

Council Offices,
Urban Road,
Kirkby in Ashfield
Nottingham
NG17 8DA

Agenda

Council

Date: **Thursday, 29th July, 2021**

Time: **7.00 pm**

Venue: **Council Chamber, Council Offices, Urban Road,
Kirkby-in-Ashfield**

For any further information please contact:

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COUNCIL

Membership

Chairman:

Councillor Arnie Hankin

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor John Smallridge

Councillors:

John Baird
Kier Barsby
Jim Blagden
Christian Chapman
Samantha Deakin
Dale Grounds
David Hennigan
Trevor Locke
Sarah Madigan
Andy Meakin
Keir Morrison
Matthew Relf
Phil Rostance
Helen-Ann Smith
Lee Waters
Daniel Williamson
Jason Zadrozny

Chris Baron
Jamie Bell
Will Bostock
Melanie Darrington
Andy Gascoyne
Andrew Harding
Tom Hollis
Rachel Madden
David Martin
Lauren Mitchell
Warren Nuttall
Kevin Rostance
Dave Shaw
David Walters
Caroline Wilkinson
John Wilmott

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SUMMONS

You are hereby requested to attend a meeting of the Council to be held at the time/place and on the date mentioned above for the purpose of transacting the business set out below.



Carol Cooper-Smith
Chief Executive

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1. To receive apologies for absence, if any.	
2. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Personal Interests and/or Non-Registrable Interests.	
3. To receive and approve as correct records the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 4 March and 20 May 2021.	9 - 30
4. To receive any announcements from the Chairman, Leader, Members of the Cabinet and the Head of Paid Service.	
5. To receive questions from the Public in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11, if any. <i>(None received for this meeting)</i>	
6. To receive and consider any petitions submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12, if any. <i>(None received for this meeting)</i>	
7. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2 (viii) to receive reports from the Cabinet in relation to the Council's budget and policy framework, reports of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for debate and reports from Officers of the Council:-	
a Report on Urgent Key Decisions.	
b Appointment of the Chief Executive and Head of the Paid Service.	31 - 34
c Annual Scrutiny Report 2021.	35 - 70
d Proposed Capital Programme Addition 2021/22.	71 - 74
e Interim Review of Polling Places.	75 - 78
f Boundary Commission for England Proposals for Parliamentary Boundaries.	79 - 98
8. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2 (ix), to receive recommendations from the Cabinet and the Council's Committees and resolve in accordance with the Council's rules of debate as per the attached schedule.	99 - 126

9. Updates from Members of the Cabinet on their Portfolio Activity.

10. Notices of Motion.

Motion 1

To consider a notice of motion proposed by Councillor Keir Morrison and seconded by Councillor Lauren Mitchell, as follows:-

"On the 29th of April 2021 the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee published their investigation into the surplus sharing arrangements between the UK Government and the Mineworkers Pension Scheme.

Since privatisation of the Mineworkers' Pension Scheme in 1994, the Government has received 50% of surpluses in the Scheme's value, in return for providing a guarantee that the value of pensions will not decrease. At the time it was expected that the Government would receive approximately £4bn from the arrangement in today's money. However, to date, the Government has received £4.4bn, and is also due to receive at least another £1.9bn, on top of 50% off any future surpluses. The Government has not paid any funds into the Scheme in return. The Government failed to conduct due diligence during the 1994 negotiations and was negligent by not taking actuarial advice. There was no empirical analysis or evaluation to inform or support the 50:50 split, and it therefore remains arbitrary.

Tens of thousands of former mineworkers and their families reside within our district. Ashfield District Council support their calls for the Government to take seriously and act on the following findings of the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee:

- *The Government should relinquish its entitlement to the Investment Reserve and transfer the £1.2bn fund to the Mineworkers' Pension Fund.*
- *The Government should not be in the business of profiting from mineworkers' pensions. We are therefore disappointed by the Government's argument that the 1994 agreement is a success because the public purse has had strong returns from it. The Government is not a corporate entity driven by profit-motives and should not view the miners' pensions as an opportunity to derive income.*
- *The Government's entitlement to 50% of surpluses is not proportionate to the degree of financial risk it actually faces and therefore should not take any further surpluses out of the scheme until such a time that the Government has supported losses to the scheme equalling that they have already taken out of the scheme.*

- *The Government has potentially accrued £6.3bn from the Mineworker's Pension Scheme and should use this windfall to cover any future losses to the scheme. In supporting these findings Ashfield District Council will write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer asking him to act immediately to the findings of the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee and implement their recommendations.”*

Motion 2

To consider a notice of motion proposed by Councillor David Martin and seconded by Councillor Helen-Ann Smith, as follows:-

“Ashfield District Council notes that the Government is currently consulting on increasing the free prescription age to 66 and that of thousands of residents in Nottinghamshire aged 60-65 will be adversely impacted.

