



Council Meeting

21 October 2015

HASTINGS BOROUGH COUNCIL

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Hastings Borough Council to be held at the Town Hall, Queen's Square, Priory Meadow, Hastings, TN34 1QR, on Wednesday, 21st October, 2015 at 6.00 pm at which meeting the business specified below is proposed to be transacted.

Yours sincerely,

Chief Legal Officer

Aquila House
Breeds Place
Hastings

13 October 2015

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council meeting held on 22 July 2015 and the extraordinary Council meeting held on 23 September 2015
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Announcements from the Mayor and Leader
5. Questions (if any) from:-
 - (a) Members of the public under Rule 11
 - (b) Councillors under Rule 12
6. Motion (Rule 14)
Councillor Chowney to move, seconded by Councillor Forward: -

"As a major employer in the local area, this council welcomes the positive benefits that arise from the relationship that we have with recognised trade unions, and seeks to encourage trade union

membership in its own workforce, as well as promoting the benefits of trade union membership in the town as a whole. However, the council notes that the Trade Union Bill 2015 and associated secondary legislation, if enacted, would:

- Allow agency labour to be used to substitute for striking workers (currently outlawed);
- Introduce very high thresholds for industrial ballots, with an extra threshold in certain public services, without doing anything to improve the ability of workers to participate in ballots;
- Severely restrict the right to picket and peacefully protest, including organising campaigns through social media;
- Potentially reduce trade union facility time and withdraw check off union contributions in the council and other employers in Hastings;
- Require union members to 'contract in' to their union's Political Fund every 5 years.

This council believes that the relationship between employers and their employees in Hastings through their collective representatives would be damaged by the above proposals and calls on the government to scrap the Trade Union Bill and all associated secondary legislation. We instruct the Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills stating the council's opposition to the Bill and requesting that government scrap the proposed legislation."

7. Motion (Rule 14)

Councillor Cooke to move:-

"Hastings Borough Council:

1. Welcomes "The Bee Cause" initiative promoted by Friends of the Earth, and supports the principles contained within it of:
 - a) Creating a bee-friendly habitat or installing bee hotels
 - b) Passing a motion or adopting policy to protect bees
 - c) Adopting planning policy to protect or create habitat
 - d) Reviewing pesticide use
 - e) Encouraging businesses and community groups to take action for bees
2. Welcomes the Government's publication of The National Pollinator Strategy as a major step forward in raising the profile of this important issue
3. Commits to using both its influence and its direct action, wherever reasonably practical, to create, protect, and encourage bee-friendly environments, starting its renewed commitment by preparing and creating a new, pollinator-friendly

flower bed in the Alexandra Park this year”

8. Membership of Committees

To give effect to any request received from a political group for a change in their representation on committee(s)

9. Amendments to the council's constitution

(Report of the Chief Legal Officer)

10. Reports of Committees

- (a) To resolve that the public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of any items considered while the public were excluded by the relevant committee because it is likely that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of “exempt” information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 referred to in the minutes of the relevant committee
- (b) To receive and consider the recommendations and any decisions of the following committees: -

| Minute No. | Subject | Cabinet Member / Chair |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| CABINET – 7 September 2015 | | |
| 14 | Devolution Prospectus for Three Counties South (3SC) | Chowney |

Notes:

- (1) The Mayor will call over the minutes and members will rise and indicate those items, which they wish to have discussed
- (2) No discussion shall take place at this stage upon any part II minute covered by the resolution at 8 (a) above. Any such discussion shall be deferred until item 9 on this agenda.

PART II

11. To consider the recommendations and decisions of committees (if any) which the Council has resolved should be discussed after the exclusion of the public from the meeting

Note: Nothing contained in this agenda or in the attached reports and minutes of committees constitutes an offer or acceptance of an offer or an undertaking or contract by the Borough Council