

Full Council

22 February 2023



Working in partnership with **Eastbourne Homes**

Quorum: 7

Published: Tuesday, 14 February 2023

To the Members of the Borough Council

You are summoned to attend an ordinary meeting of Eastbourne Borough Council to be held at the Court Room at Eastbourne Town Hall, Grove Road, BN21 4UG on 22 February 2023 at 6.00 pm to transact the following business.

Agenda

- 1 **Minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2022. (Pages 7 - 12)**
- 2 **Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) by members as required under Section 31 of the Localism Act and of other interests as required by the Code of Conduct (please see note at end of agenda).**
- 3 **Mayor's announcements. (Pages 13 - 16)**

A list of the Mayor's announcements in respect of his activities since the last meeting is attached for information.
- 4 **Notification of apologies for absence.**
- 5 **Public right of address.**

The Mayor to report any requests received from a member of the public under council procedure rule 11 in respect of any referred item or motion listed below.
- 6 **Order of business.**

The Council may vary the order of business if, in the opinion of the Mayor, a matter should be given precedence by reason of special urgency.
- 7 **Matters referred from Cabinet, Committees and other Council Bodies.**

The following matters are submitted to the Council for decision (council procedure rule 12 refers):

 - (a) **Council Budget and Setting of the Council Tax for 2023/24. (Pages 17 - 46)**

Report of Councillor Holt on behalf of the Cabinet. Referred from Cabinet on 8 February 2022. To include decisions in respect of:

 - General Fund Budget 2023/24 and Capital Programme
 - Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators 2023/24, Capital

Strategy and Investment Strategy.

- Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Revenue Budget and Rent Setting 2023/24 and HRA Capital Programme 2023-26.

Please note: that the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 requires named votes to be taken and recorded when setting the annual budget and council tax, this to include votes on any amendments and substantive motions.

(b) Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2023/24. (Pages 47 - 48)

Report of Councillor Holt on behalf of the Cabinet. Referred from Cabinet on 14 December 2022.

(c) Approval of Licensing Fees and Charges 2023-24. (Pages 49 - 56)

Report of Councillor Maxted on behalf of the Licensing Committee of 16 January 2023.

Note - some presentational changes have been made to Appendix 1 since presented to the Licensing Committee (shown highlighted) to provide greater transparency on the 1 year private hire licence fees available, the total fees applicable for a new driver, and the fee for an English Test resit.

(d) Scrutiny of Gatwick Airport's Carbon Neutral Accreditation (response to Council Motion). (Pages 57 - 58)

Report of Councillor Shore on behalf of the Scrutiny Committee of 9 January 2023 and 6 February 2023.

8 Appointment of Monitoring Officer. (Pages 59 - 62)

Report of the Chief Executive.

9 Members' Allowances Scheme - Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) Revisit. (Pages 63 - 96)

Report of the Head of Democratic Services.

10 Motions.

The following motions have been submitted by members under council procedure rule 13:-

(a) Eastbourne Local Plan - Protecting our Green and Leisure Spaces.

Motion submitted by Councillor Holt:

“This Council notes:

- That the Government requires a Local Plan to be produced.
- The Government states that Planning Officers have to identify what could be considered viable to the point which meets Government Housing Targets.

- For Eastbourne, this means 738 homes a year - which with the sea and National Park is unrealistic.
- Our leisure and green spaces are critical to our tourist economy and local residents' livelihoods and well being.
- That there is a need to build more houses in light of a housing crisis.
- That over 4,500 objections have been made to the Local Plan's identification of Fisherman's Green, including by Eastbourne Borough Council Leader Councillor David Tutt.

This Council:

- Thanks those residents who have lodged their own objections, showing the strength of local support to protect valuable green and leisure spaces which have added weight to our own evidence.
- Calls on the Government to remove its use of unrealistic housing targets.
- Calls on the Government to support the communities wish to protect key green spaces when considering how many new homes should be built in the Borough.
- Calls on the Government to provide reassurances that it will not sanction Eastbourne Borough Council for removing the Fisherman's Green site-from the Local Plan proposal."

(b) Notice of Motion - Protecting residents from soaring energy bills

Motion submitted by Councillor Babarinde:

"This Council notes:

In the Government's November 2022 Autumn Statement, the Chancellor announced a 20% increase in the 'Energy Price Guarantee' from £2,500 a year to £3,000 a year from 1 April 2023.

