

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL



Date: Wednesday 2 March 2016

Time: 6.30 p.m.

Venue: Town Hall, High Street,
Maidstone

Membership:

Councillors Ash, Mrs Blackmore, Boughton, Brice, Burton, Butler, Chittenden, Clark, Cox, Cuming, Daley, Ells, English, Fissenden, Fort, Garland, Mrs Gooch, Greer, Mrs Grigg, Harper, Harwood, Hemsley, Mrs Hinder, Mrs Joy, McKay, McLoughlin, Moriarty (Mayor), B Mortimer, D Mortimer, Munford, Naghi, Newton, Paine, Mrs Parvin, Paterson, Perry, Pickett, Mrs Ring, Mrs Robertson, Ross, Round, J Sams, T Sams, Sargeant, Springett, Mrs Stockell, Thick, Vizzard, Watson, Webb, Webster, de Wiggondene, Willis, J.A. Wilson and Mrs Wilson

Continued Over/:

Issued on 23 February 2016

The reports included in Part I of this agenda can be made available in **alternative formats**. For further information about this service, or to arrange for special facilities to be provided at the meeting, **please contact DEBBIE SNOOK on 01622 602030**. To find out more about the work of the Council, please visit www.maidstone.gov.uk

Alison Broom

**Alison Broom, Chief Executive, Maidstone Borough Council,
Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ**

AGENDA

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1. Prayers
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Dispensations (if any)
4. Disclosures by Members and Officers
5. Disclosures of Lobbying
6. To consider whether any items should be taken in private because of the possible disclosure of exempt information.
7. Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Borough Council held on 25 January 2016 1 - 9
8. Mayor's Announcements
9. Petitions
10. Question and Answer Session for Members of the Public
11. Questions from Members of the Council to the Chairmen of Committees
12. Current Issues - Report of the Leader of the Council, Response of the Group Leaders and Questions from Council Members
13. Report of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 17 February 2016 - Maidstone Housing Strategy 2016-2020 10 - 54
14. Report of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 17 February 2016 - Strategic Plan 2015-2020 (2016-17 Refresh) 55 - 82
15. Report of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 17 February 2016 - Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016/17 Onwards 83 - 100
16. Report of the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee held on 18 January 2016 - Treasury Management Strategy 2016/17 101 - 122
17. Report of the Employment Committee held on 29 January 2016 - Pay Policy Statement 2016 123 - 155
18. Report of the Democracy Committee held on 28 January 2016 - Mayoralty and Civic Ceremony Review 156 - 161
19. Oral Report of the Heritage, Culture and Leisure Committee to be held on 1 March 2016 (if any)

20. Notice of Motion

Notice of the following motion has been given by Councillor Harper, seconded by Councillor McKay:

Housing Crisis – Where Are the Young Going to Live

In the Borough of Maidstone as elsewhere in the UK we face a housing crisis. We are doing the first part to identify sites through the Local Plan suitable for housing development (the 18,560 housing units). Current Council Affordable Housing policy relating to new housing developments, adopted in December 2006, is for sites of 15 units or more to have 40% affordable housing.

However our looming housing crisis is disproportionately affecting the young and vulnerable. Whilst there are people sleeping on the streets in Maidstone, they only represent the easily identified need. Most homelessness is hidden as people are forced to remain at home with their parents, move around people's houses to find a bed, or live in unfit and overcrowded accommodation.

Whilst recognising that the Council has been trying to tackle people sleeping on the streets, and has set up a number of emergency hostel type facilities, as the statutory housing authority for the Borough of Maidstone, this Council has a responsibility to address this.

This Council therefore resolves to do the following during the next few months:

1. Actively work with private landlords to identify empty housing units and work with them to provide bed spaces for the homeless.
2. Engage with young people in the Borough about their housing needs, via a public consultation exercise.
3. Identify over occupied property and develop procedures to work with the relevant occupiers/landlords to address the problem.
4. Organise a Housing Conference around the topic of "Where Are the Young Going to Live" of statutory authorities, local active housing associations and the voluntary sector to propose a multi-sector approach to tackling these issues in the Borough of Maidstone.
5. Request a report back to the next Council meeting on the implementation of measures 1 - 3 above and progress towards the Housing Conference in 4 above.

21. Appointment of Mayor Select 2016/17

22. Appointment of Deputy Mayor Select 2016/17

PLEASE NOTE:

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO BRING WITH THEM TO THE MEETING THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT WHICH HAS BEEN CIRCULATED SEPARATELY:

APPENDIX A TO THE REPORT OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE RELATING TO THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2016/17 ONWARDS.