

# **AGENDA**

## **COUNCIL MEETING**

Date: Wednesday, 24 July 2019

Time: 7.00pm

Venue: Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT

### RECORDING NOTICE

Please note: this meeting may be recorded.

At the start of the meeting the Mayor will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being audio recorded. The whole of the meeting will be recorded, except where there are confidential or exempt items.

You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act. Data collected during this recording will be retained in accordance with the Council's data retention policy.

Therefore by entering the Chamber and speaking at Committee you are consenting to being recorded and to the possible use of those sound records for training purposes.

If you have any queries regarding this please contact Democratic Services.

## Quorum = 16

Pages

- 1. Prayers
- 2. Emergency Evacuation Procedure

The Mayor will advise the meeting of the evacuation procedures to follow in the event of an emergency. This is particularly important for visitors and members of the public who will be unfamiliar with the building and procedures.

The Mayor will inform the meeting whether there is a planned evacuation drill due to take place, what the alarm sounds like (i.e. ringing bells), where the closest emergency exit route is, and where the second closest emergency exit route is, in the event that the closest exit or route is blocked.

The Mayor will inform the meeting that:

(a) in the event of the alarm sounding, everybody must leave the building via the nearest safe available exit and gather at the Assembly points at the far side of the Car Park. Nobody must leave the assembly point until

everybody can be accounted for and nobody must return to the building until the Mayor has informed them that it is safe to do so; and

(b) the lifts must not be used in the event of an evacuation.

Any officers present at the meeting will aid with the evacuation.

It is important that the Mayor is informed of any person attending who is disabled or unable to use the stairs, so that suitable arrangements may be made in the event of an emergency.

### 3. Apologies for Absence

#### 4. Minutes

To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 June 2019 (Minute Nos. 85 - 95) as a correct record.

#### 5. Declarations of Interest

Councillors should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves or their spouse, civil partner or person with whom they are living with as a spouse or civil partner. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.

The Chairman will ask Members if they have any interests to declare in respect of items on this agenda, under the following headings:

- (a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) under the Localism Act 2011. The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared. After declaring a DPI, the Member must leave the meeting and not take part in the discussion or vote. This applies even if there is provision for public speaking.
- (b) Disclosable Non Pecuniary (DNPI) under the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council in May 2012. The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared. After declaring a DNPI interest, the Member may stay, speak and vote on the matter.
- (c) Where it is possible that a fair-minded and informed observer, having considered the facts would conclude that there was a real possibility that the Member might be predetermined or biased the Member should declare their predetermination or bias and then leave the room while that item is considered.

**Advice to Members:** If any Councillor has any doubt about the existence or nature of any DPI or DNPI which he/she may have in any item on this agenda, he/she should seek advice from the Monitoring Officer, the Head of Legal or from other Solicitors in Legal Services as early as possible, and in advance of the Meeting.

- 6. Mayor's Announcements
- 7. Questions submitted by the Public

To consider any questions submitted by the public. (The deadline for questions is 4.30 pm on the Wednesday before the meeting – please contact Democratic Services by e-mailing <a href="mailto:democraticservices@swale.gov.uk">democraticservices@swale.gov.uk</a> or call 01795 417330).

8. Questions submitted by Members

To consider any questions submitted by Members. (The deadline for questions is 4.30 pm on the Monday the week before the meeting – please contact Democratic Services by e-mailing democraticservices@swale.gov.uk or call 01795 417330).

9. Motion submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 15

# A. Proposed by Councillor Nicholas Hampshire and Seconded by Councillor Simon Fowle.

This festive season, we the undersigned, call upon this Council to introduce free parking in all short-stay Council owned car parks on the following days:

- Friday 29 November 2019
- Saturday 30 November 2019
- Sunday 1 December 2019
- Friday 6 December 2019
- Saturday 7 December 2019
- Sunday 8 December 2019
- Friday 13 December 2019
- Saturday 14 December 2019
- Sunday 15 December 2019
- Friday 20 December 2019
- Saturday 21 December 2019
- Sunday 22 December 2019
- Friday 27 December 2019
- Saturday 28 December 2019
- Sunday 29 December 2019

Additionally, we call upon the Council to provide a free shuttle bus service between our major towns of Sheerness, Sittingbourne and Faversham on Small Business Saturday (30 November 2019).

# B. Proposed by Councillor Alan Horton and Seconded by Councillor James Hunt.

This Council following the change in administration, confirm our position as a White Ribbon Borough, renewing our commitment to the 'Pledge' namely to;

Never commit, excuse or remain silent about male violence against women

We do so in the clear understanding that in this context, violence includes any gender-based act that results in, or is likely to result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women.

We pledge to continue to provide support for White Ribbon Initiatives and to provide the administrative and support role to White Ribbon Ambassadors in the same way we did in the financial year before the 2019 election.

We recognise the value of White Ribbon Ambassadors across the Private, Public and Voluntary Sectors and will continue to seek opportunities to recruit more and encourage local leaders, including ward councillors and Cabinet members to publicly take the 'Pledge' and speak out on this important topic.

- 10. Leader's Statement
- 11. Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 5 18
- 12. Policy Development and Review Committee Annual Report 19 34

## Issued on Monday, 15 July 2019

The reports included in Part I of this agenda can be made available in **alternative formats**. For further information about this service, or to arrange for special facilities to be provided at the meeting, **please contact DEMOCRATIC SERVICES on 01795 417330**. To find out more about the work of Council, please visit www.swale.gov.uk

Chief Executive, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT