

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL



Date: Wednesday 25 February 2015

Time: 6.30 p.m.

Venue: Town Hall, High Street,
Maidstone

Membership:

Councillors Thick (The Mayor), Ash, Black, Mrs Blackmore, Burton, Butler, Chittenden, Collins, Cox, Cuming, Daley, Edwards-Daem, Ells, English, Fissenden, Garland, Mrs Gooch, Greer, Mrs Grigg, Harper, Harwood, Mrs Hinder, Hogg, Mrs Joy, Long, McKay, McLoughlin, Moriarty, B Mortimer, D Mortimer, Munford, Naghi, Newton, Paine, Mrs Parvin, Paterson, Perry, Pickett, Powell, Mrs Ring, Mrs Robertson, Ross, Round, Sams, Sargeant, Springett, Mrs Stockell, Vizzard, B Watson, P Watson, de Wiggondene, Willis, J.A. Wilson and Mrs Wilson

Continued Over/:

Issued on 17 February 2015

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

Page No.

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 meeting of the Borough Council held on 10 December 2014 1 - 12
8. Mayor's Announcements
9. Petitions
Notice has been given pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 11 of the intention to present a petition in the following terms:

Saving Bridgemill Play Area

We, the undersigned, wish our park at Bridgemill Play Area to remain with the bark surfacing, and not to be replaced with rubber surfacing, and do not want this play area to close.
10. Question and Answer Session for Members of the Public
11. Questions from Members of the Council to the
 - (a) Leader of the Council
 - (b) Cabinet Members
 - (c) Chairmen of Overview and Scrutiny Committees
 - (d) Chairmen of other 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 Cabinet held on 17 December 2014 - Update on Motion Referred to the Cabinet by Council 13 - 14
14. Report of the Cabinet held on 11 February 2015 - Draft Strategic Plan 2015/2020 15 - 24
15. Report of the Cabinet held on 11 February 2015 - Budget Strategy 2015/16 Onwards 25 - 45
16. Report of the Cabinet held on 11 February 2015 - Treasury Management Strategy 2015/16 46 - 78
17. Report of the Member and Employment and Development Panel held on 21 January 2015 - Pay Policy Statement 79 - 111

18. Oral Report of the Economic and Commercial Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on 24 February 2015 (if any)

19. Notice of Motion - Living Wage

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

Living Wage

As a result of the cost of living crises since 2010, wage levels have not generally kept pace with prices. This is more exacerbated for lower earners.

The independently verified Living Wage represents the minimum hourly wage someone can live on at a basic level and ensures that those in full-time work are guaranteed a decent standard of living.

The Maidstone economy has a large element of lower paid unskilled jobs.

To demonstrate THIS Council's commitment to the Living Wage, the Council agrees the following:

1. To note that the Council employs all its staff above the level of the Living Wage and to advertise the fact to encourage other employers as a good example;
2. To investigate with the Living Wage Foundation the implications of being an accredited Living Wage Employer and to receive a report back to a future Council Meeting on this;
3. To ask the Council's Officers to undertake an audit of all Council contractors and sub-contractors to establish if they pay any staff below the Living Wage;
4. If any contractor/sub-contractor is paying below the Living Wage, to review the impact of bringing their lowest paid staff to the Living Wage;
5. To investigate the policy of the Royal Borough of Greenwich to offer discounted business rates to local companies who commit to paying their workers the Living Wage. This is aimed to encourage local businesses looking at making the change to the Living Wage, to supporting local communities and the local economy in general;
6. To apply the Living Wage to apprentices in its employment (as the young should not be discriminated against); and, where they are paid less currently, to prepare an action plan on how this will be remedied and also to undertake a similar exercise with its contractors and sub-contractors; and

7. To recommend that Kent County Council and other members of the Mid-Kent Consortium take similar measures.

20. Report of the Head of Finance and Resources - Members' Allowances 112 - 123

21. Report of the Head of Finance and Resources - Harrietsham Parish Council - Increase in Number of Councillors 124 - 129

22. Report of the Head of Finance and Resources - Committee Membership 130

23. Appointment of Mayor Select 2015/16

24. Appointment of Deputy Mayor Select 2015/16

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 CABINET RELATING TO THE BUDGET STRATEGY 2015/16 ONWARDS