

Council

Date: Thursday 21st November 2024
Time: 6.30 pm
Venue: Council Chamber - Guildhall, Bath

To: All Members of the Council

Dear Member

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **Council** on **Thursday 21st November 2024** in the **Council Chamber - Guildhall, Bath**.

The agenda is set out overleaf.

Yours sincerely



Jo Morrison
Democratic Services Manager
for Chief Executive

NOTES:

1. **Inspection of Papers:** Papers are available for inspection as follows:

Council's website: <https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?bcr=1>

2. **Details of decisions taken at this meeting** can be found in the minutes which will be circulated with the agenda for the next meeting. In the meantime, details can be obtained by contacting as above.

3. **Recording at Meetings:-**

The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 now allows filming and recording by anyone attending a meeting. This is not within the Council's control. Some of our meetings are webcast. At the start of the meeting, the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is to be filmed. If you would prefer not to be filmed for the webcast, please make yourself known to the camera operators. We request that those filming/recording meetings avoid filming public seating areas, children, vulnerable people etc; however, the Council cannot guarantee this will happen.

The Council will broadcast the images and sounds live via the internet www.bathnes.gov.uk/webcast. The Council may also use the images/sound recordings on its social media site or share with other organisations, such as broadcasters.

4. **Public Speaking at Meetings**

The Council has a scheme to encourage the public to make their views known at meetings. They may make a statement relevant to what the meeting has power to do. They may also present a petition or a deputation on behalf of a group.

Advance notice is required not less than two full working days before the meeting. This means that for meetings held on Thursdays notice must be received in Democratic Services by 5.00pm the previous Monday.

The Council now has a maximum time limit for this, so any requests to speak cannot be guaranteed if the list is full.

Further details of the scheme can be found at:

<https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=12942>

5. **Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

When the continuous alarm sounds, you must evacuate the building by one of the designated exits and proceed to the named assembly point. The designated exits are signposted. Arrangements are in place for the safe evacuation of disabled people.

6. **Supplementary information for meetings**

Additional information and Protocols and procedures relating to meetings

<https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13505>

Council - Thursday, 21st November, 2024

at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber - Guildhall, Bath

A G E N D A

1. EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chair will draw attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out under Note 5.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

At this point in the meeting declarations of interest are received from Members in any of the agenda items under consideration at the meeting. Members are asked to complete the green interest forms circulated to groups in their pre-meetings (which will be announced at the Council Meeting) to indicate:

(a) The agenda item number in which they have an interest to declare.

(b) The nature of their interest.

(c) Whether their interest is **a disclosable pecuniary interest** or an **other interest**, (as defined in Part 4.4 Appendix B of the Code of Conduct and Rules for Registration of Interests)

Any Member who needs to clarify any matters relating to the declaration of interests is recommended to seek advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer or a member of his staff before the meeting to expedite dealing with the item during the meeting.

4. MINUTES - 19TH SEPTEMBER 2024 (Pages 7 - 14)

To be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL OR FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

These are matters of information for Members of the Council. No decisions will be required arising from the announcements.

6. TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

If there is any urgent business arising since the formal agenda was published, the Chair will announce this and give reasons why it has been agreed for consideration at this meeting. In making this decision, the Chair will, where practicable, have consulted with the Leaders of the Political Groups. Any documentation on urgent business will be circulated at the meeting, if not made available previously.

7. QUESTIONS, STATEMENTS AND PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Democratic Services Manager will announce any submissions received. The Council will be invited to decide what action it wishes to take, if any, on the matters raised in these submissions. As the questions received and the answers given will be circulated in written form there is no requirement for them to be read out at the meeting. The questions and answers will be published with the draft minutes.

8. USING COUNCIL LAND FOR BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN: DELEGATION OF PLANNING ENFORCEMENT FUNCTION TO SECURE A LEGAL AGREEMENT (Pages 15 - 20)

The Council is being asked to agree arrangements arising from Biodiversity Net Gain legislation.

9. CORPORATE AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT (Pages 21 - 54)

The Council is asked to note and approve the Corporate Audit Committee's annual report.

10. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AVON PENSION FUND COMMITTEE (Pages 55 - 88)

The Council is asked to note and approve the Avon Pension Fund Committee's annual report.

11. TREASURY MANAGEMENT MONITORING REPORT TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024 (Pages 89 - 110)

This report gives details of performance against the Council's Treasury Management Strategy for the first six months of 2024/25.

12. CONSTITUTION; MINOR UPDATES (Pages 111 - 120)

The Constitution Working Group (CWG) has been arranged, with the main focus of work being the Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders. Members also proposed various other areas for review, two of which received immediate agreement from the CWG and are proposed here. The report also brings to Members' attention some minor textual amendments made by the Monitoring Officer.

13. REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL ON MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES (Pages 121 - 138)

The Independent Remuneration Panel has reviewed the Member Allowances scheme and their report and recommendations are attached.

14. MOTION FROM THE GREEN GROUP - TACKLING THE HOUSING CRISIS (Pages 139 - 140)

15. MOTION FROM THE LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP - BUS SERVICES (Pages 141 - 142)

16. MOTION FROM THE INDEPENDENT GROUP - PARKING CHARGES FOR

MIDSOMER NORTON & RADSTOCK (Pages 143 - 144)

17. MOTION FROM THE LABOUR GROUP - FREE SCHOOL MEALS AUTO-ENROLMENT (Pages 145 - 146)
18. QUESTIONS, STATEMENTS AND PETITIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

The Democratic Services Manager will announce any submissions received. The Council will be invited to decide what action it wishes to take, if any, on the matters raised in these submissions. As the questions received and the answers given will be circulated in written form, there is no requirement for them to be read out at the meeting. The questions and answers will be published with the draft minutes.

The Committee Administrator for this meeting is Jo Morrison who can be contacted on 01225 394358.