



SWINDON BOROUGH COUNCIL
Municipal Year 2016/17

Thursday, 26 January 2017

**COUNCIL CHAMBER
CIVIC OFFICES
SWINDON**

18 January 2017

Dear Councillor,

Summons to attend Council Meeting

A MEETING of the **Council**, which you are requested to attend, is to be held at the CIVIC OFFICES, SWINDON, on **Thursday, 26 January 2017 at 7.00 p.m.**

The business to be transacted will be as follows:-

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Communications**
To receive any communications or letters which the Mayor or Chief Executive may have to bring before the Council.
- 3. Minutes** (Pages 5 - 12)
To receive the minutes of the previous meeting.
- 4. Declarations of Interest**
Members are reminded that at the start of the meeting they should declare any known interests in any matter to be considered, and also during the meeting if it becomes apparent that they have an interest in the matters being discussed.

5. Public Question Time

See explanatory note below.

6. Minutes for Confirmation (Pages 13 - 106)

(1) To consider Minutes for Confirmation from the Cabinet.

- Minute 70 - (Commercial Investment Strategy)
- Minute 72 - (Mid-Year Treasury Performance 2016-17)
- Minute 73 – (Polling District and Places Review)
- Minute 76 – (Changes to arrangements for the appointment of an External Auditor)

(2) To consider a Minute for Confirmation from the Licensing Committee.

- Minute 24 – (Introduction of a Licensing Regime for Sex Establishments)

7. Council Petitions Scheme (Pages 107 - 112)

To consider petitions received in accordance with the Council's Petitions Scheme calling on the Council to:

- a) Remove the Public Space Protection Order that unfairly criminalises vulnerable homeless people in Swindon,
- b) Review the new parking restrictions in East Wichel.

8. Motions

(a) Motion - Health Hydro/Milton Road Baths

Councillor David Renard will move and Councillor Garry Perkins will second:

“This Council notes:

1. The importance of providing access to swimming lessons and supporting our swimming clubs;
2. The need to provide a sustainable future for the Council's historic assets such as the Health Hydro/Milton Road Baths;
3. The difficulty of finding uses for the old, Victorian rooms and layouts and the excessive maintenance costs for the current structure which means;
4. The success of the conversion of other historic baths in England to mixed residential and leisure use.

This Council calls on the Cabinet Member for Communities to continue to work with GLL, the swimming clubs and other key stakeholders to investigate solutions that will preserve the swimming facility.”

(b) Motion - Education Improvement
Councillor Carol Shelley will move:

“This Council notes Ofsted’s recent letter to the Council and other local education stakeholders, on the state of Swindon’s education provision and expresses concern that:

- Ofsted's believes the Borough's local education provision failed Swindon's children at every key stage in 2016;
- Less than half of secondary school age students in Swindon are being taught in "good" secondary schools;
- At key stage 2, Swindon's outcomes are considered by Ofsted to be amongst the lowest in the country

This Council recognises that a common challenge faced by Swindon's schools is the recruitment and retention of good and outstanding teachers. This Council calls on the Cabinet Member for Children's Services to develop effective strategies to support schools in the recruitment and retention of good and outstanding teaching staff."

(c) **Motion - Parishes**
Councillor Jim Grant will move:

"This Council notes:

1. There has been insufficient information provided to Shadow Parish Councillors about the assets and services being transferred to the new parish councils
2. Shadow Parish Councillors have had no time to look at alternative service providers to the borough council to ensure best value.
3. There's been little time for Shadow Boards to negotiate with the borough over whether their service offer is best value.
4. There has been confusing advice given to Shadow Parish Councillors over the date by which the parish council precept has to be set.
5. That all officers offering support to the shadow Boards are employed by the Borough Council. This has created a conflict of interest as Borough Council finances are effected by new parish councils contracting services from the borough.

For these reasons, this Council urges the Cabinet Member for Communities to bring an urgent report to Cabinet to propose a one-year extension of the transfer of assets and services to new parish councils. Council believes this will give more time for the newly elected parish councillors on the new parish councils, serviced by independent officers, to negotiate the transfer of services to the Borough."

(d) **Motion - Library Cards**
Councillor Fay Howard will move:

"This Council:

- Notes its priority to improve educational attainment so Swindon is above the average in England KS4 results.
- Believes that public libraries has a role to play in improving literacy rates and contributing towards that important council priority.

- Believes that it should do all it can to improve library participation rates.
- Agrees to establish a library card scheme where children would automatically become library members when their parents register their birth."

9. Appointments to Committees and Other Bodies

To consider appointments to Committees and Other Bodies.

10. Minutes of Cabinet and Decisions Delegated to Cabinet Members (Pages 113 - 130)

Members have the opportunity to raise questions with the relevant Cabinet Member in respect of Cabinet minutes (which are not reserved for Council for decision) and in respect of individual Cabinet Member delegated decisions.

11. Minutes of other Council Bodies

Members have the opportunity to raise questions with the relevant Chair in respect of all other Committee minutes (not reserved to Council for decision), as set out in the Minute Book circulated separately.

12. Councillors Question Time

Questions (if any) of which notice has been given by Councillors in accordance with Standing Order 15.

Yours faithfully

Director of Law and Democratic Services

Questions by Members of the Public in accordance with Standing Order 11

Swindon Borough Council is committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. Up to 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from members of the public about the work of the Council (except for confidential matters and specific planning applications). Questions must be relevant, clear and concise. Because of time constraints Public Question Time is not an opportunity to make speeches or statements. Prior notice of a question to the Director of Law and Democratic Services is desirable - particularly if detailed background information is needed.

Access Arrangements - The venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you have any special requirements to enable you to attend the meeting or would like to receive any of the pages contained in this agenda in a larger print size, please contact the Committee Officer as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.