Monday 26th November 2012 7.00 pm

Council Chamber Town Hall Redditch





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Access to Information - Your Rights

The Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 widened the rights of press and public to attend Local Authority meetings and to see certain documents. Recently the Freedom of Information Act 2000, has further broadened these rights, and limited exemptions under the 1985 Act.

Your main rights are set out below:-

- Automatic right to attend all Council and Committee meetings unless the business would disclose confidential or "exempt" information.
- Automatic right to inspect agenda and public reports at least five days before the date of the meeting.
- Automatic right to inspect minutes of the Council and its Committees (or summaries of business

undertaken in private) for up to six years following a meeting.

- Automatic right to inspect lists of background papers used in the preparation of public reports.
- Access, upon request, to the background papers on which reports are based for a period of up to four years from the date of the meeting.
- Access to a public register stating the names and addresses and electoral areas of all Councillors with details of the membership of all Committees etc.
- A reasonable number of copies of agenda and reports relating to items to be considered in public must be made available to the public attending meetings of the Council and its Committees etc.

- Access to a list specifying those powers which the Council has delegated to its Officers indicating also the titles of the Officers concerned.
- Access to a summary of the rights of the public to attend meetings of the Council and its Committees etc. and to inspect and copy documents.
- In addition, the public now has a right to be present when the Council determines "Key Decisions" unless the business would disclose confidential or "exempt" information.
- Unless otherwise stated, all items of business before the <u>Executive Committee</u> are Key Decisions.
- (Copies of Agenda Lists are published in advance of the meetings on the Council's Website:

www.redditchbc.gov.uk

If you have any queries on this Agenda or any of the decisions taken or wish to exercise any of the above rights of access to information, please contact lvor Westmore Committee Support Services

> Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, B98 8AH Tel: (01527) 64252 (Extn. 3269) Fax: (01527) 65216 e.mail: ivor.westmore@bromgroveandredditch.gov.uk

Welcome to today's meeting. Guidance for the Public

Agenda Papers

The **Agenda List** at the front of the Agenda summarises the issues to be discussed and is followed by the Officers' full supporting **Reports**.

Chair

The Chair is responsible for the proper conduct of the meeting. Generally to one side of the Chair is the Committee Support Officer who gives advice on the the conduct of proper meeting and ensures that the the debate and properly decisions are recorded. On the Chair's other side are the relevant Officers. Council The Councillors ("Members") of the Committee occupy the remaining seats around the table.

Running Order

Items will normally be taken in the order printed but, in particular circumstances, the Chair may agree to vary the order.

Refreshments : tea, coffee and water are normally available at meetings please serve yourself.

Decisions

Decisions at the meeting will be taken by the **Councillors** who are the democratically elected representatives. They are advised by **Officers** who are paid professionals and do not have a vote.

Members of the Public

Members of the public may, by prior arrangement, speak at meetings of the Council or its Committees. Specific procedures exist for Appeals Hearings or for meetings involving Licence or Planning Applications. For further information on this point, please speak to the Committee Support Officer.

Special Arrangements

If you have any particular needs, please contact the Committee Support Officer.

Infra-red devices for the hearing impaired are available on request at the meeting. Other facilities may require prior arrangement.

Further Information

If you require any further information, please contact the Committee Support Officer (see foot of page opposite).

Fire/ Emergency instructions

If the alarm is sounded, please leave the building by the nearest available exit – these are clearly indicated within all the Committee Rooms.

If you discover a fire, inform a member of staff operate the nearest or alarm (wall call point mounted red rectangular box). In the event of the fire alarm sounding, leave the building immediately following the fire exit signs. Officers have been appointed with responsibility to ensure that all visitors are escorted from the building.

Do Not stop to collect personal belongings.

Do Not use lifts.

Do Not re-enter the building until told to do so.

The emergency Assembly Area is on Walter Stranz Square.



26th November 2012 7.00 pm Council Chamber Town Hall

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| Ag | enda | Membership: Cllrs: | Alan Mason (Mayor) Wanda King (Deputy Mayor) Joe Baker Roger Bennett Rebecca Blake Michael Braley Andrew Brazier Juliet Brunner David Bush Michael Chalk Simon Chalk Greg Chance Brandon Clayton John Fisher Andrew Fry | Carole Gandy Adam Griffin Bill Hartnett Pattie Hill Roger Hill Gay Hopkins Phil Mould Brenda Quinney Mark Shurmer Yvonne Smith Luke Stephens Debbie Taylor Derek Taylor Pat Witherspoon |
|----|------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|
| 1. | Welcome | | The Mayor will open the meeting | and welcome all present. |
| 2. | Apologies | | To receive any apologies for abse members. | ence on behalf of Council |
| 3. | Declaration | s of Interest | To invite Councillors to declare an in items on the agenda. | ny interests they may have |
| 4. | Minutes Chief Execu | tive | To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 15 th October 2012. (Minutes circulated in Minute Book 6 - 2012/13) | |
| 5. | Announcer | nents | To consider Announcements und a) Mayor's Announcements b) Leader's Announcements c) Chief Executive's Announc (Oral report) | |

