

Executive Committee

Wed 28th July
2010
7.00 pm

Council Chamber
Town Hall
Redditch

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL


*making
a
difference*

www.redditchbc.gov.uk

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 Executive Committee 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
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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 proper conduct of the meeting and ensures that the debate and the decisions are properly recorded. On the Chair's other side are the relevant Council Officers. 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 or operate the nearest alarm call point (wall 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.

Declaration of Interests: Guidance for Councillors

DO I HAVE A "PERSONAL INTEREST" ?

- Where the item relates or is likely to affect your **registered interests** (what you have declared on the formal Register of Interests)

OR

- Where a decision in relation to the item might reasonably be regarded as affecting **your own** well-being or financial position, or that of your **family**, or your **close associates** more than most other people affected by the issue,

you have a personal interest.

WHAT MUST I DO? **Declare the existence, and nature, of your interest and stay**

- The declaration must relate to specific business being decided - a general scattergun approach is not needed
- **Exception** - where interest arises only because of your membership of another **public body**, there is no need to declare unless you **speak** on the matter.
- You **can vote** on the matter.

IS IT A "PREJUDICIAL INTEREST" ?

In general only if:-

- It is a personal interest **and**
- The item affects your **financial position** (or conveys other benefits), or the position of your **family, close associates** or bodies through which you have a **registered interest** (or relates to the exercise of **regulatory functions** in relation to these groups)

and

- A member of public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably believe the interest was likely to **prejudice** your judgement of the public interest.

WHAT MUST I DO? **Declare and Withdraw**

BUT you may make representations to the meeting before withdrawing, **if** the public have similar rights (such as the right to speak at Planning Committee).



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Committee

Council Chamber, Town Hall

Agenda

Membership:

Cllrs: Carole Gandy (Chair) Brandon Clayton
Michael Braley (Vice-Chair) Malcolm Hall
Peter Anderson Jinny Pearce
Juliet Brunner Debbie Taylor
Greg Chance

1. Apologies	To receive the apologies of any Member who is unable to attend this meeting.
2. Declarations of Interest	To invite Councillors to declare any interests they may have in items on the agenda.
3. Leader's Announcements	<ol style="list-style-type: none">To give notice of any items for future meetings or for the Forward Plan, including any scheduled for this meeting, but now carried forward or deleted; andany other relevant announcements. <p>(Oral report)</p>
4. Minutes (Pages 1 - 12) Chief Executive	To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on the 16th June 2010. (Minutes attached)
5. Deputation - REDI	To receive a deputation from users concerned about the potential closure of the REDI Centre. All Wards
6. REDI Centre Options Head of Leisure and Cultural Services	To consider an update on the options for the future of REDI Centre. (Report to follow) (Central Ward)

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<p>7. Council Plan 2010 / 2013 (Pages 13 - 58) Director of Policy, Performance and Partnerships</p>	<p>To consider the adoption of the Council Plan 2010 to 2013 incorporating the vision, values, priorities, the strategic action plan and key performance indicators.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p> <p>All Wards</p>
<p>8. Review of Redditch Borough Council's Sheltered Housing Stock further to Community Consultation (Pages 59 - 74) Head of Housing</p>	<p>To consider proposals further to a review of Redditch Borough Council's Sheltered Housing Stock. To seek approval for proposed revised categories, funding of improvement works and other costs and to provide Members with an update on the action plan.</p> <p>(Report attached – Appendices available in Members' Rooms and via the Council's Website)</p> <p>All Wards</p>
<p>9. Capital Programme Outturn 2009/10 (Pages 75 - 84) Head of Finance and Resources</p>	<p>To consider the Capital Programme Outturn 2009/10.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p> <p>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</p>
<p>10. Write Off Policy Update (Pages 85 - 104) Head of Finance and Resources</p>	<p>To consider an update to the Council's Write Off Policy.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p> <p>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</p>
<p>11. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Pages 105 - 120) Chief Executive</p>	<p>To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 23rd June 2010.</p> <p>There are no recommendations to consider.</p> <p>(Minutes attached)</p>
<p>12. Minutes / Referrals - Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Executive Panels, Neighbourhood Groups etc. Chief Executive</p>	<p>To receive and consider any outstanding minutes or referrals from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Executive Panels, Neighbourhood Groups, etc. since the last meeting of the Executive Committee, other than as detailed in the items above.</p>

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<p>13. Shared Services Board (Pages 121 - 126) Chief Executive</p>	<p>To consider the minutes arising from the most recent meeting of the Shared Services Board held on 24th June 2010.</p> <p>(The minutes of this meeting are NOT FOR PUBLICATION as they relate to contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with labour relation matters arising between the authority and employees of the authority.)</p> <p>(Minutes attached)</p> <p>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</p>
<p>14. Advisory Panels - update report (Pages 127 - 130) Chief Executive</p>	<p>To consider, for monitoring / management purposes, an update on the work of the Executive Committee's Advisory Panels and similar bodies, which report via the Executive Committee.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p>
<p>15. Action Monitoring (Pages 131 - 134) Chief Executive</p>	<p>To consider an update on the actions arising from previous meetings of the Committee.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p>
<p>16. Urgent Business - Record of Decisions</p>	<p>To note the following decision taken in accordance with SO36 since the last meeting of the Executive Committee:</p> <p><u>Invalid Planning Applications – Introduction of Administration Fee</u> (Development Control Manager)(Decision Reference 483)</p> <p>The case for urgency - normally the opportunity for introducing new charges is associated with the review that occurs for the start of each financial year. However in this case it is recommended that the charging begin on 1st October 2010, half way through the current financial year, in order to maximise revenue but still provide a reasonable time period to advise the public of the changes. In order to start on 1st October, Officers need to consult for 6 weeks from early August.</p> <p>It was therefore RESOLVED that,</p> <p>with effect from 1st October 2010, 25% of the planning application fee received be withheld to cover the administration costs associated with an application that is not proceeded with.</p>

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	(No separate report)
17. Exclusion of the Public	<p>If, in the opinion of the Chief Executive, it is necessary 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:</p> <p>“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 grounds that it/they involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs (<i>to be specified</i>) of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the said Act, as amended.”</p>
18. Confidential Minutes / Referrals (if any)	<p>To consider confidential matters not dealt with earlier in the evening and not separately listed below (if any).</p>