



Herbert Warehouse
The Docks
Gloucester
GL1 2EQ

Wednesday, 20 January 2016

TO EACH MEMBER OF GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** of the **CITY OF GLOUCESTER** to be held at the Civic Suite, North Warehouse, The Docks, Gloucester, GL1 2EP on **Thursday, 28th January 2016 at 7.30 pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business:

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. **MINUTES (Pages 9 - 20)**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 19 November 2015.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive from Members, declarations of the existence of any disclosable pecuniary, or non-pecuniary, interests and the nature of those interests in relation to any agenda item. Please see Agenda Notes.

4. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)**

The opportunity is given to members of the public to put questions to Cabinet Members or Committee Chairs provided that a question does not relate to:

- Matters which are the subject of current or pending legal proceedings or
- Matters relating to employees or former employees of the Council or comments in respect of individual Council Officers.

5. **PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)**

A period not exceeding three minutes is allowed for the presentation of a petition or deputation provided that no such petition or deputation is in relation to:

- Matters relating to individual Council Officers, or
- Matters relating to current or pending legal proceedings

6. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive announcements from:

- a) The Mayor
- b) Leader of the Council
- c) Members of the Cabinet
- d) Chair of Committees
- e) Head of Paid Service

7. **MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME**

- a) Leader and Cabinet Members' Question Time (30 minutes)

Any member of the Council may ask the Leader of the Council or any Cabinet Member any question without prior notice, upon:

- Any matter relating to the Council's administration
- Any matter relating to any report of the Cabinet appearing on the Council's summons
- A matter coming within their portfolio of responsibilities

Only one supplementary question is allowed per question.

- c) Questions to Chairs of Meetings (15 Minutes)

ISSUES FOR DECISION BY COUNCIL

8. **LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME (Pages 21 - 24)**

To receive the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources seeking approval to retain the current Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTS) for 2016/17.

9. **CHANGE IN DISCOUNT LEVELS FOR CLASS C EMPTY PROPERTIES (Pages 25 - 28)**

To receive the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources seeking approval to change the level of discount for Class C empty properties from 100% in the first month and 25% in subsequent 5 months, to 25% for the 6 months' period.

10. **GLOUCESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY 2015-2025 (Pages 29 - 262)**

To receive the report of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning seeking the adoption of the revised Playing Pitch Strategy and Artificial Grass Pitch Strategy following a period of public consultation.

11. **2016 REVIEW OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES (Pages 263 - 280)**

To receive the report of the Members' Allowances Panel concerning recommendations of the Panel with regard to the Council's Members' Allowances Scheme and to seek a decision on an appropriate scheme for the payment of allowances in 2016-17.

12. **PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS, MAY 2016-NOVEMBER 2018 (Pages 281 - 310)**

To receive the report of the Democratic and Electoral Services Manager seeking approval for the two-year programme of ordinary meetings of Council and other meetings for the period of May 2016 to April 2018.

MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS

13. **NOTICES OF MOTION**

1. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HOBBS

"More than half of new homes built today are not big enough to meet the needs of the people who live in them. Research by the Royal Institute of Architects shows that houses are being built up to 25sq ft smaller than the recommended size for a three bed family home.

This County needs to build more housing, but these houses need to be built to the recommended space standards.

This Council:

1. Instructs the Planning Policy Committee to develop local planning policy which ensures all future houses are built to the recommended national space standards.
2. Seeks to ensure the minimum standard is applied to the Joint Core Strategy.
3. Calls on the MP to support a change in legislation through Parliament to make the recommended space standards be applied to all houses across the country."

2. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HAIGH

"This Council notes that the announcement by the Government in July to cut social housing rents by 1% for the next four years has made it tougher for

Councils and housing associations to build more housing across the country.

Before the General Election the City MP advocated and worked towards the transfer of the Council's housing stock to an independent housing association. He spoke at the time of the investment in existing and new social housing this would allow as the Council was unable to borrow to do this. Since the election this announcement on rents together with introduction of the Housing and Planning Bill has set out a Government policy that will result in fewer homes being available for affordable and social rent. This was also supported by the Housing Minister, Kris Hopkins MP, our City MP and the City's Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning.