This Council:

Calls on the Government to scrap the planned April 2023 increase in the Energy Price Guarantee to protect local residents from soaring energy bills."

(c) Holding Southern Water to account for sewage discharges in the sea

Motion submitted by Councillor Babarinde:

"The Council notes:

- That the Southern Water was consistently in breach of the legal requirements with regard to the discharge of sewage.
- In the last two years water companies in England dumped raw sewage 775,568 times lasting 5,768,679 hours.
- Water company executives have paid themselves £51 million,

including £30.6 million in bonuses, over the last two years.

- That the Environment Agency downgraded Eastbourne's seawater quality from 'Good' to 'Sufficient' in 2022.
- That the Full Council passed a motion in 23 February 2022 which included a call for urgent action by Southern Water to prevent sewage discharges, and called on the Government to introduce a sewage tax on water companies to begin compensating for their discharges, and to help fund a cleaner sea.

This Council:

1. Reiterates its call for Southern Water to take robust action to prevent sewage discharges from occurring off the south coast.
2. Endorses the action taken by the Leader and the Chief Executive requesting an urgent meeting with the Chief Executive of Southern Water to hold the organisation to account for its raw sewage dumping along Eastbourne's coastline.
3. Calls on the Government to ban bonuses for water company Executives. "

11 Calendar of Meetings 2023/24. (Pages 97 - 98)

To agree the Calendar of Meetings for 2023/24.

Please note - The Council dates will be subject to final approval at the annual meeting of the Council, in accordance with legislation.

12 Discussion on minutes of council bodies.

Members of the Council who wish to raise items for discussion (council procedure rule 14) on any of the minutes of the meetings of formal council bodies listed below must submit their request to the Head of Democratic Services no later than 10.00 am on the day of the meeting. A list of such items (if any) will be circulated prior to the start of the meeting.

The following are appended to this agenda:-

- (a) **Minutes of Planning Committee - 14 November 2022.** (Pages 99 - 100)
- (b) **Minutes of Audit and Governance Committee - 23 November 2022.**
(Pages 101 - 106)
- (c) **Minutes of Scrutiny Committee - 5 December 2022.** (Pages 107 - 114)
- (d) **Minutes of Cabinet - 14 December 2022.** (Pages 115 - 120)
- (e) **Minutes of Scrutiny Committee - 9 January 2023.** (Pages 121 - 126)
- (f) **Minutes of Licensing Committee - 16 January 2023.** (Pages 127 - 134)

- (g) **Minutes of Planning Committee - 23 January 2023.** (Pages 135 - 138)
- (h) **Minutes of Scrutiny Committee - 6 February 2023.** (Pages 139 - 146)
- (i) **Minutes of Cabinet - 8 February 2023.** (Pages 147 - 152)

13 Date of Next Meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 24 May 2023.



Robert Cottrill
Chief Executive

Information for the public

Accessibility:

Please note that the venue for this meeting is wheelchair accessible and has an induction loop to help people who are hearing impaired. This agenda and accompanying reports are published on the Council's website in PDF format which means you can use the "read out loud" facility of Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Filming/Recording:

This meeting may be filmed, recorded or broadcast by any person or organisation. Anyone wishing to film or record must notify the Chair prior to the start of the meeting. Members of the public attending the meeting are deemed to have consented to be filmed or recorded, as liability for this is not within the Council's control.

Public participation:

Please contact Democratic Services (see end of agenda) for the relevant deadlines for registering to speak on a matter which is listed on the agenda if applicable.

Information for Councillors

Items for discussion:

Members of the Council who wish to raise items for discussion on any of the minutes of council bodies attached to the meeting agenda, are required to notify Democratic Services by 10am on the day of the meeting.

Disclosure of interests:

Members should declare their interest in a matter at the beginning of the meeting.

In the case of a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI), if the interest is not registered (nor the subject of a pending notification) details of the nature of the interest must be reported to the meeting by the member and subsequently notified in writing to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.

If a member has a DPI or other prejudicial interest he/she must leave the room when the matter is being considered (unless he/she has obtained a dispensation).

Democratic Services

For any further queries regarding this agenda or notification of apologies please contact Democratic Services.

Email: committees@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

Telephone: 01323 410000

Council website: <https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/>

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