

Council SUMMONS AND AGENDA

DATE: Thursday 29 November 2018

TIME: 7.30 pm

VENUE: Council Chamber, Harrow Civic Centre,
Station Road, Harrow, HA1 2XY

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: [Wednesday 21 November 2018]

Useful Information

Meeting details:

This meeting is open to the press and public.

Directions to the Civic Centre can be found at:
<http://www.harrow.gov.uk/site/scripts/location.php>.

Filming / recording of meetings

The Council will audio record Public and Councillor Questions. The audio recording will be placed on the Council's website.

Please note that proceedings at this meeting may be photographed, recorded or filmed. If you choose to attend, you will be deemed to have consented to being photographed, recorded and/or filmed.

When present in the meeting room, silent mode should be enabled for all mobile devices.

Meeting access / special requirements.

The Civic Centre is accessible to people with special needs. There are accessible toilets and lifts to meeting rooms. If you have special requirements, please contact the officer listed on the front page of this agenda.

An induction loop system for people with hearing difficulties is available. Please ask at the Security Desk on the Middlesex Floor.

Summons publication date: Wednesday 21 November 2018

PRAYERS

Imam Sheikh Salman Sidiq, Sri Lankan Muslim Cultural Centre, will open the meeting with Prayers.

1. COUNCIL MINUTES (Pages 11 - 28)

That the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting and ordinary meeting held on 19 July 2018 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. PETITION - LOSS OF SPACES DUE TO POET'S CORNER REDEVELOPMENT

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

“Dear Gareth Thomas and Elected Councillors,

I the undersigned am concerned about the loss of parking spaces if the Poet's Corner redevelopment goes ahead.

I urge the Council, Gareth Thomas and other councillors to ensure there are sufficient parking spaces for local businesses, users of Harrow Central Mosque, other local organisations and the local residents.’

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 consider the matter, taking into account the views expressed by Council.

6. 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 Chairs 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.

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. APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE (HEAD OF PAID SERVICE) (To Follow)

Recommendation I: Chief Officers' Employment Panel
(13 November 2018)

9. GAMBLING POLICY - REVISED STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES (Pages 29 - 32)

Recommendation I: Cabinet
(15 November 2018)

10. CORPORATE PARENTING STRATEGY 2017 - 2019 (Pages 33 - 36)

Recommendation I: Cabinet
(13 September 2018)

11. SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18 (Pages 37 - 40)

Recommendation I: Overview and Scrutiny Committee
(5 June 2018)

12. SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2018-2022 (Pages 41 - 44)

Recommendation I: Overview and Scrutiny Committee
(17 September 2018)

13. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS - TERMS OF REFERENCE OF JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE PROCEDURE RULES IN RELATION TO THE PLANNING COMMITTEE (Pages 45 - 52)

Report of the Director of Legal and Governance Services

14. INFORMATION REPORT - USE OF THE URGENCY AND SPECIAL URGENCY PROCEDURE (Pages 53 - 58)

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 Chair 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 Chair 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 15, to be moved and seconded by the Members indicated:

(1) Temple Burglaries Motion

To be moved by Councillor Kanti Rabadia and seconded by Councillor Vina Mithani:

“This Council notes and condemns:

- The burglary of Shree Kutch Satsang Swaminarayan Temple in Kenton, Harrow.
- The burglary of the Shree Swaminarayan Temple in Willesden, Brent.
- Any crime carried out against any religious establishment.

This Council believes:

- Harrow has a diverse community that deserves to feel safe and have the right to freely practice whatever religion they follow.
- Local communities and religious establishments should be protected.
- Any crime carried out against any religious establishment is unacceptable.

This Council resolves:

- To instruct the interim Chief Executive, Leader of the Council and Leader of the Opposition to send a cross-party letter to both Temples, condemning the burglaries and offering solidarity and support.

- To offer a meeting to representatives from the Kenton Temple with the Leader of the Council, the Leader of the Opposition and relevant Council officers to discuss how the Council can provide better support.”

(2) Breaking Point Campaign Motion

To be moved by Councillor Graham Henson and seconded by Councillor Adam Swersky:

“This Council notes that many council budgets are now at Breaking Point. Austerity has caused huge damage to communities up and down the UK, with devastating effects on key public services that protect the most defenceless in society – children at risk, disabled children and adults, and vulnerable older people – and the services we all rely on, like clean streets, libraries, and children’s centres;

- Government cuts mean councils have lost 60p out of every £1 that the last Labour Government was spending on local government in 2010;
- Harrow Council has lost £55 million of central government funding as our RSG has been eliminated entirely.
- Councils had to spend an extra £800m last year to meet the demand on vital services to protect children.
- With an aging population and growing demand adult social care faces a gap of £3.5 billion – with only 14% of council workers now confident that vulnerable local residents are safe and cared for.
- Government cuts have seen over 500 children’s centres and 475 libraries close, potholes are left unfilled, and 80% of councils workers now say have no confidence in the future of local services.
- Northamptonshire has already gone bust and more councils are predicted to collapse without immediate emergency funding.
- Councils now face a further funding gap of £7.8 billion by 2025 just to keep services ‘standing still’ and meeting additional demand. Even Lord Gary Porter, the Chair of the Local Government Association, has said ‘Councils can no longer be expected to run our vital local services on a shoestring’.

