

3 December 2013

To : The Mayor and Members of Melton Borough Council

Dear Sir or Madam

You are summoned to a **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** to be held at Parkside, Station Approach, Burton Street, Melton Mowbray, LE13 1GH on **Wednesday 11 December 2013 at 6.30 p.m.**

Yours faithfully

Lynn Aisbett  
Chief Executive

## AGENDA

Item No.	Item
1.	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>
2.	<b>MINUTES</b> To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 16 October 2013.
3.	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> Members to declare any interest as appropriate in respect of items to be considered at this meeting
4.	<b>MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b> Including an update on the activities of the Young Mayor
5.	<b>LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>
6.	<b>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</b> The Leader and Chairmen of Policy Committees to answer any questions from the public of which notice has been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 of the Constitution.  There were no questions received.

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7.	<p><b>PETITIONS</b></p> <p>In accordance with Procedure Rule 24.1, the Chief Executive shall report the receipt of a petition to the next meeting of the Council where there shall be no debate or comment thereon.</p> <p>There were no petitions received.</p>
8.	<p><b>RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES</b></p> <p><b><u>(a) Governance Committee : 27 November 2013 : Constitution Update (Committee Report enclosed and the following is a recommendation within the report considered on 27 November 2013)</u></b></p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED</b> that Full Council be asked to approve the proposed items as detailed at paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4:-</p> <p>(a) with regard to the Members' Allowances Scheme, annual budgetary inflation be added to the computer consumables allowance of £50 per year and the scheme be amended to read :-</p> <p><i>'Members may claim for computer consumables such as printer cartridges and paper (on the production of a receipt) up to the value of £50.00 per annum per Member and this sum be subject to inflation.'</i></p> <p>(b) the amended Terms of Reference of the Melton Local Plan Working Group as set out at Appendix A.</p>
	<p><b><u>(b) Governance Committee : 27 November 2013 : Member Code of Conduct – Complaints Process (Committee report enclosed and the following is a recommendation within the report considered on 27 November 2013)</u></b></p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED</b> that Full Council be asked to approve the guidance attached at Appendix A.</p>
	<p><b><u>(c) Governance Committee: 27 November 2013 : Equalities and Diversity Annual Report</u></b></p> <p>The Governance Committee has requested that Full Council note the good work being undertaken by the Council in the area of equalities as reported to them in the annual report on equality and diversity. Of particular note was that following the examination by the Peer Review team and the award of the achieving level in 2012, the Peer Review team had not felt it necessary to revisit the Council and check on progress. At the present time, the status would continue until March 2015 or until the Council was re-inspected.</p>

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	<p><b><u>(d) Policy, Finance and Administration Committee: 3 December 2013: Local Council Tax Support (Committee Report enclosed and the following is a recommendation within the report to be considered on 3 December 2013)</u></b></p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED:</b> That</p> <p>(a) The scheme attached at Appendix A is adopted as the localised Council Tax Support Scheme for Melton Borough Council from 1 April 2014. (The maximum liability for people of working age is 88.0% as recommended by the BSPWG)).</p> <p>(b) That the portion of the grant attributable to Parishes and Special Expenses is reduced in line with Melton's anticipated Revenue Support Grant being 25% in 2014/15 and is adjusted in line with anticipated reductions (increases) in Revenue Support Grant for future years.</p> <p>(c) That no transition scheme is required following the approval of an increase in the CTS Liability Cap from 8.5% to 12%.</p>																
9.	<p><b>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS</b></p> <p>(a) The Chairmen of Committees to answer any questions upon items of reports of Committees when those items are being received or under consideration by the Council in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.1 of the Constitution :-</p> <table data-bbox="341 1155 1422 1485"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Policy, Finance &amp; Administration Committee</td> <td>7 October 2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning Committee</td> <td>17 October 2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rural, Economic &amp; Environmental Affairs Committee</td> <td>30 October 2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning Committee</td> <td>7 November 2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Licensing Committee</td> <td>12 November 2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ad Hoc Planning Committee</td> <td>12 November 2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community &amp; Social Affairs Committee</td> <td>13 November 2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ad Hoc Governance Committee</td> <td>21 November 2013</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(b) The Mayor, the Leader and the Chairmen of Committees to answer any questions on any matters in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affect the Borough of which due notice has been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.5.</p>	Policy, Finance & Administration Committee	7 October 2013	Planning Committee	17 October 2013	Rural, Economic & Environmental Affairs Committee	30 October 2013	Planning Committee	7 November 2013	Licensing Committee	12 November 2013	Ad Hoc Planning Committee	12 November 2013	Community & Social Affairs Committee	13 November 2013	Ad Hoc Governance Committee	21 November 2013
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10.	<p><b>MOTIONS ON NOTICE</b></p> <p><b>(1)</b> In accordance with Procedure Rule 11.1, the following motion was received on 29 November 2013 from Councillor Rhodes as proposer and Councillor Posnett as seconder:</p> <p><b><i>Rewiring Public Services</i></b>  <b><i>Council,</i></b>  <b><i>noting:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>that England is now widely recognised to be the country with the most centralised system of government in Europe;</i></li> </ul>																

- *that devolution has brought decisions about tax and spending, and the quality of public services, closer to voters in Scotland and Wales, while English voters have not gained comparably greater influence over decision-making that affects their taxes and services; and*

