

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, 30 October 2006 at 6.30 p.m.

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Chief Executive

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This Agenda is also available on audio tape, in Braille, large print and digital format

AGENDA

Apologies

1. Minutes (Paper A)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 18 September 2006 as a correct record.

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 – Development in Lymington

In accordance with Standing Order 23, to receive a petition with approximately 1,425 signatures from the Lymington Society. The petition reads:

“We, the undersigned, petition the New Forest District Council to change their implementation of current planning policies within the town of Lymington which:

- are causing irreversible damage to the character of the town;
- the destruction of many valuable family homes;
- their replacement by developments of flats completely out of character with their location in the town.

In addition, we demand that the NFDC urgently:

- carry out a review of “Areas of Special Character” with a view to protecting the many attractive areas in Lymington that are currently at risk of disappearing forever under inappropriate development;
- institute a far more open planning consultation policy allowing local residents and Amenity Societies greater access to the planning process to enable them to make full representations on proposed developments both before and after the submission of planning applications.”

In accordance with Standing Order 38, if the Chairman considers the petition urgent, the Council shall consider it. If it is not considered urgent, it shall be referred to the Cabinet, Committee or Panel within whose terms of reference it falls. The petition covers functions that are the responsibility of the Cabinet and the Planning Development Control Committee.

Standing Order 38 provides further that where a petition affects the Council's approved strategies, policies or budgets, the Council shall not make a final decision until the Cabinet has had the opportunity to consider and make recommendations on the issue to the Council.

5. Reports of Cabinet and Committee

NFDC/TVBC Commercial Services Joint Committee 7 September 2006

Cabinet 4 October 2006

6. Questions

Under Standing Order 22.

7. Notice of Motion

The following Councillors will move the motions set out below, notice of which has been given in accordance with Standing Order 21:

(a) Cllr M J Kendal:

“That this Council notes with concern that:

- (1) New Forest District gardens are under increasing threat of unwanted development and infill, due to the inadequate protection of green spaces in planning regulations passed by John Prescott;
- (2) The Government’s density targets in PPG3 and draft PPS3, combined with regional building targets, are resulting in new homes of the wrong size and shape which fails to meet the public demand for new family homes with gardens and sufficient parking; and
- (3) The forthcoming Council tax revaluation in England may target homes with gardens and home improvements with higher bills, without any improvement in public services.

Therefore, this Council resolves to write to Ruth Kelly, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, calling for the forthcoming publication of PPS3 to:

- (1) Give Local Planning Authorities greater discretion to protect communities from inappropriate over-development and maintain the character of local neighbourhoods;
- (2) Re-designate gardens so they are not classified as brownfield land for planning purposes;
- (3) Give Councils greater freedom to set their own parking and density standards in new residential developments;
- (4) Stop higher Council taxes being levied on home improvements and gardens;

and calls on the officers of the New Forest District to take full account of paragraph 34 of PPS1 in making recommendations to the Planning Development Control Committee. This states:

‘Design which is inappropriate in its context, or which fails to take the opportunities available for improving the character and quality of an area and the way it functions, should not be accepted’.

It is particularly important that this guidance is applied in the many parts of the District currently characterised by attractive low density housing.”

(b) Cllr D Harrison:-

“That this Council resolves to use powers under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, to more effectively tackle the problem of the abandoned shopping trolleys in areas of the New Forest where this is a continuing problem.”

(c) Cllr C J Harrison:

“That, from 1 January 2007, the £80 car parking clock be abolished in all Hythe car parks and that all day parking be permitted in these car parks from this date with the display of an £8 car parking clock, to alleviate –

- (1) the traffic congestion arising from all day on-street parking in areas of Hythe because motorists are unwilling to pay for an £80 parking clock; and
- (2) the resultant traffic chaos which has become particularly bad in the areas of West Street, the entrance to the marina, Jones Lane and Atheling Road since the introduction of the £80 charge, despite the fact that there are empty spaces in the adjacent car parks.”

(d) Cllr S A Shepherd:

“That this Council resolves to undertake a comprehensive Green Audit, to begin within the next six months and to cover all aspects of the Council’s operations, and a review of Council policy aimed at improving the performance of the Authority in terms of protecting the environment.”

Under the provisions of Standing Order 41, the above motions, after being proposed and seconded (without speeches), should stand referred to the Cabinet, Committees or Panels within whose terms of reference the subject matters fall, or to the Cabinet or such Committees or Panels as the Council may determine. However, the Chairman may allow a motion to be dealt with at this meeting if he considers it urgent, convenient or conducive to the despatch of business; and, in regard to Cabinet functions, if the Cabinet is in agreement.

8. Portfolio Holders’ Questions

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 no later than noon on Friday, 27 October 2006.)

9. Membership of Committees and Panels

To agree any changes to the membership of Committees and Panels that may be proposed by the political groups.

10. Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent

(DEMOCRAT/CL301006/AGENDA)