

Daneshill House
Danestrete
Stevenage
Hertfordshire

Date of Publication

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, 29 January 2020 at 7.00pm and you are summoned to attend to transact the following business.

Yours faithfully

Matthew Partridge
Chief Executive

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2. MINUTES - 16 OCTOBER 2019

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 16 October 2019.

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3. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

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

4. MAIN DEBATE - COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING

To receive a presentation from Paul Cheeseman, Interim Lead Community Wealth Building – SBC and Professor Michael Brookes – Hertfordshire Business School

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

(i) Luton Airport Expansion

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor Robin Parker, CC:

"That Council notes that:

In view of the impact on Stevenage and our recent declaration of a climate emergency, this Council opposes the further expansion of Luton Airport."

(ii) Animal Welfare

"Stevenage Borough Council takes animal welfare seriously.

The Council notes the [campaign to ban the release of sky lanterns and balloons](#) supported by the RSPCA, the Marine Conservation Society, National Farmers Union and other national wildlife bodies, as both have been shown to be unsafe for animals and the environment and can cause injury, suffering and death by ingestion, entanglement and entrapment.

The Council also acknowledges that extensive use of high decibel fireworks can cause distress to both residents and their animals. A number of councils across the UK are seeking consultation from citizens on proposals from the [RSPCA](#) to further limit the permitted sales days and for all public firework displays to be licensed.

The Council also notes and welcomes the enactment of the [Wild Animals in Circuses Act](#) which bans the use of Wild Animals in Circuses in England, and came into force at the start of this month (January 2020).

In addition, the Council extends our support to the police and local animal welfare organisations for the full enforcement of the law around animal welfare, which in Hertfordshire includes illegal hare coursing, dog fighting and other [wildlife and animal crimes](#).

Stevenage Borough Council is keen to continue progress on issues of animal welfare and request officers to look into the feasibility of the introduction of policies relating to:

- The release of sky lanterns and helium balloons from council land and property
- The timing and licencing of fireworks displays”

10. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS / PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

In accordance with Standing Orders, written responses to the following questions will be tabled at the Council meeting:

(A) Question from Councillor Stephen Booth

“How many homes/flats have been built in Stevenage that did not require planning permission i.e. under the government's legislation allowing office conversions?”

(B) Question from Councillor Robin Parker, CC

“What assistance is being offered to the developer in filling the empty new retail units in Park Place?”

(C) Question from Councillor Andy McGuinness

“Which members of the Executive have personally tested the use of the new proposed recycling bags before recommending them to be rolled out across Stevenage?”

(D) Question from Councillor Alex Farquharson

“How are you ensuring that the SG1 plans submitted by MACE are environmentally friendly?”

(E) Question from Councillor Jody Hanafin

“In support of our council's aim to become carbon neutral, will SBC follow the excellent examples set by Cambridge and Goldsmiths Universities and pledge to end the provision of red meat in catering at council and civic events?”

(F) Question from Councillor Adam Mitchell

“What is the Council doing to discourage the blight of fly-tipping?”

(G) Question from Councillor Margaret Notley

“When will the Council introduce a paperless system for Council meetings, to reduce the amount of unnecessary paper consumed, thus contributing to the reduction in carbon?”

11. UPDATE FROM SCRUTINY CHAIRS

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

12. REPORT REFERRED FROM THE EXECUTIVE - HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT FINAL BUDGET PROPOSALS 2020/2021 AND RENT SETTING

The officer report (attached as Item 12) on the Housing Revenue Account Final Budget Proposals 2020/2021 and Rent-Setting is to be considered by the Executive on 22 January 2020. The Executive's recommendations to Council will be circulated on a supplementary agenda.

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13. OFFICER REPORT - COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)

To consider a report regarding the proposed adoption of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

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14. REPORT REFERRED FROM THE EXECUTIVE - 2019/20 MID YEAR TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW

The report circulated at Item 14 was considered by the Executive on 20 November 2019 when the following recommendations to Council were agreed:

1. That the 2019/20 Treasury Management Mid Year Review be approved.
2. That the latest approved Countries for Investment List (Appendix D to the report) be approved.

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15. AUDIT COMMITTEE MINUTES

To note the draft Minutes of the Audit Committee meetings held on 12 and 27 November 2019.

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