



**New Forest**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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# Council Meeting Agenda

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**11 December 2017**



# SUMMONS

To All Members of the Council

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the District Council to be held in the the Council Chamber, Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Monday, 11 December 2017, at 6.30 pm



**Bob Jackson**  
Chief Executive

Appletree Court, Lyndhurst, Hampshire. SO43 7PA  
[www.newforest.gov.uk](http://www.newforest.gov.uk)

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

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# AGENDA

## Apologies

**1. MINUTES** (Pages 1 - 4)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2017 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**

- Chairman's Volunteers' Awards 2017 – presentation of awards
- To receive Chairman's announcements

**4. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**5. REPORTS OF THE CABINET (Pages 5 - 6)**

To consider the Reports of the Cabinet dated: -

- 1 November 2017; and
- 6 December 2017 (to follow)

**6. PLANNING DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE - PROPOSED NAME CHANGE**

The Planning Development Control Committee recently reviewed the name of the Committee. Arising from that consideration it is;

***RECOMMENDED:***

***That, with effect from 1 January 2018, the Planning Development Control Committee be named the "Planning Committee".***

**7. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 22**

**8. QUESTIONS TO PORTFOLIO HOLDERS UNDER STANDING ORDER 22A**

To ask questions of Portfolio Holders. Members are reminded that questions must be submitted to the Chief Executive or to the Executive Head of Governance and Regulation by not later than noon on Friday 8 December 2017.

**9. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS**

To consider any changes to the membership of Committees or Panels that might be proposed by the political groups.

**10. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT**

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# Agenda Item 1

16 OCTOBER 2017

## NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the New Forest District Council held in the Council Chamber, Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Monday, 16 October 2017

- \* Cllr Mrs C V Ward (Chairman)
- \* Cllr M J Kendal (Vice-Chairman)

### Councillors:

- \* A R Alvey
- \* Mrs D E Andrews
- \* W G Andrews
- \* P J Armstrong
- \* G C Beck
- Mrs S V Beeton
- \* Mrs S M Bennison
- \* J E Binns
- \* G R Blunden
- \* D A Britton
- \* Mrs D M Brooks
- \* Mrs F Carpenter
- \* Mrs L D Cerasoli
- S J Clarke
- \* Mrs J L Cleary
- \* I C Coombes
- \* Ms K V Crisell
- \* S P Davies
- \* A H G Davis
- \* W H Dow
- \* Ms L C Ford
- R L Frampton
- \* A T Glass
- \* L E Harris
- \* M R Harris
- \* D Harrison
- \* J D Heron
- \* E J Heron
- Mrs A J Hoare

### Councillors:

- \* Mrs M D Holding
- Mrs P Jackman
- \* Mrs E L Lane
- Mrs P J Lovelace
- \* B D Lucas
- \* Mrs R Matcham
- \* Mrs A E McEvoy
- \* A D O'Sullivan
- \* J M Olliff-Cooper
- \* N S Penman
- \* A K Penson
- \* D M S Poole
- \* L R Puttock
- \* B Rickman
- \* W S Rippon-Swaine
- Mrs A M Rostand
- \* D J Russell
- \* Miss A Sevier
- M A Steele
- \* M H Thierry
- \* Mrs B J Thorne
- \* D B Tipp
- \* D N Tungate
- \* A S Wade
- \* R A Wappet
- J G Ward
- \* M L White
- \* C A Wise
- \* Mrs P A Wyeth

\*Present

### Officers Attending:

R Jackson, Miss G O'Rourke, Mrs R Rutins and Ms M Stephens

### Apologies:

Cllrs Mrs Beeton, Clarke, Mrs Hoare, Mrs Jackman, Mrs Rostand and Steele

**29 MINUTES****RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2017 be signed by Chairman as a correct record.

**30 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

**31 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS****St Barbe's Museum, Lymington**

The Chairman had had the pleasure of attending the re-launch of the recently refurbished museum. The museum re-development had included the addition of a third gallery. The gallery was now considered the flagship gallery in the County, with the modern facilities enabling the display of a wide range of collection.

**Ringwood Health & Leisure Centre**

The Chairman, along with other members of the Council, had attended the re-launch of the Leisure Centre following major refurbishment. The cast of the popular 1990s sitcom 'The Brittas Empire', which was largely filmed at Ringwood Health and Leisure Centre had also attended.

**Other Events The Chairman Had Attended:**

- The Solent Music Festival held at St Thomas Church, Lymington. She encouraged members to support the event in future.
- The Solent Scout Regatta held at Blashford Lakes where she awarded 24 prizes.
- The Avon Tyrrell Activity Centre where she witnessed many young people having a great day out.
- The Lord Lieutenant's award ceremony for the South East region. She was pleased to announce that a young cadet from Holbury had won one of the prestigious awards.

