



# Council Meeting

---

**Wednesday, 8th  
February, 2023**

---

## HASTINGS BOROUGH COUNCIL

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Hastings Borough Council to be held at the Council Chamber, Muriel Matters House, Breeds Place, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 3UY, on Wednesday, 8th February, 2023 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

31 January 2023

---

### **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. Questions (if any) from:
  - a) Members of the public under Rule 11
  - b) Councillors under Rule 12
6. Motion (Rule 14)  
Councillor Barnett to propose:

Following the severe flood and major fires in Hastings between January 16 – 21 2023, this Council would like to place on record its appreciation of the response from the East Sussex Fire and Rescue

Service.

The prompt, professional and caring way in which each incident was dealt with has met nothing but praise from all those affected.

So it is extremely concerning that in the same week, we heard of proposals from the East Sussex Fire Authority to downgrade Fire and Rescue services in Hastings. Local firefighters fear that the residents of Hastings, Rye and surrounding villages including Fairlight, Guestling, Pett, Winchelsea, Icklesham, Camber, Iden and Peasmarsh would face a long wait to be rescued overnight.

In many cases, as at all the major incidents here last week, more than one fire engine is required on the scene to mount a rescue or a response. Downgrading The Ridge Fire Station could drastically increase the time it takes for sufficient fire crews to be in place.

These proposed cuts come at a time when the demand on the Fire and Rescue Service is increasing, in part due to the more frequent extreme weather events. Additional heavy rainfall, fierce storms and extreme heat which brings the risk of wild fires as last summer all put our residents and those of Rother at greater risk, which downgrading the current service would significantly worsen.

This Council therefore calls upon the Fire Authority to withdraw these dangerous proposals and agree to maintain the current excellent service for Hastings.

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 – 3 JANUARY 2023</b>		
493.	National Portfolio Organisation Funding 2023-26	Batsford
494. (C)	Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2022-23	Willis
495. (C)	Housing Acquisition Proposal (Part 1)	Evans
497. (C)(E)	Housing Acquisition Proposal (Part 2)	Evans
<b>CABINET – 30 JANUARY 2023</b>		
501. (C)	Minimum Revenue Provision method change 2022-23	Willis
502. (C)	Draft Treasury Management, Annual Investment Strategy and Capital Strategy 2023/24	Willis
503. (C)	Pay Policy Statement 2023/24	Willis
504.	To appoint a member to the Working Arrangements Group	Barnett

C= Council decision  
E= Exempt from publication

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 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.

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

