

Daneshill House
Danestrete
Stevenage
Hertfordshire

8 December 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Stevenage Borough Council will be held virtually via Zoom on Wednesday, 16 December 2020 at 7.00pm and you are summoned to attend to transact the following business. Access codes will be circulated to Members prior to the meeting. Public access to this meeting will be via the Stevenage Borough Council YouTube channel.

Yours faithfully

Matthew Partridge
Chief Executive

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2. MINUTES - 14 OCTOBER 2020

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 14 October 2020.

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3. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

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

4. MAIN DEBATE

There is no Main Debate.

5. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

None received.

6. QUESTIONS FROM THE YOUTH COUNCIL

In accordance with Standing Orders, written responses to the following questions submitted by the Youth Council will be tabled at the meeting.

(A) How did you support Homeless people during lockdown 1 & 2?

- (B) What are your plans to support Homeless people over the Christmas period?
- (C) Are you doing anything about environmental projects that we can be involved in?
- (D) What are your plans to keep racial equality at the forefront of people's minds?
- (E) Will you be continuing the conversation about the black lives matters movement?
- (F) What are your plans to educate local people about the BAME community?

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. UPDATE FROM SCRUTINY CHAIRS

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

10. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

- (i) Lewis Hamilton MBE

To consider the following motion submitted by the Liberal Democrat Group.

“That Stevenage Borough Council congratulates Lewis Hamilton MBE, who lived and grew up in Stevenage, on his remarkable achievement in winning seven Formula 1 motor racing world championships, a record equalled only by one other driver in the history of the sport.

Council notes his early commitment, enthusiasm and determination to excel in entering the sport despite limited resources and recognises that he is an incredible role model to young people all across the country.

The Council further commends Lewis Hamilton on the work he is doing to raise awareness of the Black Lives Matter movement amongst his fellow drivers and teams and in persuading many of them to take a knee; and further

his campaigning to eliminate all forms of racism in motor sport. The Council therefore congratulates Lewis Hamilton on his leadership in persuading his team as a mark of respect to the Black Lives Matter movement to change its colours after 90 years as “The Silver Arrows” to black for a season.

Council further commends Lewis Hamilton’s work to give something back to communities through UNICEF UK and other charitable works; to improve diversity in motorsport through the Hamilton Commission to engage young black people in science, technology, engineering and mathematics; and as an ambassador for the sport to encourage and assist more young drivers from BAME backgrounds to compete.

In recognition of his achievements Council invites Lewis Hamilton to accept the award of Honorary Freedom of the Borough of Stevenage in accordance with the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 and that this Council, in pursuance of its powers under Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act, 1972, confer the award in recognition of his eminent services to the Community of Stevenage.”

11. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS/PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

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

(A) Question from Councillor Margaret Notley

“Research by Clean Up Britain has found that Stevenage did not issue any litter fines during 2018-19. The campaign group wants the enforcement of fines by Councils to be made compulsory. What is this Council’s response to this suggestion and in the meantime will this Council now take a more proactive approach and issue fines?”

(B) Question from Councillor Stephen Booth

“How many SBC employees have received race awareness and race bias training over the last 12 months?”

(C) Question from Councillor Robin Parker

“In view of the minimal use of the areas of highway cleared by SBC for seating for hospitality outlets in the High Street and adverse public reaction:

(a) exactly which businesses were consulted?

(b) when and how did the consultation take place?

(c) what did the responses show?

(d) why did SBC volunteer to take on this task, which is a Highways (HCC)

matter?

(e) should some or all of the measures now be reversed?"

(D) Question from Councillor Graham Snell

"When will we have a functional IT system that avoids constant drop outs and loss of e-mail drafts?"

(E) Question from Councillor Tom Wren

'Will the Council agree to extend the current 3 hours free parking in the Primett Road (former Waitrose) car park, from its current end date in January 2021, for another period of 6 months, to encourage business and trading in the Old Town?"

(F) Question from Councillor Andy McGuinness

"In view of the recent announcement by Rishi Sunak of the £4 billion Levelling Up Fund for local infrastructure projects that Councils can bid for, subject to receiving support from the local MP, and deliverable before the next planned general election in 2024, how many projects, and on what items, does SBC envisage bringing forward under the Levelling Up agenda that will satisfy the Stevenage MP?"

12. HERTFORDSHIRE GROWTH BOARD - GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

To seek authority to establish the Hertfordshire Growth Board and Hertfordshire Growth Board Scrutiny Committee as formal joint committees under the Local Government Act 1972 and Local Government Act 2000.

[Recommendations 2.2.1 to 2.2.4 in the report are referred to Council for approval.]

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13. MID YEAR REVIEW OF THE 2020/21 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

To consider the Mid Year Review of the Council's 2020/21 Treasury Management Strategy.

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14. 2ND QUARTER GENERAL FUND CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT 2020/21

To consider approval for the revisions to the General Fund Capital Programme 2020/21.

[Recommendation 2.1 in the report is referred to Council for approval.]

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15. AUDIT COMMITTEE MINUTES

To note the Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 17 November 2020.

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