



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 - Ashford Borough Council on **Thursday, 29th February, 2024 at 7.00 pm.**

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T W Mortimer'.

T W Mortimer
Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer

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 | 5 - 6 |
| | 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 14th December 2023 | 7 - 20 |
| 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**
8. **To receive, consider and adopt the Minutes of the Meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 16th January 2024** 21 - 24
9. **To receive, consider and adopt the Minutes of the Meeting of the Regulatory Committee held on the 16th January 2024** 25 - 32
10. **To receive, consider and adopt the recommendations set out in the Minutes of the Meetings of the Cabinet held on the 25th January 2024 and the 22nd February 2024 (to follow) - with the following exception - The recommendations regarding the item 'Budget 2024/25' be deferred for consideration with Agenda Item No.11** 33 - 38
11. **To consider the recommendations of the Cabinet regarding the item 'Budget 2024/25' (which includes the adoption of the budget) and the report 'Council Tax 2024/25 Resolutions' and to determine the Borough Council's precept on the Collection Fund.**
12. **To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of the Standards Committee held on the 30th January 2024** 39 - 42
13. **Annual Report of the Council's Monitoring Officer 2023** 43 - 68
14. **Programme of Meetings 2024/25 and 2025/26** 69 - 74
15. **Freedom of the Borough** 75 - 80
16. **Report of the Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer - Rolvenden Parish Council** 81 - 86
17. **To consider Motions of which Notice have been given pursuant to Procedure Rule 11**
18. **Questions by Members of which Notice have 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.

21 February 2024

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