**considers:**

- *that the likely scale of change in how public services are funded and provided makes it democratically unsustainable for those changes to be decided within the existing over-centralised model;*
- *that services need to be reformed and integrated across local agencies to enable them to prevent problems rather than picking up the pieces;*
- *that voters should be given back a meaningful say on a wider range of tax and spending decisions, through place-based budgetary arrangements, the abolition of the discredited Barnett formula and the reinstatement of fair financial distribution agreed among English councils, the re-creation of a municipal bond market, and the certainty of multi-year funding settlements for the life of Parliament;*
- *that central government should enable that local decision-making by joining up and reducing size Whitehall departments in order to facilitate local place-based budgets, by reducing Ministers' powers to intervene in local decisions, and replacing bureaucratic tick-box inspection regimes with local service users champions; and*
- *that such a new more mature settlement between central and local government should be put beyond future revision by giving formal constitutional protection to local democracy; and*

**resolves:**

- *to support the Local Government Association's Rewiring Public Services campaign, which embodies these objectives;*
- *to ask the Borough's Member of Parliament to support the Rewiring Public Services campaign to improve local voters' influence over services, tax and spending; and*
- *to make the Council's position clear to the Secretary of State.*

(2) In accordance with Procedure Rule 11.1 the following motion was received on 2 December 2013 from Councillor Twitney as proposer and Councillor Hutchison as seconder.

*This Council supports the principles of openness and transparency in its workings.*

*To improve the openness and transparency of Council meetings, and to enable more local residents to hear their elected representatives, this Council requests that officers record and promptly publish on the Council website, audio recordings of all Full Council meetings which are open to the public and press, on a trial basis.*

*This Council requests that minimal additional costs are incurred in this trial.*

*This Council requests that the trial begins with the first full meeting of 2014 and concludes with the recording and publishing of the October 2014 meeting of the Council (or first thereafter).*

*This Council requests that officers produce a report to be brought back to the October 2014 Full Council meeting (or first thereafter) to review the trial and provide options and costs for the continuance and potential expansion of the scheme.*

*This Council requests that these options and costs are to include the possibility of video recording and live streaming Full Council meetings (as Leicestershire County Council has done since 2006) as well as expanding the scheme to cover other committee meetings of the Council.*

11. **MID YEAR REPORT ON THE TREASURY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2013-14**

The Head of Central Services to submit a report which meets the requirement under the treasury management regulatory framework for the Council to receive a mid year treasury review in addition to the annual report and strategy on treasury management as reported to Council on 1 February 2013. This report also incorporates the needs of the Prudential Code to ensure adequate monitoring of capital expenditure and the Council's prudential indicators (PI's). Revisions to future years are provided where required.

12. **PAY POLICY STATEMENT**

The Head of Communications to submit a report to gain Full Council approval for the Pay Policy Statement.

13. **LOCAL PLAN REFERENCE GROUPS**

The Head of Regulatory Services to submit a report.

To Follow

# Advice on Members' Interests

## **COUNCIL MEETINGS - COMMITTEE MINUTES : DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Interests need not be declared at Full Council in relation to Committee Minutes which do not become the subject of debate at Full Council (ie. Minutes referred to solely on a page by page basis when working through the Minutes of each Committee.)

An interest must be declared at Full Council as soon as it becomes apparent that a relevant Committee Minute is to be debated – this applies even if an interest has been declared at Committee and is recorded in the Minutes of that Committee.

## **PERSONAL AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

If the issue being discussed affects you, your family or a close associate more than other people in the area, you have a personal and non pecuniary interest. You also have a personal interest if the issue relates to an interest you must register under paragraph 9 of the Members' Code of Conduct.

**You must state that you have a personal and non-pecuniary interest and the nature of your interest.** You may stay, take part and vote in the meeting.

## **PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

If a member of the public, who knows all the relevant facts, would view your personal interest in the issue being discussed to be so great that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest and it affects your or the other person or bodies' financial position or relates to any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration then **you must state that you have a pecuniary interest, the nature of the interest and you must leave the room\***. You must not seek improperly to influence a decision on that matter unless you have previously obtained a dispensation from the Authority's Governance Committee.

## **DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER INTERESTS**

**If you are present at any meeting of the Council and you have a disclosable pecuniary interest in any matter to be considered or being considered at the meeting, if the interest is not already registered, you must disclose the interest to the meeting. You must not participate in the discussion or the vote and you must leave the room.**

You may not attend a meeting or stay in the room as either an Observer Councillor or \*Ward Councillor or as a member of the public if you have a pecuniary or disclosable pecuniary interest\*.

## **BIAS**

If you have been involved in an issue in such a manner or to such an extent that the public are likely to perceive you to be biased in your judgement of the public interest (bias) then you should not take part in the decision-making process; you should leave the room. **You should state that your position in this matter prohibits you from taking part.** You may request permission of the Chair to address the meeting prior to leaving the room. The Chair will need to assess whether you have a useful contribution to make or whether complying with this request would prejudice the proceedings. A personal, pecuniary or disclosable pecuniary interest will take precedence over bias.

In each case above, you should make your declaration at the beginning of the meeting or as soon as you are aware of the issue being discussed.\*

\*There are some exceptions – please refer to paragraphs 13(2) and 13(3) of the Code of Conduct.