



New Forest
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Meeting Agenda

20 May 2019



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, 20 May 2019, at 6.30 pm



Bob Jackson
Chief Executive

Appletree Court, Lyndhurst, Hampshire. SO43 7PA
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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 15 April 2019 as a correct record.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

To receive 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. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING CHAIRMAN

4. OUTGOING CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

The Chairman will address the Council, after which he and his consort will be presented with badges of their past offices.

5. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

To elect a Chairman of the Council to hold office until the Annual Meeting in 2020.

Cllr Allan Glass has been nominated as Chairman for the ensuing year.

6. ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

The newly-elected Chairman will address the Council.

7. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

To appoint a Vice-Chairman of the Council to hold office until the Annual Meeting in 2020.

Nominations will be made at the meeting.

8. APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

To appoint a Leader of the Council for the four year period until May 2023.

9. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

The Leader of the Council will inform the Council of:

- (a) the name of the councillor he has appointed Deputy Leader of the Council;
- (b) the number and content of the Portfolios;
- (c) the name of the councillor he has appointed to each Portfolio; and

RECOMMENDED:

That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make any consequential changes to the Constitution arising from the above.

10. ELECTIONS 2 MAY 2019 - REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER (Pages 5 - 18)

To receive the report of the Returning Officer on the elections held on Thursday 2 May 2019.

11. POLITICAL BALANCE OF THE COUNCIL

To report that the political composition of the Council following the District Elections held on Thursday 2 May 2019 is:-

Conservative Group 46 (76.67%)

Liberal Democrat Group 13 (21.67%)

Independent 1

12. COMMITTEE AND PANEL STRUCTURE (Pages 19 - 22)

RECOMMENDED:

- a. To approve the following Committees and Panels and the number of seats on each body:-

Committee/Panel	Number of Seats
Appeals Committee	20
Audit Committee	8
General Purposes and Licensing Committee	15
HR Committee	8
Planning Committee	20
Community and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Panel	10
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Panel	10
Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel	10
Housing Overview and Scrutiny Panel	10

- b. To agree the terms of reference of the HR Committee and minor amendments to the General Purposes and Licensing Committee.
- c. To authorise the Monitoring Officer to make any consequential changes to the Constitution arising from the above.

13. ALLOCATION OF SEATS AND APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND PANELS (Pages 23 - 24)

To agree the allocation of seats to the political groups on those Committees and Panels to which the political balance rules apply, and to approve the appointment of Members to Committees and Panels.

14. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS

The terms of office of the Independent Persons, Mr David Hewitt and Mr David Nottage, appointed for the purpose of Section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011 to give views on allegations that District or Parish/Town councillors have failed to comply with their authority's code of conduct, will expire in May 2019. Both have developed an excellent understanding of the duties and responsibilities of District and Parish Councillors and the application of the code to Councillors. They have proved to be effective as Independent Persons, and it is recommended that they be appointed for a further term. Both have indicated that they are willing to serve for an additional term.

RECOMMENDED:

That Mr David Hewitt and Mr David Nottage be appointed to serve as Independent Persons for the purposes of Section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011 for a four year period commencing 20 May 2019.

15. NOTICE OF MOTION

In accordance with Standing Order 21, Cllr M Wade will move the following motion:-

Council notes:

1. Humans have already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt around the world. Global temperatures have already

increased by 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO₂ levels are above 400 parts per million (ppm). The latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in October 2018 gave us 12 years to implement changes to keep global warming to a maximum of 1.5 degrees in order to avoid widespread drought, food scarcity, heat related deaths and loss of biodiversity including insects and vital food crop pollinators.

2. At present the world is on track to overshoot the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limit before 2050. In order to reduce the chance of runaway global warming and limit the effects of climate breakdown, it is imperative that we as a species reduce our CO₂eq (carbon equivalent) emissions from their current 6.5 tonnes per person per year to less than 2 tonnes as soon as possible.
3. Individuals cannot be expected to make this reduction on their own. Society needs to change its laws, taxation, and infrastructure to make low carbon living easier and the new norm.
4. Carbon emissions result from both production and consumption.
5. New Forest District Council has already made some positive progress, but this is not enough. More can and must be done. The Independent Panel on Climate Change in its Oct. 2018 report was very clear that action from all parts of society is necessary and local government has a responsibility to lead the way.
6. Councils around the world are responding by declaring a 'Climate Emergency' and taking action to address this emergency.

Council believes that:

1. All levels of government (national, regional and local) have a duty to limit the negative impacts of climate breakdown. Local councils that recognise this should not wait for their national governments to change their policies.
2. The New Forest is a unique environment and this district council has a duty to protect it. The consequences of global temperature rising above 1.5°C are potentially so severe that preventing this from happening must be a number one priority.
3. Bold local climate action can deliver economic and social benefits in terms of new green jobs, economic savings and market opportunities, as well as much improved well-being for New Forest residents – for example through reducing fuel poverty and energy bills, encouraging healthy, active travel and improving green spaces and access to nature.

This Council therefore calls on the Cabinet to:

1. Declare a 'Climate Emergency';
2. Pledge to make the New Forest district carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption emissions;
3. Report to full Council within six months setting out the immediate actions the Council will take to address this emergency and a plan to measure annual countywide progress towards meeting the 2030 target.
4. Work with partners across the district and the region to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies and plans and drawing on local and global best practice.
5. Actively lobby the Government to provide the additional powers and resources needed to meet the 2030 target.

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

16. MEETING DATES FOR THE 2019/20 MUNICIPAL YEAR

To note that Council meetings for the 2019/20 Municipal Year will take place on the following dates, all commencing at 6.30 pm:-

8 July 2019
9 September 2019
14 October 2019
9 December 2019
24 February 2020
6 April 2020

17. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

Note:

- (a) The annual meetings of individual Committees and Panels will commence following the conclusion of the annual meeting of the Council.
- (b) The Council photograph will take place at the conclusion of the annual meetings of Committees and Panels.