoking.

To this end, we call on the Director of Public Health and other Council officers to:

- Robustly enforce the ban on sales of e-cigarettes to under-18 year olds
- Remove any advertising of e-cigarettes on Harrow Council property and include a ban on e-cigarette advertising in the Council's policy on acceptable advertising, with the exception of adverts providing information on appropriate use at points of sale

Take all appropriate steps to discourage the use of e-cigarettes for any purpose aside from to quit smoking tobacco. Smoking prevention campaigns, particularly those targeted at children and young people should include warnings about the addictive properties of e-cigarettes and the significant unknown health risks."

17. DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER URGENCY PROCEDURE BY PORTFOLIO HOLDERS, LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER, AND USE OF SPECIAL URGENCY PROCEDURE (Pages 61 - 66)

Report of the Director of Legal and Governance Services

18. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To resolve that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of confidential information in breach of an obligation of confidence, or of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972:

<u>Agenda Item No</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Description of Exempt Information</u>
26.	Information Report – Remuneration Packages and Severance Payments of £100,000 or Greater	Information under paragraphs 1 and 3 (contains information relating to any individuals and the financial or business affairs of any particular person, including the Authority holding that information).

19. INFORMATION REPORT - REMUNERATION PACKAGES AND SEVERANCE PAYMENTS OF £100,000 OR GREATER (To Follow)

Report of the Divisional Director of Human Resources, Development and Shared Services.

Data Protection Act Notice

The Council will audio record items 5 and 15 (Questions with Notice) and will place the audio recording on the Council's website, which will be accessible to all.

[Note: The questions and answers will not be reproduced in the minutes.]