



COUNCIL

Date: Wednesday 9 December 2009

Time: 7.00 p.m.

Place: Council Chamber

Contact: Jackie Cansick

01438 242216

AGENDA

**** PART I

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2 MINUTES - 7 OCTOBER 2009

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 7 October 2009.

Minutes attached

3 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

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

4 MAIN DEBATE - STEVENAGE MEANS BUSINESS

To receive a presentation from Neil Cuttell, Regeneration Manager, Stevenage Borough Council and Chris Pichon, Chief Executive, WENTA, regarding economic development and enterprise in Stevenage.

5 PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

To receive a petition in relation to the proposal to open a Tesco store in High Street, Stevenage.

In accordance with the Council's Procedure Rule for receiving petitions at Council meetings (Standing Order 11), the Lead petitioner will have three minutes in which to present the petition, following which the Portfolio Holder (Environment and Regeneration) will have three minutes to respond.

6 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None received.

7 LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S UPDATE

In accordance with Standing Order 11, 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.

8 NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Under the provisions of Standing Order 15, the following Motion has been submitted for Consideration:

"This Council regrets the proposal of the Ministry of Justice to close its Land Registry office in Stevenage as part of an asset management programme. Stevenage Land Registry staff have consistently delivered a service that achieves high levels of productivity. Locating jobs and developing high skills levels in areas like Stevenage should be a key priority of any government office and we would strongly urge that this proposal is reconsidered before depriving the town of 300 civil service posts in the midst of a recession. This has been a devastating blow for the staff at the Land Registry and their families. A number of staff have worked in the Registry for many years and they have shown their commitment and made their homes here".

Mover: Councillor Sharon Taylor
Seconder: Councillor Simon Speller

9 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS/PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

None received.

10 MATTER REFERRED FROM EXECUTIVE - GAMBLING ACT 2005 : DRAFT STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

At its meeting on 18 November 2009, the Executive considered the report attached as item 10 and it was resolved that Council be recommended to approve and adopt the Gambling Act 2005 - Draft Statement of Principles.

Report attached
Appendices attached

11 MATTER REFERRED FROM EXECUTIVE - HOUSING STRATEGY 2009-12

At its meeting on 18 November 2009, the Executive considered the report and appendix attached at item 11 and resolved that Council be recommended to adopt the Housing Strategy 2009-12 as shown at Appendix B to the report.

Report attached
Appendices attached

12 AUDIT COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES - 22 SEPTEMBER 2009

To note the Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on Tuesday 22 September 2009.

Minutes attached