



# Council Meeting

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**Wednesday, 14th  
July, 2021**

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## HASTINGS BOROUGH COUNCIL

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Hastings Borough Council to be held at Muriel Matters House, Breeds Place, Hastings, on Wednesday, 14th July, 2021 at 6.00 pm at which meeting the business specified below is proposed to be transacted.

Yours sincerely,

Chief Legal Officer

Muriel Matters House  
Breeds Place  
Hastings

6 July 2021

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### **AGENDA**

1. Apologies for Absence
2. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Announcements from the Mayor and Leader
5. Programme For The Year 2021
6. Appointments to Cabinet Committees, Working Groups and Partnerships
7. Membership of Committees  
To give effect to any request received from a political group for a change in their representation on committee(s).
8. 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.

<b>Minute No.</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Cabinet Member / Chair</b>
<b>CABINET – 6 APRIL 2021</b>		
333.	Hastings Lifeguard Contract	Webb
336. (E)	2-12 Battle Road – Dangerous Structure	Forward
<b>CABINET – 27 MAY 2021 – EMERGENCY DECISION</b>		
338.	Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) Scheme Policy (Tranche 3)	Chowney
<b>CABINET – 16 JUNE 2021</b>		
342.	Welcome Back Fund, Contain Outbreak Management Fund and Culture Recovery Fund proposals	Chowney
343. (C)	Parking Spaces at Winding Street	Chowney
345.	Lease and Management Agreement for the Bale House (Part 1)	Evans
346. (C)	Buckshole Reservoir Safety Improvements - Update (Part 1)	Evans
348. (E)	Lease and Management Agreement for the Bale House (Part 2)	Evans
349. (C)(E)	Buckshole Reservoir Safety Improvements - Update (Part 2)	Evans
<b>SPECIAL CABINET – 25 JUNE 2021</b>		
352.	Hastings Town Deal	Barnett
<b>CABINET – 5 JULY 2021</b>		

Notes:

1. The Mayor will call over the minutes and members will indicate those items which they wish to have discussed.
2. No discussion shall take place at this stage upon part II minutes covered by the resolution 8a) above. Any such discussion shall be deferred to item 9 on the agenda.
9. 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.
10. Questions (if any) from:
  - a) Members of the public under Rule 11
  - b) Councillors under Rule 12
11. Motion (Rule 14)  
Councillor Batsford to propose:

“A pledge for Hastings:

Hastings Borough Council pledges its commitment to be a Town that is welcoming to all, to confirm our pride in having a programme of welcome to refugees and asylum seekers. Our commitment was, for example, part of the preamble to the Equalities motion passed by the Council in October 2020, which included confirmation of our support to the Lift The Ban Campaign to allow asylum seekers to work.

We are pleased to continue to work with the Refugee Buddy Project which works with local residents of Hastings who welcome people seeking refuge, the Lift The Ban Campaign and the Hastings City of Sanctuary. We are proud of the work that has been done so far and know that this will need to continue against an increasingly hostile environment.

We have been asked by the Hastings Buddy Project, with whom we work very closely, to restate our commitment, not least in the worrying development at Napier Barracks in Kent and the possibility that similar “facilities” are being considered for our town. We are committed to doing all we can to make sure that this Borough continues to be a welcoming place for everyone who has come here to live, study, work, seek sanctuary and join family, whether they have lived here for decades or have just arrived.

This Council backs this pledge:

1. Dignity and Respect for All

Long-term residents as well as asylum seekers, refugees and migrants should be treated with dignity and respect. The debate on immigration should be conducted with care for the dignity of people who are vulnerable, who do not have a voice in the public domain and who have to suffer the consequences of inaccurate and inflammatory language.

2. Protection not Destitution

Despite the challenges our town, and indeed our country, face, the UK is still one of the richest places in the world. It cannot be right that vulnerable people are forced into destitution and left without basic protections. Everybody should be treated justly and fairly.

3. Welcome and Integration

Integration requires everybody to play their part in making Hastings a place of welcome and supporting people to participate in the local community. The Council and local civil society can together ensure that good processes are in place and integration services are properly provided.

Everybody in Hastings is invited to join the effort to translate these principles into effective action. Together, in our organisations and communities, our faith institutions and schools, we can make Hastings welcoming to all.”

12. Motion (Rule 14)

Councillor Cox to propose:

“Universal Basic Income (UBI) is a regular, non-means tested sum paid by the state to cover the basic cost of living. It’s paid to all citizens individually, regardless of employment status, wealth or income.

Due to the Covid crisis, which has plunged more and more people into poverty, and shown up the ever-widening gap between rich and poor in the UK, the concept has been more widely debated in recent months than ever before. It would replace the labyrinth of means-tested benefits of which £10 billion remains unclaimed each year. Motions supporting UBI pilots have now been passed by 13 local authorities, including Liverpool, Sheffield, Brighton and Lewes – the majority with cross-party support.

UBI is the fairest, most effective way to mitigate the effects of

coronavirus on people's incomes and to start to repair the terrible damage done to society during the pandemic.

A network of UBI Labs has been set up which work with local authorities across the UK to develop UBI proposals to address problems such as poverty, inequality, discrimination and environmental damage – all issues that have a profound effect on the people of Hastings. We need to join them and show our support.

Universal Credit is a punitive system based on bullying people to spend 35 hours a week looking for jobs that don't exist, and the five week wait (which is supposed to emulate waiting for your first pay cheque) guarantees that individuals are already in debt before they get their first payment, which is insufficient to live on. It is a recipe for disaster, despair and the destruction of people's lives. Being part of the movement to introduce UBI is surely one way we can show our support for the people of Hastings and our commitment to improving their quality of life with guaranteed income security.

In short:

- the current benefit system is failing citizens, with Universal Credit causing hardship to many communities in Hastings
- we need to test UBI, as it has the potential to address key challenges such as inequality, poverty, precarious employment, and loss of community through:
  - i) Giving employers a more flexible workforce whilst giving employees greater freedom to change their job and reject bad work;
  - ii) Valuing unpaid work, such as caring for family members and voluntary work;
  - iii) Removing the negative impacts of benefit sanctions and conditionality;
  - iv) Giving people more equal resources within the family, workplace and society;
  - v) Enabling greater opportunities for people to work in community and cultural activities or to train or re-skill in areas that will be needed to transition to a low- carbon economy.
- the success of a UBI pilot should not be measured only by its impact on the take up of paid work, but also the impact upon communities and what the people within them do with their lives, how they feel, and how they relate to others and the environment around them;
- given its history of innovation, creativity, resilience and community

spirit, Hastings is ideally placed to pilot a UBI

This council therefore resolves to:

1. work with the UBI Lab Network to explore ways to promote and expand the concept of UBI with particular reference to Hastings, and campaign for UBI trials to be held in this country in the near future.
2. send a copy of this Motion to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, the Chancellor, the leader of the party in government, their counterparts in all opposition political parties in Parliament, and to our local MP.”

13. Motion (Rule 14)

Councillor Foster to propose:

“I move that the council introduce reduced season ticket and parking permit rates for electric vehicles”

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