

SUMMONS

To All Members of the Council

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the District Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Monday, 16 December 2002 at 6.30 p.m.

Telephone enquiries to: Lyndhurst (023) 8028 5000
(Direct Line 8028 5461) Jane Bateman

A buffet will be available only for those members of the Council who are attending the meeting direct from their place of work and who have requested refreshments. For those members the refreshments will be available in the Members Lounge at 5.30 p.m.

Dave Yates
Chief Executive

Appletree Court, Lyndhurst, Hampshire SO43 7PA

AGENDA

Apologies

1. Minutes

To confirm the minutes of the meetings held on 14 October and 18 November 2002 as correct records.

2. Declarations of Interest

To note any declarations of interest made by members in connection with an agenda item. The nature of the interest must also be specified.

Members are asked to discuss any possible interests with Democratic Services prior to the meeting.

3. Chairman's Announcements

4. Petition

Under Standing Order 23, to receive a petition with 311 signatures, requesting that the public toilets in the car park at Calshot Beach be refurbished and not demolished.

Under Standing Order 38.3, unless the Chairman of the Council decides that the matter is urgent, the petition should be referred to the Cabinet for consideration.

5. Reports of Cabinet

6 November 2002

4 December 2002

6. The Council Tax 2003/04 – Setting The Tax Base (Report A)

To set the tax base for the Council Tax for 2003/2004.

7. Questions under Standing Order 22.

Cllr Mrs Robinson will ask the Leader of the Council the following question:

"The Cabinet has now completed a series of meetings around the District. In the light of these, would the Leader please provide the following information:

- What was the overall cost of the events?
- How many members of the public attended the meetings? (not including elected members who turned up)
- What were the topics raised by the public?
- What did the Cabinet learn as a result of the exercise?"

8. Portfolio Holders' Question Time

To ask questions of Portfolio Holders. Questions received will be tabled at the meeting. (Members are reminded that questions must be submitted to the Chief Executive or to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services by not later than noon on Friday, 13 December 2002.)

9. Notice of Motion

In accordance with Standing Order 21, Cllr Pemberton will move the following Motion :-

"That the Chairman of the Council write to the Home Secretary stating the concern of the New Forest District Council that the system of vetting by the Criminal Records Bureau would not notify applicant organisations of any new case of abuse by an individual previously cleared, and that the new abuse would not be known to the original applicant organisation until it subsequently sought further clearance, up to three years later."

Unless the Chairman of the Council decides otherwise under Standing Order 41.2, the motion should, on being proposed and seconded, be referred without discussion to the Cabinet for consideration and report to the next meeting of the Council.

10. Cllr G Spikins – Attendance At Meetings

Members will know that Cllr G Spikins has been suffering from ill health. He last attended a meeting of the authority on 22 July 2002. Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that if a member fails to attend a meeting of the authority throughout a continuous period of six months, he ceases to be a member of the authority, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the authority.

Cllr Spikins hopes to return to Council duties in the New Year but if he is unable to attend a meeting before 22 January 2003, he shall cease to be a member of the Council, unless the Council approves the reason for his absence.

In view of the circumstances leading to Cllr Spikins' failure to attend meetings, it is

RECOMMENDED:

That the Council approves the failure by Cllr Spikins to attend meetings due to his ill health.

11. Meeting Dates for the 2003/04 Municipal Year

The Council is asked to agree the dates of its meetings for the 2003/04 Municipal Year. Once this has been done, the Cabinet, Regulatory Committees and Panels will be asked to consider their meeting dates for 2003/04 during the January 2003 cycle of meetings.

Historically, the Council has met six times a year (excluding special meetings). Members will recall that in 2002 it was agreed to hold an additional meeting in September. The Council will wish to consider whether to continue that arrangement, or whether to revert to the previous practice of an interval of nearly three months (which includes the main holiday period) between meetings in July and October. If Council decides to continue the September meeting, it may also wish to consider whether the October meeting should be held a little later than in previous years, to equalize the periods between meetings.

It is recommended that Council meetings are held on the following Mondays, at 6.30 pm:

Either:

If a meeting is held in September:

19 May 2003 (already agreed – first Annual Meeting following the quadrennial elections)

21 July 2003

8 September 2003

27 October 2003

15 December 2003

23 February 2004

26 April 2004

17 May 2004

Or:

If a meeting is not held in September:

19 May 2003 (already agreed – first Annual Meeting following the quadrennial elections)

21 July 2003

13 October 2003

15 December 2003

23 February 2004

26 April 2004

17 May 2004

12. Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent

DISPOSAL OF CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS

Councillors are reminded that they may return Council and Committee papers to this office for disposal. The papers should be handed in to the Main Reception at Appletree Court.

(DEMOCRAT/CL161202/AGENDA)