This Council further notes that residents aged between 60 and 65 receive free prescriptions when they turn 60 in England, whereas the State Pension Age is now 66.

This Council also notes the comments made by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) who said it was "deeply concerned" by the plan - and warned it could leave people without the important medications that they need.

This Council acknowledges that according to the Institute for Fiscal Studies - among older workers, 37% reported that their household income was now lower because of the impact of successive coronavirus lockdowns. These are the very residents who will be impacted if the age for free prescriptions is raised.

This Council therefore resolves to write a formal submission to the consultation opposing any plans to raise to free prescription age to 66. This Council further resolves to send a letter to Secretary of State for Health and Social Care - The Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP from the leaders of Ashfield District Council formally opposing these plans on behalf of all councillors.”

Motion 3

To consider a notice of motion proposed by Councillor Matthew Relf and seconded by Councillor Dave Shaw, as follows:-

“Ashfield District Council notes the Government’s White Paper ‘Planning for the Future: planning policy changes in England in 2020 and future reforms’

This Council believes that proposals made in this Planning Bill would make the biggest changes to the planning in decades, to increase the speed with which developers can start building on land but at the expense of valuable local scrutiny and would substantially repeal safeguards in the 1947 Town and Country Planning Act.

The legislation was outlined at the Queen's Speech in May, with detailed plans expected to be published later this year.

Much of the rhetoric from the government surrounding these proposed changes has painted the current planning system as a blocker to progress. This council does not recognise this depiction of the planning system. This council believes that while improvements can always be found, the current planning system does well at balancing the requirement for new developments with the need for those new developments to not detrimentally impact existing residents.

This Council believes the outlined proposals set out in the White Paper would:

- *Curtail the ability of Ashfield residents to comment on individual applications.*
- *Lead to a planning 'free for all' with developers able to prioritise profit above all other concerns.*
- *Remove the power of local councillors to make planning decisions on behalf of the residents who elected them.*
- *Abandon section 106 and community infrastructure levy payments and replace them with a national levy that will favour affluent areas of the UK and leave places like Ashfield further behind.*
- *Remove the statutory requirement for local authorities to publish planning notices in local newspapers – thus eroding transparency.*
- *Offers nothing to deal with the affordable housing crisis.*
- *Would increase the housing targets for Nottinghamshire by 48%."*

Motion 4

To consider a notice of motion proposed by Councillor Samantha Deakin and seconded by Councillor Jason Zadrozny, as follows:-

"This Council notes the catastrophic problems caused by Severn Trent Water for residents in Kirkby-in-Ashfield and Sutton-in-Ashfield. Thousands of residents were left without water on Sunday 18 July, Monday 19 July and Tuesday 20 July this year. These were the hottest days of the year with temperatures reaching 91.4 degrees Fahrenheit in parts of Kirkby and Sutton.

This Council recognises that this is the second time in just 15 months that thousands of residents in the Ashfield District have been left without water.

This Council believes that lives were put in danger by the failures of Severn Trent Water and thanks residents including councillors for helping with the relief effort – delivering water to the elderly, young families, those isolating and other vulnerable residents.

This Council further notes the monopoly that Severn Trent have on providing water services to domestic households in the Ashfield District and calls on the Government to review this.

This Council therefore agrees to write to the Chief Executive of Severn Trent Water asking for a full investigation that is published online, for an assurance that Severn Trent Water will take all appropriate action to ensure that this never happens again, for a review of emergency processes for residents whose water supply fails and invites her to the next State of Ashfield debate to answer questions from members and local residents about the continual failure of Severn Trent Ltd.”

- 11. To answer any questions submitted in writing by Members in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, if any.**

Question 1

Question from Councillor Keir Morrison to the Leader of the Council:

“Will ADC formally recognise the change petition that's been signed by almost 6,000 Ashfield residents (at 13/7/21) to retract Hucknall Sports FC's eviction notice from the Papplewick Green playing fields, in line with the council's petition scheme policy?”

- 12. To receive a list of minutes and a web link to access Cabinet and Committee meeting minutes that have been published since the last ordinary meeting of the Council for Members to give notice of their intention to ask a question of a relevant Chairman under Procedure Rule 13.2.**

(None received for this meeting)

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