This Council condemns Chief Secretary to the Treasury for stating on BBC Newsnight on 1st October 2018 that the government is “not making cuts to local authorities”, when all independent assessments of government spending show that this is entirely false; and that this Council further notes that Prime Minister Theresa May has also claimed that “austerity is over” despite planning a further £1.3bn of cuts to council budgets over the next year;

This Council agrees with the aims of the ‘Breaking Point’ petition

signed by Labour councillors across the country, in calling for the Prime Minister and Chancellor to truly end austerity in local government by properly funding local public services.

This Council resolves to:

- Support the 'Breaking Point' campaign, recognising the devastating impact that austerity has had on our local community.
- Work with other councils to campaign for proper funding for local government and other public services.
- Write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Prime Minister, and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government setting out the funding pressures faced by Harrow Council, and calling on the Government to truly end austerity in local government."

(3) Education Funding Motion

To be moved by Councillor Pamela Fitzpatrick and seconded by Councillor Maxine Henson:

"Harrow Council believes education to be the foundation of our society, it is through education that we unlock the individual's full potential and create a more equal and prosperous society for all. This is why cuts to education are so catastrophic.

Harrow Council notes:

At the national level, per pupil funding has declined by 8% since 2010.

In Harrow, our schools are facing annual funding pressures of £77,000 for primary schools and £194,000 for secondary schools. Since 2015, Harrow has suffered a net loss of 105 teachers in our maintained schools owing in part to recruitment and retention issues.

Harrow schools must bear the brunt of unfunded National Insurance increases.

Harrow schools see inadequate High Needs Block Funding, leaving our most vulnerable pupils without the support they need.

Harrow Council resolves:

To resist the Government's ongoing cuts to school budgets and call for more funding to be invested in education.

To support national campaigns against school cuts.

To call on the Government to fully fund the pay increase for teachers that is recommended by the School Teachers' Review Body."

(4) Modern Slavery Motion

To be moved by Councillor Jeff Anderson and seconded by Councillor Adam Swersky:

"Modern slavery continues to be a significant problem in Harrow. In 2013 there is evidence that as many as 42 children were trafficked to the borough providing large revenue streams for criminal gangs. Harrow Council has been proactive in its investigations into not only child trafficking but modern slavery as a whole. This scourge affects all those who are vulnerable and it is for this reason that we have chosen to implement the following resolutions:

Harrow Council requests its Cabinet to:

1. Train its corporate procurement team to understand modern slavery through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply's (CIPS) online course on Ethical Procurement and Supply.
2. Require its contractors to comply fully with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies, with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance.
3. Challenge any abnormally low-cost tenders to ensure they do not rely upon the potential contractor practising modern slavery.
4. Highlight to its suppliers that contracted workers are free to join a trade union and are not to be treated unfairly for belonging to one.
5. Publicise its whistle-blowing system for staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
6. Require its tendered contractors to adopt a whistle-blowing policy which enables their staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
7. Review its contractual spending regularly to identify any potential issues with modern slavery.
8. Highlight for its suppliers any risks identified concerning modern slavery and refer them to the relevant agencies to be addressed.
9. Refer for investigation via the National Crime Agency's national referral mechanism any of its contractors identified as a cause for concern regarding modern slavery.
10. Report publicly on the implementation of this policy annually."

[In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.6 the Motion shall stand referred to the Executive as the matter falls within the Executive's remit].

(5) Women Against State Pension Inequality Motion

To be moved by Councillor Natasha Proctor and seconded by Councillor Sarah Butterworth:

“Harrow Council calls upon the Government to make fair transitional state pension arrangements for all women born on or after 6th April 1950, who have unfairly borne the burden of the increase to the State Pension Age (SPA) with lack of appropriate notification.

Thousands of women who live in Harrow, and hundreds of thousands nationally, had significant pension changes imposed on them by the Pensions Acts of 1995 and 2011 with little or no personal notification of the changes. Some women had only two years notice of a six-year increase to their state pension age.

Thousands of women born in the 1950's are living in hardship. Retirement plans have been shattered with devastating consequences. Many of these women are already out of the labour market, caring for elderly relatives, providing childcare for grandchildren, or suffer discrimination in the workplace so struggle to find employment. Women born in this decade are suffering financially. These women have worked hard, raised families and paid their tax and national insurance with the expectation that they would be financially secure when reaching 60. It is not the pension age itself that is in dispute - it is widely accepted that women and men should retire at the same time. The issue is that the rise in the women's state pension age has been too rapid and has happened without sufficient notice being given to the women affected, leaving women with no time to make alternative arrangements.

Harrow Council calls upon the Government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6th April 1950, so that women do not live in hardship due to pension changes they were not told about until it was too late to make alternative arrangements.”

*** Data Protection Act Notice**

The Council will audio record items 6 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.]