

Daneshill House
Danestrete
Stevenage
Hertfordshire

16 February 2010

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 24 February at 7.00pm and you are summoned to attend to transact the following business.

Yours faithfully

Nick Parry
Chief Executive

AGENDA

PART I

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2. MINUTES – COUNCIL – WEDNESDAY 9 DECEMBER 2009

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 9 December 2009.

Minutes attached

3. MINUTES – EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL – WEDNESDAY 27 JANUARY 2010

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on Wednesday 27 January 2010

Minutes attached

4. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

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

5. MAIN DEBATE - COUNCIL TAX SETTING AND BUDGET 2010-2011

This matter was considered by the Executive on 10 February 2010, (see attached report marked 'Agenda Item 5', page 10). The Executive agreed the recommendations contained therein and accordingly the Council is recommended –

1. That the Budget summarised at Appendix A to the report, be the Council's General Fund Budget for 2009/10 and 2010/11. A further update on the 2009/10 budgets will be given at the March Executive as part of the quarterly monitoring process.

2. That approval be given to a General Fund Budget Requirement for 2010/11 of £13,292,790 return to balances of £215,015 and a Band D Council Tax of £192.29 (assuming a 2.0% increase), as reflected in the draft Council Tax Resolution at Appendix B to the report.

3. That approval be given to a General Fund Revenue Account Contingency Sum in the Budget and Policy Framework for 2010/11 of £400,000.

4. That the advice of the Strategic Director (Resources) on the robustness of the draft budget and the adequacy of reserves (Appendix C to the report) be noted.

5. That the Fees and Charges increases (Appendix F to the report) be noted.

Report and Appendices attached

6. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

None received.

7. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None received.

8. 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.

9. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

None received.

10. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS/PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

None received.

11. MATTER REFERRED FROM EXECUTIVE – PRUDENTIAL CODE INDICATORS AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT

At its meeting on 10 February 2010, the Executive considered a report on the Prudential Code Indicators and Treasury Management Strategy (see attached report marked 'Agenda Item 11', page 28). The Executive agreed the recommendations in the report and accordingly Council is recommended –

1. That the revised Treasury Management Code of Practice 2009 as shown at Appendix A to the report, be adopted
2. That the 2010/11 Treasury Management Strategy as detailed in Appendix B to the report be adopted subject to the 'Audit Committee' replacing 'Scrutiny Overview Committee' at paragraph (iii) on Appendix B attachment 5.
3. That the Prudential Code Indicators as detailed in Appendix B (attachment 6) to the report be adopted.
4. That the Audit Committee be nominated as the body to ensure the effective scrutiny of the treasury management strategy and policies, as recommended in the revised Code.

Report and Appendices attached

12. MATTER REFERRED FROM EXECUTIVE – 2010/11 CAPITAL FORWARD PLAN & 5 YEAR CAPITAL STRATEGY UPDATE

At its meeting on 10 February 2010, the Executive considered a report on the 2010/11 Capital Forward Plan & 5 Year Capital Strategy Update (see attached report marked 'Agenda Item 12', page 51). The Executive agreed the recommendations in the report and accordingly Council is recommended –

1. That the revised 2009/10 and the 2010/11 General Fund capital programme, as detailed in Appendix A to the report, be approved.
2. That the revised 2009/10 and the 2010/11 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme, as detailed in Appendix A to the report, be approved.
3. That the updated forecast of resources, as summarised in the Appendix A to the report, be approved.
4. That the Capital Forward Plan Bids, detailed in Appendix B to the report, be approved.
5. That the ongoing work of the Corporate Capital Review Group (CCRG) and Members, to bring the 5 year Capital Strategy into balance, be noted.
6. That a Contingency Sum in the Budget and Policy Framework for 2010/11 of £500,000 for the Capital Programme be approved.
7. That a de minimus level of £5,000 for expenditure qualifying as capital be approved.

Report and appendices attached

13. MATTER REFERRED FROM EXECUTIVE – HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) BUDGET 2010/11

At its meeting on 10 February 2010, the Executive considered a report on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2010/11 (attached report marked 'Agenda Item 13', page 70). The Executive agreed the recommendations in the report and accordingly Council is recommended –

- a) That the Budget summarised at Appendix A to this report, be the Council's HRA Budget for 2009/10 and 2010/11. A further update on the 2009/10 budgets will be given at the March Executive as part of the quarterly monitoring process.
- b) That approval be given for the SHL Management Fee for 2010/11 of £14,308,958, with a reduction of £78,500 if the national pay award is a zero percent increase.
- c) That approval be given to the Fees and Charges schedule at Appendix D to the report.
- d) That approval be given to a HRA Contingency Sum in the Budget and Policy Framework for 2010/11 of £250,000.

Report and appendices attached

14. MATTER REFERRED FROM AUDIT COMMITTEE – CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS

At its meeting on 14 December 2009, the Audit Committee considered a report and appendix, (attached at item 14, page 94) and resolved that Council be recommended to approve the revised Contract Standing Orders, subject to the inclusion of a glossary of all acronyms.

Report and Appendix attached

15. OFFICER REPORT - MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2010-2011

To recommend to Council a Members' Allowances Scheme for 2010-2011.

Report and Appendix A attached

16. AUDIT COMMITTEE - DRAFT MINUTES 14 DECEMBER 2009

To note the draft Minutes of the meeting of the Audit Committee on 14 December 2009.

Draft Minutes attached