This Council believes that tackling the housing deficit will require an increase in supply across all tenures. We support measures that increase home ownership but there is also a need to provide homes for affordable and social rent. Investing in affordable housing for low wage earners and those on social housing waiting lists can help reduce the £24 billion annual housing benefit bill; boost employment in the construction industry; support local economies; and reduce the £2.5 billion cost of poor quality housing to the NHS. We believe the Bill does not support this aspiration.

This Council calls on the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning to write to the City MP asking what he is doing to ensure that all residents of the City will be able to access the homes they need in the future and that his response is published on the Council website."

3. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HILTON

"This Council expresses concern about the number of homeless people that have been sleeping rough on the streets of Gloucester this winter, particularly in the city centre.

This Council agrees that no-one should have to sleep rough on the streets of Gloucester and that this council should make provision for adequate emergency night shelter accommodation so that the homeless can be offered somewhere warm to stay overnight.

This Council, therefore asks, the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning to report back to this Council with proposals to provide enhanced support to homeless people who arrive in Gloucester, ensuring that no-one has to sleep rough within the boundaries of this Council."

4. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR JAMES

"This Council:

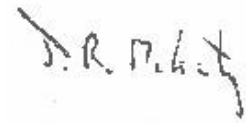
notes that 2016 is the 800th anniversary of the coronation of Henry III in Gloucester Cathedral and resolves to work with the Cathedral, Marketing Gloucester and other partners to maximise the benefits in social, cultural and economic terms of this important occasion;

notes the suggestion made on social media that Gloucester should petition to be granted Royal City status on the basis of the Henry III anniversary and the city's many other royal connections and resolves to consult the public and key stakeholders, including the City MP, as to whether this suggestion should be pursued."

14. **WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS**

No written questions have been received.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. R. McGinty".

Jon McGinty
Managing Director

NOTES

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

The duties to register, disclose and not to participate in respect of any matter in which a member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest are set out in Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011.

Disclosable pecuniary interests are defined in the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 as follows –

<u>Interest</u>	<u>Prescribed description</u>
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the Council) made or provided within the previous 12 months (up to and including the date of notification of the interest) in respect of any expenses incurred by you carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between you, your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner (or a body in which you or they have a beneficial interest) and the Council (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the Council's area. For this purpose "land" includes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for you, your spouse, civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the Council's area for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) – (a) the landlord is the Council; and (b) the tenant is a body in which you, your spouse or civil partner or a person you are living with as a spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where – (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or

- land in the Council's area and
- (b) either –
- i. The total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
 - ii. If the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

For this purpose, “securities” means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

NOTE: the requirements in respect of the registration and disclosure of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and withdrawing from participating in respect of any matter where you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest apply to your interests and those of your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner where you are aware of their interest.

Access to Information

Agendas and reports can be viewed on the Gloucester City Council website: www.gloucester.gov.uk and are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date.

For further details and enquiries about this meeting please contact Tanya Davies, 01452 396125, tanya.davies@gloucester.gov.uk.

For general enquiries about Gloucester City Council's meetings please contact Democratic Services, 01452 396126, democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk.

If you, or someone you know cannot understand English and need help with this information, or if you would like a large print, Braille, or audio version of this information please call 01452 396396.

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Any recording must take place in such a way as to ensure that the view of Councillors, Officers, the Public and Press is not obstructed. The use of flash photography and/or additional lighting will not be allowed unless this has been discussed and agreed in advance of the meeting.

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If the fire alarm sounds continuously, or if you are instructed to do so, you must leave the building by the nearest available exit. You will be directed to the nearest exit by council staff. It is vital that you follow their instructions:

- You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts;
- Do not stop to collect personal belongings;
- Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building; gather at the assembly point in the car park and await further instructions;
- Do not re-enter the building until told by a member of staff or the fire brigade that it is safe to do so.