| 6. | Questions on Notice Chief Executive | No questions have been submitted to date under Procedure Rule 9.2. | |
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| 7. | Motions on Notice Chief Executive | No Motions have been submitted under Procedure Rule 11. | |
| 8. | Executive Committee (Pages 1 - 56) Chief Executive | To receive the minutes and consider the recommendations and/or referrals from the following meetings of the Executive Committee: 16 th October 2012 Matters requiring the Council's consideration include: • Local Development Scheme; and • Localism Act – Community Right to Bid. (Reports and decisions attached) 20 th November 2012 Matters requiring the Council's consideration may include: • Sickness Absence Policy and Disciplinary Policy Review; and • Access to Information Rules – Update. (Reports attached – Minutes to follow) (Minutes of the meeting on 16 th October 2012 circulated in Minute Book 6 – 2012/13) | |
| 9. | Regulatory Committees Chief Executive | To formally receive the minutes of the following meetings of the Council's Regulatory Committees:Audit & Governance Committee- 26th September 2012Planning Committee- 31st October 2012Standards Committee- 22nd October 2012There are no outstanding recommendations for the Council to consider.Image: Committee Council to consider.(Minutes circulated in Minute Book 6 – 2012/13) | |

| 10. | Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act - Scheme of Delegations - and Amendment to the Planning Code of Practice | To consider an update to the Council's Scheme of Delegations to Officers in the light of recent changes to the Regulation of the Investigatory Powers Act. This report also proposes an addition to the Planning Code of Practice to recognise shared service arrangements beyond the Redditch and Bromsgrove agreement. |
|-----|--|---|
| | (Pages 57 - 62) | (Report attached) |
| | Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services | (No Direct Ward Relevance); |
| 11. | Urgent Business - Record of Decisions | To note the following decision taken in accordance with Paragraph 5 of Part 6 of the Constitution since the last ordinary meeting of the Council: |
| | (Pages 63 - 72) | |
| | Chief Executive | <u>Greater Birmingham And Solihull Business Rate Pool -</u> <u>Draft Governance Arrangements.</u> |
| | | (Executive Director, Finance and Resources) |
| | | Agreement was sought on delegation for the approval of draft Governance Arrangements for the Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP to the Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer. The grounds for urgency was that the final version of these draft arrangements was only completed on Monday, 5 th November and there was a Government deadline of Friday, 9 th November for sign off by participating Councils' Chief Executives and S151 Officers. |
| | | It was therefore RESOLVED that |
| | | authority be delegated to the Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer to approve the Governance Arrangements for the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Business Rates Retention Scheme Pooling Arrangement on behalf of Redditch Borough Council. |
| | | (Council Decision) (Governance Arrangements attached) |
| 12. | Urgent Business - general (if any) | To consider any additional items exceptionally agreed by the Mayor as Urgent Business in accordance with the powers vested in her by virtue of Section 100(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972. |
| | | (This power should be exercised only in cases where there are genuinely special circumstances which require consideration of an item which has not previously been published on the Order of Business for the meeting and/or on the Leader's Work Programme.) |

| 13. | Exclusion of the Public | Should it be necessary, in the opinion of the Chief Executive, to consider excluding the public from the meeting in relation to any items of business on the grounds that exempt information is likely to be divulged it may be necessary to move the following resolution: |
|-----|-------------------------|---|
| | | "that, under S.100 I of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following matter(s) on the rounds that it/they involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs (to be specified) of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the said Act, as amended." |
| | | [Subject to the "public interest" test, information relating |
| | | to: |
| | | Para 1 – <u>any individual;</u> |
| | | • Para 2 – the identity of any individual; |
| | | • Para 3 – <u>financial or business affairs;</u> |
| | | • Para 4 – <u>labour relations matters;</u> |
| | | Para 5 – <u>legal professional privilege;</u> |
| | | • Para 6 – <u>a notice, order or direction;</u> |
| | | • Para 7 – the prevention, investigation or |
| | | prosecution of crime; |
| | | may need to be considered as 'exempt'.] |

(Note: Anyone requiring copies of any previously circulated reports, or supplementary papers, should please contact Committee Services Officers in advance of the meeting.)