**Chairman's Volunteers' Awards 2017**

The nomination period for this year's volunteers' awards would open the following day, 17 October. The closing date for nominations was noon on 24 November, with the award ceremony being held on 11 December at Appletree Court.

**Chairman's Charity Dinner**

The Chairman thanked members who had purchased tickets for the event. All tickets had now been sold.

**32 LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Leader of the Council reported that the Council had recently participated in the Local Government Association Peer Challenge. This had provided a unique opportunity to learn from other local authorities. The Leader of the Council had enjoyed sharing thoughts with Cllr Andrew Proctor, the Leader of Broadlands District Council, one of the Peer Review team members.

The review team had requested that their thanks be passed to the members and staff who had taken part in the process. The team had enjoyed the busy four days spent with the Council and thanked everyone for making them feel welcome.

The Council had received some positive messages that would help the Council move forward. The detailed report was expected in two-three weeks' time. Once received, the Leader of the Council, together with the Cabinet and the Chief Executive, would develop a response to any recommendations. This would be shared with staff and members by December, with the report being published on the Council's website.

**33 REPORT OF THE CABINET**

The Leader of the Council, as Chairman of the Cabinet, presented the report of the meeting held on 4 October 2017.

He reported that the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan had been reviewed at the October Cabinet meeting. The Cabinet recommended that the Council provide additional funds of £250,000 to support the transition required to deliver local services against the financial challenges currently faced.

Recognising that some local businesses were also facing a challenging financial climate, the Cabinet had agreed, in principle, to support policies for further rate relief to public houses and small businesses. The Cabinet had also ensured that the Council had budgets available to support council taxpayers who were experiencing the most hardship.

The Cabinet had also agreed a draft Housing Strategy for wider consultation. The Leader requested that all members look closely at this document. The actions arising from the strategy would contribute towards the Council's corporate priority of providing "more homes for local people".

On the motion that the report be received and recommendation be adopted, it was:

**RESOLVED:**

That the report be received and the recommendation be adopted.

**34 QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 22**

There were none.

**35 QUESTIONS TO PORTFOLIO HOLDERS UNDER STANDING ORDER 22A**

There were none.

**36 MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS**

There were no changes.

CHAIRMAN



## REPORT OF CABINET

(Meeting held on 1 November 2017)

### 1. NATIONAL NON-DOMESTIC RATES LOCALLY ADMINISTERED DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF POLICY (MINUTE 41)

On 4 October 2017 (minute 33 refers), the Cabinet approved two of the three rate relief schemes which the Government were introducing to support businesses following the recent revaluation of rateable values. The three rate reliefs available are for public houses; small businesses and a discretionary relief scheme. The schemes for public houses and small businesses were relatively well defined and it had consequently been possible to agree them in October. It was however for billing authorities to decide on their own discretionary rate relief schemes.

This discretionary scheme, which the Cabinet has approved, will be funded by the Government for four years, with a progressive decrease in the funding available. The proposed policy for the first year is attached as Appendix B to Report Item 4 considered by the Cabinet. The comments of the County Council, the Fire and Rescue Authority and the Police and Crime Commissioner, as precepting authorities, are set out in Appendix C to the report.

The local scheme has been designed to use all of the funding available, within the Government's defined parameters, while avoiding any charge falling on this Council. In the first year this Council will receive £414,000, and 410 ratepayers, who may be eligible, have been identified. These will be written to individually to invite them to apply for the relief as it has not, unfortunately, been possible to set up an automatic rebate system for the eligible businesses. The Government has allowed an administration fee of £12,000 this year, which it is hoped will cover these costs.

The Cabinet has welcomed the rebate schemes which will assist, in particular, the many small businesses that are vital to the local economy.

### 2. FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT - BASED ON PERFORMANCE TO SEPTEMBER 2017 (MINUTE 42)

The Cabinet has been updated on the Council's financial performance for April to September 2017.

Savings and additional income of £392,000, together with rephasings of £416,000 into earmarked reserves, have been slightly offset by a small additional requirement of £25,000. This results in a further overall net reduction in the General Fund budget which now stands at £16.138 million. The originally agreed budget for 2017/18 was £16.587 million. Further details are set out in Section 3 of the report (Report Item 5 to the Cabinet).

There are no new significant variations to report on capital expenditure in either the General Fund or the Housing Revenue Account.

A favourable variation of £153,000 has been identified on the Housing Revenue Account, from increased income and reduced supervision and management costs. Further details are set out in Section 5 of the report.

**COUNCILLOR B RICKMAN  
CHAIRMAN**