To the Members of the Borough Council



Dear Sir/Madam

You are hereby summoned to attend a Meeting of the Ashford Borough Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent TN23 1PL on Thursday the 11th December 2014 at 7.00 pm.

Yours faithfully

And

T W Mortimer Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Agenda

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- 1. Apologies
- 2. To consider whether any items should be dealt with in private because of the likely disclosure of Exempt or Confidential Information.
- 3. **Declarations of Interest:-** To declare any interests which fall under the following categories, as explained on the attached document:
 - a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI)
 - b) Other Significant Interests (OSI)
 - c) Voluntary Announcements of Other Interests

See Agenda Item 3 for further details

- 4. To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 16th October 2014
- 5. To receive any announcements from the Mayor, Leader or other Members of the Cabinet
- 6. To receive any petitions
- 7. To receive any questions from, and provide answers to, the public (being resident of the Borough), which in the opinion of the Mayor are relevant to the business of the Meeting
- To receive, consider and adopt the recommendations set out in the Minutes of the Meetings of the Cabinet held on the 13th November and 2-8 4th December 2014.

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- To receive, consider and adopt the Minutes of the Meeting of the Selection and Constitutional Review Committee held on the 9th December 2014 (to follow)
- 10. To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of the Audit Committee held on the 2^{nd} December 2014
- 11. To consider Motions of which Notice has been given pursuant to Procedure Rule 11

"The KCC Community Warden Service is currently under review. Huge reductions and radical reorganisation will see Ashford's complement of Wardens dramatically reduced, and those that remain will be shared with Shepway as a mobile service. Given that the Wards of many Members in this Council will be affected, I propose that Cabinet look to explore ways in which Ashford Borough Council might be able to support the Warden Service, including undertaking a feasibility study as to whether or not Ashford Borough Council may be able to undertake the delivery of a Community Warden Service. Councillor B Chilton."

This shall stand referred to the Cabinet.

12. Questions by Members of which Notice has been given pursuant to Procedure Rule 10

NOTE:- If debate on any item included within this Agenda gives rise to the need to exclude the press and public due to the likelihood of Exempt or Confidential information being disclosed the following resolution may be proposed and seconded and if carried, the press and public will be requested to leave the meeting for the duration of the debate.

That pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of this item as it is likely that in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure of exempt information hereinafter specified by reference to the appropriate paragraphs of Schedule 12A to the Act, where in the circumstances the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

KRF/VS 3rd December 2014

Queries concerning this agenda? Please contact Keith Fearon: Telephone: 01233 330564 Email: keith.fearon@ashford.gov.uk Agendas, Reports and Minutes are available on: www.ashford.gov.uk/committees



Declarations of Interest (see also "Advice to Members" below)

(a) **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI)** under the Localism Act 2011, relating to items on this agenda. The <u>nature</u> as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared, and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated.

A Member who declares a DPI in relation to any item will need to leave the meeting for that item (unless a relevant Dispensation has been granted).

(b) Other Significant Interests (OSI) under the Kent Code of Conduct as adopted by the Council on 19 July 2012, relating to items on this agenda. The <u>nature</u> as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared, and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated.

A Member who declares an OSI in relation to any item will need to leave the meeting <u>before the debate and vote</u> on that item (unless a relevant Dispensation has been granted). However, prior to leaving, the Member may address the Committee in the same way that a member of the public may do so.

- (c) <u>Voluntary Announcements of Other Interests</u> not required to be disclosed under (a) and (b), i.e. announcements made for transparency reasons alone, such as:
 - a. Membership of outside bodies that have made representations on agenda items, or
 - b. Where a Member knows a person involved, but does <u>not</u> have a close association with that person, or
 - c. Where an item would affect the well-being of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc. but <u>not</u> his/her financial position.

[Note: an effect on the financial position of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc; OR an application made by a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc, would both probably constitute either an OSI or in some cases a DPI].

Advice to Members on Declarations of Interest:

- (a) Government Guidance on DPI is available in DCLG's Guide for Councillors, at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/240134/Openness and transparency on personal interests.pdf
- (b) The Kent Code of Conduct was adopted by the Full Council on 19 July 2012, with revisions adopted on 17.10.13, and a copy can be found in the Constitution at

http://www.ashford.gov.uk/part-5---codes-and-protocols

(c) If any Councillor has any doubt about the existence or nature of any DPI or OSI which he/she may have in any item on this agenda, he/she should seek advice from the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer or from other Solicitors in Legal and Democratic Services as early as possible, <u>and in</u> <u>advance of the Meeting</u>.