

Council

Mon 25 Jun
2007
7.00 pm

Council Chamber
Town Hall
Redditch



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
Ivor Westmore
Committee Support Services**

Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, B98 8AH

Tel: Fax: (01527) 65216

e.mail: committee@redditchbc.gov.uk

Minicom: 595528

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).



COUNCIL

Monday, 25th June, 2007

7.00 pm

Council Chamber Town Hall

Agenda

Membership:

Cllrs:	D Hunt (Mayor)	C Gandy
	J Field (Deputy Mayor)	M Hall
	P Anderson	W Hartnett
	K Banks	N Hicks
	I Beech	P Hill
	K Boyd-Carpenter	R King
	M Braley	W King
	J Brunner	C MacMillan
	M Chalk	P Mould
	G Chance	B Passingham
	B Clayton	M Shurmer
	J Cookson	D Smith
	D Dudley	D Taylor
	D Enderby	D Thomas
	A Fry	

1. Mayor's Welcome	<p>The Mayor will open the meeting and welcome all present.</p> <p>The Mayor's Chaplain, Deacon Tony Martin, will lead the Council in prayer.</p>
2. Apologies	<p>To receive any apologies for absence on behalf of Council members.</p>
3. Declarations of Interest	<p>To invite Councillors to declare any interests they may have in items on the agenda.</p>
4. Minutes	<p>To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the</p> <p>(Minutes circulated in Minute Book - 2009/10)</p>

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5. Communications and Mayor's Announcements	<p>To receive a report from the Mayor on civic matters which have arisen since the last meeting or events which may be occurring in the near future.</p> <p>To give notice of any variation to the items listed in the Forward Plan and/or items accepted as "Urgent Business".</p> <p>(No separate report / oral update)</p>
6. Matters Arising - Council Appointments / Nominations etc.	<p>To note and/or approve any required minor additions or amendments to the appointments approved at the Annual Council meeting, to include: -</p> <p><u>WREC representatives</u> should be <u>Cllrs Shurmer & King</u> ; <u>REDI Trust</u> update; <u>Grants Panel</u> update.</p> <p>(No separate report)</p> <p>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</p>
7. Leaders' Questions (Pages 1 - 4)	<p>To consider the following Questions for the Leader which have been submitted in accordance with Standing Order 8A:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <u>"Planning & Development"</u> (Mr C T Wareing)2. <u>"Budget Overspends"</u> (Councillor J Brunner)3. <u>"Council Funding"</u> (Councillor C MacMillan) <p>(Questions attached)</p> <p>(Abbey / All Wards)</p>
8. Notices of Motion	

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Monday, 25th June, 2007

<p>(Pages 5 - 6)</p>	<p>To consider Notices of Motion submitted in accordance with Standing Order 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Redditch Student Council. (Councillors Brunner and Clayton)B. CCTV in Crabbs Cross. (Councillors Field and Smith) <p>(Report attached)</p> <p>(All Wards / Crabbs Cross Ward)</p>
<p>9. Deputation (Pages 7 - 8)</p>	<p>To receive a Deputation in accordance with Standing Orders 49 and 51.</p> <p>The theme of the Deputation is the special showing of Al Gore's film about climate change "An Inconvenient Truth" at the Palace Theatre on Thursday 6th September 2007.</p> <p>The Deputation comprises representatives of the Trade Justice Network, Redditch Vegetarians and Vegans and Friends of the Earth, all members of the Redditch Alliance of Greens.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p> <p>All Wards</p>
<p>10. Executive Committee (Pages 9 - 12)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. To receive the Minutes and consider the recommendations and/or referrals from the following

meetings of the Executive Committee :

23rd May 2007

Matters of interest to the Council are:

- Street Naming Policy – Update (Minute 5 refers)
- Waste And Street Sweeping Tender – Proposed Joint District Councils' Approach (Minute 10 refers – see also item 13(3) – Urgent Business under Standing Order 36 – below – Matter now resolved).

(Minutes circulated in Minute Book 1 - 2007/08)

- B. To receive the Decision Notice and consider the recommendations and/or referrals from the following meetings of the Executive Committee :

13th June 2007

Matters of potential referral to the Council are:

- The District of Stratford-on-Avon Local Development Framework – Core Strategy Issues and Options – Officers' response
- Smoke-Free Policy
- Local Land Charges – Fees & Charges
- Consolidated Out-turn 2006/07
- Capital Programme 2006/07
- Corporate Plan / Performance Plan (see separate agenda item)
- Regional Housing Board Capital Grant – Decent Homes in Private Sector occupied by vulnerable households
- Playing Fields Improvements – Capital Works
- Referrals / Advisory Panels Reports
- Extension of Contract (Confidential item)

(Decision Notice to follow)

(Full minutes of the above meetings will be submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the Council on the 13th of August 2007, via Minute Book 2 2007/08.)

