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PLEASE NOTE THAT PRAYERS WILL BE HELD AT 6.50PM BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL.

THE MAYOR REQUESTS THAT ANY MEMBER WISHING TO PARTICIPATE IN PRAYERS BE IN ATTENDANCE IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER BY NO LATER THAN 6.45PM.

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are summoned to attend the meeting of the Borough Council of Newcastle-under-Lyme to be held in the ***Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Merrial Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, ST5 2AG*** on ***Wednesday, 9th September, 2015*** at ***7.30 pm***.

B U S I N E S S

8 **REPORTS OF THE CHAIRS OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEES** (Pages 3 - 6)

Chairs are requested to submit written reports to the Democratic Services Manager at least 48 hours before the meeting.

- a) Economic Development and Enterprise Scrutiny Committee
- b) Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

9 **REPORTS OF THE CHAIRS OF THE REGULATORY COMMITTEES** (Pages 7 - 8)


Chairs are requested to submit written reports to the Democratic Services Manager at least 48 hours before the meeting.

- a) Licensing Committee

10 **QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR, CABINET MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS** (Pages 9 - 10)

In accordance with Procedure Rule 11, questions must be submitted at least 24 hours before the meeting. Any questions considered urgent will only be accepted with the agreement of the Mayor prior to the meeting.

Yours faithfully

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Chief Executive

Economic Development and Enterprise Scrutiny Committee September 2nd 2015

Aspire Housing Letting System

Sue Davies and Debra Barry from Aspire addressed the Committee to explain how the Letting System works. They also answered a number of questions from members that alluded to case studies of Borough residents.

It was noted that the percentage of nominations that were let in Quarter One was significantly below the target of 75%. Given that the target is normally reached, there was no satisfactory answer available to explain this anomaly. A written explanation was requested.

It was agreed that Aspire would meet with the Committee again in March 2016.

Newcastle Housing Advice Contract Monitoring

The figures for Quarter One were presented and accepted.

Newcastle Town Centre Partnership

A comprehensive Report was considered. The Report gave a detailed report on the successful ballot for the Business Improvement District. In addition details were given of the extensive Events Programme. In addition the Committee was given information on the Student Night Initiative, the Purple Flag Accreditation Scheme, Liaison with Market Traders and the CCTV Monitoring Volunteer Project.

It was noted with satisfaction that the Vacancy Rate continues to be reduced and footfall continues to increase.

The Committee requested that data from the Retail Index Scheme should be presented at the next meeting.

Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership

It was pleasing to note that a meeting chaired by Councillor John Williams had taken place where key stakeholders had the chance to discuss the future of the Go Kidsgrove project. It is pleasing to note that progress is now finally taking place particularly with regard to the Website and Christmas lights.

Portfolio Holder Question Time.

An interesting and informative presentation was given by Councillor Bert Proctor on the subjects of the Joint Local Plan and the Planning Peer Review.

Councillor Dave Stringer
Chair

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Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee July 27th 2015

The committee held a special meeting to discuss and comment on the Local Government Association Peer Review of Decision Making Arrangements. The committee chose to confine its response to issues relating specifically to their role.

The peer review recommended merging the Active and Cohesive Communities and Health and Well Being Scrutiny Committees. There was unanimous opposition to this recommendation stating that, if implemented, it would adversely affect the committee's ability to deliver effective and robust scrutiny of health related issues. In addition it was considered whilst the use of Task and Finish Groups was a valuable tool in the scrutiny process and should be continued they needed to be more streamlined and time limited.

In addition the committee supported the suggestion that the Council's Constitution Working Group should be requested to review and make recommendations to change this committee's terms of reference to ensure that the lessons learned from the issues at Stafford Hospital and from the resultant Francis Report are embedded into this Council's arrangements. To this end the committee has been working closely for a number of years with Staffordshire County Council, who have overall control of scrutinising health organisations, to ensure this is in place.

With regard to timing of meetings the committee supported the current practice of the majority of the Council's meetings starting at 7pm. Members did not feel that evening meetings placed excessive demands upon their time.

The committee supported the recommendation of re-introduction of members Information bulletin suggesting that it be incorporated into the Members website when it was up and running.

Cllr Colin Eastwood

Chair Health and Wellbeing Committee

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Licensing Chairs report to full Council 9th September 2015

Since the last Council meeting the Licensing Committee has met on two occasions.

23rd July 2015.

The committee received a presentation from Police Inspector Mark Barlow on the council's Saturation Policy which was last reviewed on 30th July 2014.

On conclusion of his presentation the committee was asked to consider retaining the current saturation policy.

The committee felt that the policy was adequate and still required and should be reviewed in July 2016.

Every five years the council has a statutory duty to review its Licensing Policy, the current policy is due to expire in December 2015.

The committee agreed that the current Licensing Policy along with a document relating to Child Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking/Modern slavery be sent out for an eight week consultation period from 1st August 2015 to all its statutory and other approved consultees.

It was also agreed that the responses to the consultation be presented to the committee at a meeting on the 22nd October 2015 and that the undated policy presented for approval to Full Council on the 25th November 2015.

25th August 2015.

Every three years the council has a statutory duty to review its Gambling Policy, the current policy is due to expire in December 2015.

The committee agreed that the current draft Gambling Policy be amended to include two new requirements of the Gambling Commission with regard to Local Risk Assessments and Local Area Profile.

The committee agreed that the revised draft policy be sent out for an eight week consultation period from 28th August 2015 to all its statutory and other approved consultees.

It was also agreed that the responses to the consultation be presented to the committee at a meeting on the 22nd October 2015 and that the undated policy presented for approval to Full Council on the 25th November 2015.

Premise Licence Applications.

Whitmore Hall Estates.

The committee were asked to consider a new premise licence application for Whitmore Hall Estates.

Representations were made by Environmental Health with regard to the licensing objective relating to public nuisance, following negotiations with the applicant and Staffordshire Police 35 conditions were agreed that alleviated the concerns put forward by Environmental Health.

The committee agreed that the 35 conditions are added to the premise licence and granted the application.

Lamb Stores, Kidsgrove.

The committee were due to consider a new premise licence for Lamb Stores but due to irregularities in posting public notices at the premise the consultation period has been extended and will be consider by the committee at a future date.

Trevor Hambleton
Chair of Licensing

Agenda Item 10

Question from Councillor Stephen Sweeney

Can the leader update the council on how much longer it is going to be before the Community Centre Review is completed?

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