

Daneshill House
Danstrete
Stevenage
Hertfordshire

17 July 2018

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, 25 July 2018 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 - 23 MAY 2018

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Annual meeting of Council held on 23 May 2018 for signature by the Mayor.

Minutes attached.

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3. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

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

4. MAIN DEBATE - "CONNECTED STEVENAGE" - AN INTEGRATED TRANSPORT STRATEGY

To receive a presentation on the development of an Integrated Transport Strategy.

5. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

None

6. QUESTIONS FROM THE YOUTH COUNCIL

None

7. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

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 Cllr S Taylor –

'That this Council notes with increasing dismay the complete chaos and confusion caused to rail commuters by the failure to plan for, or implement properly, the new rail timetable.

Stevenage railway station is crucial to the town and local economy, with nearly 5m visits per year. By Govia Thameslink Railway's (GTR) own admission, nearly 20% of services have been cancelled since the new timetable came into effect. No improvement has been achieved since the start of this episode, for example, for peak trains to London on Monday (9 July), 38% of trains were late or cancelled.

The terrible impact this has had on people's well-being, jobs, home life and child care/career arrangements cannot be overestimated. Nor can the impact on the frontline staff on our railways who have had to deal with the brunt of commuters confusion and stress when they bear no responsibility for the management failure that has caused them.

We now have yet another new timetable (15 July), across their GTR & Northern but with no reassurance that this will resolve the issues we have been enduring.'

We call on our MP, the Rail companies and the Secretary of State for Transport to meet immediately and take urgent steps to resolve this rail crisis.

10. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS/PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

A. Question from Cllr. A McGuinness

'What are the Council's plans to address the significant backlog in parking restriction and yellow line requests?'

B. Question from Cllr. R Parker C.C.

'Why did SBC suffer unacceptable failures earlier this spring/summer with its grass cutting, resulting in many complaints from local residents, when other nearby local authorities did not, and what steps have been taken to make sure this failure is not repeated?'

C. Question from Cllr. G Snell

'What assessment has the Council undertaken on the potential cost and benefits of introducing co-mingled dry household recycling and what plans are in place to increase recycling rates across Stevenage?'

D. Question from Cllr. T Wren

'What assessment has been undertaken by the Council to ascertain the value of the introduction of Neighbourhood Wardens?'

11. UPDATES FROM SCRUTINY CHAIRS

To receive updates from the Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees on the recent activities of those Committees.

12. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSON TO SERVE ON THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

To consider an officer report, attached as item 12 concerning the appointment of an Independent Person to serve on the Council's Audit Committee.

Report attached

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13. COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2018-21

The report attached as item 13 was considered by the Executive at its meeting on 4 April 2018 when the following recommendation to Council was agreed –

That Council be recommended to approve the 2018-2021 Community Safety Strategy as appended to this report.

Report & Appendix attached

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14. ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT - 2017/2018

To note the report from the three Scrutiny Committees on their activities for the 2017/2018 Municipal Year.

Report attached

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15. MINUTES - AUDIT COMMITTEE

To note the Minutes/draft Minutes of the Audit Committee meetings held on 28 March and 12 June 2018.

Minutes attached – Item 15

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16. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

To consider the following motions –

1. That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve 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 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.

17. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS - RETROFITTING FIRE SUPPRESSANT SPRINKLER SYSTEMS TO RESIDENTIAL TOWER BLOCKS - PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

The Part II report attached as item 17 was considered by the Executive at its meeting on 13 March 2018. The Executive agreed the recommendations contained therein and accordingly recommendations 2.2 and 2.3 of the Part II report are submitted for Council approval.

Report attached for Members – Item 17

18. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE REFURBISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF LIFTS (2018-2023)

The Part II report attached as item 18 was considered by the Executive at its meeting on 11 July 2018. That meeting was informed the Council's Financial Regulations require the expenditure element to be referred to Council for

approval. Accordingly Council is requested to approve recommendation 2.1. of the Part II report.

Report attached for Members – Item18