Any matters arising, not covered elsewhere in the agenda, will be considered under this heading.

Confidential matters may be taken after the Exclusion of the Public, subject to notification at this point in the meeting.

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11. Regulatory Committees	<p>To formally receive the minutes of the following meetings of the Council's Regulatory Committees:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="619 405 1528 506"><tr><td data-bbox="619 405 1072 506">Planning Committee</td><td data-bbox="1072 405 1528 506">- 22nd May 2007</td></tr></table> <p>(Minutes circulated in Minute Book 1 - 2007/08)</p>	Planning Committee	- 22nd May 2007
Planning Committee	- 22nd May 2007		
12. The Corporate Plan and Performance Plan (Pages 13 - 126)	<p>To consider the Council's Corporate and Performance Plans (item deferred from the Executive Committee agenda of the 13th of June 2007).</p> <p>(Report attached / Appendices to follow)</p> <p>(No Direct Ward Relevance)</p>		
13. Statement of Accounts (Pages 127 - 178)	<p>To approve the Statement of Accounts for the 2006/07 financial year.</p> <p>(Report / Statement to follow)</p> <p>(No Direct Ward Relevance)</p>		
14. Authorisation of Officers	<p>To seek the Council's approval of the following authorisation:</p> <p>“that John Wilcox, Revenues Officer, be authorised to take Council Tax and Business Rates cases to the Magistrates’ Court on behalf of the Council.”</p> <p>(No separate report)</p> <p>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</p>		

15. Constitution

Further to decisions taken at the Council's meeting of the 23rd of April 2007, to endorse the Council's current Constitution and associated documents (Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Scheme of Delegation to Officers, Scheme of Members' Allowances, Codes and Protocols etc.) as now revised.

(In view of their bulk, the revised Constitutional documents will be available in electronic copy and, on a limited basis only, as paper copies - please request hard copies, if required.)

(No Specific Ward Relevance)

16. Urgent Business - Record of Decisions

To note the following decisions taken in accordance with SO36 and/or the Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules (Constitution), as specified :

- 1) EDMS (Electronic Document Management Service) - Anite (Borough Director) (Decision Reference 464)

The Council already had the Anite system in Housing Benefits and it was therefore considered to be best value for money to contract with the same supplier for the extension of the service into the Housing area.

In this case the exceptional urgency was that the Capital costs for the purchase of this system were provided by Anite, and Anite were also offering a discount on the price of the licences if the order was guaranteed by the first week in May.

RESOLVED that

an Electronic Document Management System for Housing be purchased from the Council's existing supplier, ANITE.

- 2) Purchase of Refuse Vehicles
(Director of Environment & Planning) (Decision 465)

The reason for urgency was to ensure that delivery of the vehicles could be achieved by September 2007, which would enable optimum operational implementation of the Alternative Weekly Collection Scheme to be achieved.

RESOLVED that

the existing Vehicle Replacement Programme be varied to allow the orders for the Refuse Collection Vehicles to be placed, and a revised Vehicle replacement Programme showing the amendment be submitted to the next Capital Programme meeting of the Executive Committee.

(Full details of the resolution are contained in the Decision Notice, attached to the Council agenda, in respect of item 7 above.)

- 3) Wychavon Waste and Street Cleansing Tender – Proposed Joint Approach
(Director of Environment & Planning) (Decision 466)

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17. Urgent Business - general (if any)	<p>To consider any additional items exceptionally agreed by the Mayor as Urgent Business in accordance with the powers vested in him by virtue of Section 100(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.</p> <p>(This power can 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 Forward Plan.)</p>
18. Exclusion of the Public	<p>It may be necessary, in the opinion of the Chief Executive, to consider excluding the public from the meeting in relation to the following items of business on the grounds that exempt information is likely to be divulged. It may be necessary, therefore, 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 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.”</p>
19. 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>
20. -	<p>(Note: Anyone requiring copies of any previously circulated reports, or supplementary papers, should please contact Committee Services Officers in advance of the meeting.)</p>