

Parish of HIGHAM FERRERS NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT –

A Meeting of the Town Council will be held at the **TOWN HALL, MARKET SQUARE, HIGHAM FERRERS** on **TUESDAY** the **TWENTIETH day of DECEMBER 2016 at 7.30pm.**

The meeting will be open to the public unless the Council otherwise direct.

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**
To receive and accept apologies for absence.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To receive Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Interests and the nature of those interests relating to items on the agenda.
3. **MINUTES**
To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 29th November 2016.
4. **POLICING**
To discuss policing matters and exchange information with representatives of the police.
5. **PUBLIC FORUM (15 minutes)**
To allow any member of the public to address the meeting for a period of no longer than three minutes each.
6. **MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**
To receive a verbal report from the Mayor.
7. **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**
To receive and note Town Clerks Report.
8. **QUESTIONS**
An opportunity for Councillors to ask questions pursuant to standing order 9.
(Questions must relate to business of the Town Council and not be related to items of business on the agenda. Every question shall be put and answered without discussion.)
9. **REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER BODIES**
To receive reports from Councillors on meetings they have attended as representatives to other bodies.
10. **FINANCE**
 - 10.1 To approve accounts for payment as at 20th December 2016.
 - 10.2 To approve the bank account reconciliation as at 30th November 2016
 - 10.3 To approve the following expenditure:-
 - (i) Repairs to fencing on the Parker Way Open Space.
 - (ii) Purchase of equipment for Community Payback volunteers £596.41.

11. **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

To receive and adopt the minutes of the following committees:-

11.1 Planning and Development Committee held on 6th December 2016.

11.2 Policy and Resources Committee held on the 6th November 2016.

Recommendations:

Grant application, Higham Ferrers Bowls Club

That a grant of £3,000 be given to Higham Ferrers Bowls Club for 2017/18 toward maintenance of the green. The club to be asked to attempt to provide 3 estimates for the work.

Grant application, Higham Ferrers Cricket Club

That a grant of £1,330 be given to Higham Ferrers Cricket Club for 2017/18 towards the maintenance of the wicket.

Rushden-Higham Link

That the Council continue subsidising the Rushden-Higham bus link by up to £5616 in 2017/18.

Alteration to Town Hall Offices

That a budget be set of £1,200 for alterations to the Town Hall Office and purchase of desk and chair for the Town Manager.

Budgets 2017/18

That the budgets for 2017/18 as per the attached report be agreed.

Precept 2017/18

That the precept figure be £340,000 for 2017/18.

12. **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

To receive a report from the Town Manager on the Christmas competition and future plans.

13. **SEALING OF DEED**

To authorise the sealing of the Transfer Deed from the Highways Agency for the 'Exchange Land' (A6 bypass compensation land) on Stanwick Road.

14. **URBAN HIGHWAY GRASS MOWING 2017**

To resolve to enter an s.136 agreement with Northamptonshire County Council for verge mowing for 2017.

15. **MALLARD CLOSE WORKING PARTY**

15.1 That the notes of the Working Party held on 23rd November 2016 be received and noted.

15.2 That it be agreed that the area at the end of Mallard Close be used for recreation and the options be researched for consideration by the Environment and Recreation Committee.

16. **VEHICLE WORKING PARTY**

To agree the members of the Vehicle Working Party.

17. **PARKS AND OPEN SPACES WARDEN**

To ratify the appointment of Chris Butcher as Parks and Open Spaces Warden for 10 hours a week on salary scale point SCP 11.

18. **COMMUNITY FACILITIES FUND**

18.1 That the Council submit an application to Stage 2 of the Community Facilities Fund for £13,500 towards the MUGA refurbishment.

- 18.2 That the Council submit an application to Stage 2 of the Community Facilities Fund for £40,000 towards the extension of the Greenway.
19. **MARKET SQUARE CAR PARK**
To agree a figure that is submitted to Highways for back maintenance of the Market Square Car Park.
20. **USE OF CASTLE FIELDS FOR A CIRCUS 2017**
To consider a request for a reduced fee to use Castle Fields for a Circus from 18th to 20th April 2017.
21. **RUSHDEN LAKES**
- 21.1 To receive the notes from the Rushden Lakes Working Party held on 5th December 2016.
- 21.2 To agree a substitute Councillor to attend the Rushden Lakes Working Party meetings.
22. **CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC AND PRESS**
To resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the following items of business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the meeting.
23. **RUSHDEN EAST**
To receive a report from the Town Clerk on the Rushden East Board meeting held on 13th December 2016.
24. **RE-OPEN THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**
To resolve that the confidential business having been concluded, the Press and Public be re-admitted to the meeting.
25. **ITEMS TO REPORT**
An opportunity for Councillors to report items and to request future agenda items. No decisions can be made under this item.

Mrs S J Mitcham BA (Hons), FILCM
Town Clerk
Date: 14th December 2016

NOTE:
THERE IS NO DISABLED ACCESS TO THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON THE FIRST FLOOR.
ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE TO USE A VIDEO LINK.
SEVEN DAYS NOTICE IS REQUIRED TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR AN EXTRA
MEMBER OF STAFF TO BE IN ATTENDANCE.