

Daneshill House
Danestrete
Stevenage
Hertfordshire

12 July 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Stevenage Borough Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Daneshill House, Danestrete, Stevenage on Wednesday 20 July 2016 at 7.00pm and you are summoned to attend to transact the following business.

Yours faithfully

Scott Crudgington
Chief Executive

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2. MINUTES – ANNUAL COUNCIL - TUESDAY 24 MAY 2016

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 24 May 2016.

Minutes attached – Item 2 (from page1)

3. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

To receive any communications that the Mayor may wish to put before Council.

4. MAIN DEBATE – 'OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS - OUR FUTURE' – HOW EFFECTIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING WILL DRIVE IMPROVEMENTS ACROSS THE TOWN

To consider the importance of neighbourhood planning, with examples of how it is being progressed in Stevenage, linked to the related Future Town, Future Council initiative.

5. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

None received

6. QUESTIONS FROM THE YOUTH COUNCIL

None received

7. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None received

8. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S UPDATE

In accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, the Leader of the Opposition shall be given the opportunity to raise one matter relevant to the Borough that has arisen since the last meeting of the Council. The Leader of the Council shall then have the opportunity to advise the Council of matters relevant to the Borough that have arisen since the last meeting.

9. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor S Taylor OBE CC :

'We are proud to live in a diverse and tolerant society. Racism, xenophobia and hate crimes have no place in Stevenage or in our country. We, Stevenage Borough Council condemn racism, xenophobia and hate crimes unequivocally. We will not allow hate to become acceptable.

Stevenage Borough Council will work with our partners to ensure local programmes have the support needed to fight and prevent racism and xenophobia. We will continue to promote and encourage the reporting of hate crime.

We reassure all people living and working in or visiting Stevenage that they are valued members of our community.'

10. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS / PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

A. Question submitted by Councillor G Snell

'Despite previous commitments made at Council, the Liberal Democrats remain extremely concerned about the number of large retail units that are now empty in the Town Centre. Can the Executive Member update the Council on current endeavours to fill these units and what impact will this have on the Town Centre regeneration project?'

B. Question submitted by Councillor A McGuinness

Will the Executive Member, commit to working with Ward Councillors to object to the inclusion of the Gresley Park development within the East Hertfordshire Local Plan?

C. Question submitted by Councillor R Parker

How will leaving the European Union effect the Council's finances and strategic objectives?

11. ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT 2015/2016

To note the work undertaken by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Select Committees during the 2015/16 Municipal Year.

Report attached – Item 11 (from page 10)

12. STEVENAGE BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN : SUBMISSION

The attached report ('Item 12') is to be considered by the Executive at its meeting on 12 July 2016. The Executive is asked to consider the following recommendation to Council –

That Council be recommended to approve the Stevenage Borough Local Plan (attached as Appendix 2*) and associated Policies Map (attached as Appendix 3*), the Regulation 22 Consultation Statement (attached as Appendix 1*), and the Sustainability Appraisal (attached as Appendix 4*) for submission to the Secretary of State under Regulation 22 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. Submission documents will also include copies of the representations.

**Due to their size these appendices are not included in the reports pack but are available in the on-line version of these committee papers and in hard copy in the Members' library.*

The decisions of the Executive meeting on 12 July 2016 will be reported in a supplementary agenda for Council.

Report attached – Item 12 (from page 17)

Appendices on-line

Appendix 1 -

<http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/content/committees/160923/160931/160995/Executive-12-July-2016-Item6-Appendix1.pdf>

Appendix 2 -

<http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/content/committees/160923/160931/160995/Executive-12-July-2016-Item6-Appendix2.pdf>

Appendix 3 - <http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/149690/planning-policy/90175/154858/>

Appendix 4 -

<http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/content/committees/160923/160931/160995/Executive-12-July-2016-Item6-Appendix4.pdf>

13. A TEN YEAR BUSINESS PLAN FOR THE GARAGES ESTATE

The attached report ('Item 13') is to be considered by the Executive at its meeting on 12 July 2016. The Executive is asked to consider the following recommendation to Council –

That Council be recommended to approve the funding of £9.24m for the proposed ten year Business Plan for the Garages estate, from £1.62m of capital reserves, capital receipts from the disposal of selected garage blocks (estimated at £860k, ring fenced to the investment ongoing) with the balance secured from prudential borrowing (of £6.76m).

The decisions of the Executive meeting on 12 July 2016 will be reported in a supplementary agenda for Council.

Report and Appendices attached – Item 13 (from page 31)

14. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICERS

To appoint two Deputy Electoral Registration Officers to assist the Electoral Registration Officer in the registration of electors.

Report attached – Item 14 (from page 77)

15. AUDIT COMMITTEE MINUTES – 29 MARCH AND 8 JUNE 2016

To note the Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 29 March 2016 and the draft Minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2016

Minutes 29 March 2016 attached – Item 15A (from page 79)

Draft Minutes 8 June 2016 – attached – Item 15 B (from page 84)

16. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY - URGENCY DECISION ON SOVEREIGN RATING DOWNGRADE

To consider an urgent officer report on the implications of the EU Referendum decision on the UK sovereign rating and to seek approval from members to change the Treasury Management Strategy by excluding the UK from the minimum sovereign rating should it fall below AA-.

REPORT TO FOLLOW

17. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

To consider the following motions:

1. That under the provisions of Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraphs 1-7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as amended by Local Government (Access to information) (Variation) Order 2006.
2. That Members consider the reasons for the following reports (if any) being in Part II and determine whether or not maintaining the exemption from disclosure of the information contained therein outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

18. PROPOSED EXTENSION TO SYMONDS GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE

The attached Part II report ('Item 16') is to be considered by the Executive at its meeting on 12 July 2016. The Executive is asked to consider the recommendations shown at section 2 of the report

The decisions of the Executive meeting on 12 July 2016 will be reported in a Part II supplementary agenda for Council.

Part II Report and Appendices attached – Item 16 (from Page P.1)
