

Public Document Pack



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 **Castle House** on **Thursday, 19th July, 2018** at **7.00 pm**.

BUSINESS

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 6a STATEMENT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL | (Pages 5 - 6) |
| 7a REPORTS OF THE CHAIRS OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEES | (Pages 7 - 8) |
| 8a REPORTS OF THE CHAIRS OF THE REGULATORY COMMITTEES | (Pages 9 - 10) |
| 11a QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR, CABINET MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS | (Pages 11 - 12) |
| 13a STANDING ORDER 18 - URGENT BUSINESS | (Pages 13 - 14) |

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. T. ...'.

Acting Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service

NOTICE FOR COUNCILLORS

1. Fire/Bomb Alerts

In the event of the fire alarm sounding, leave the building immediately, following the fire exit signs. Do not stop to collect personal belongings, do not use the lifts.

Fire exits are to be found either side of the rear of the Council Chamber and at the rear of the Public Gallery.

On exiting the building Members, Officers and the Public must assemble at the car park at the rear of the Aspire Housing Office opposite to the Civic Offices. DO NOT re-enter the building until advised to by the Controlling Officer.

2. Attendance Record

Please sign the Attendance Record sheet on entering the building. This will be located at the Porter's lodge.

3. Mobile Phones

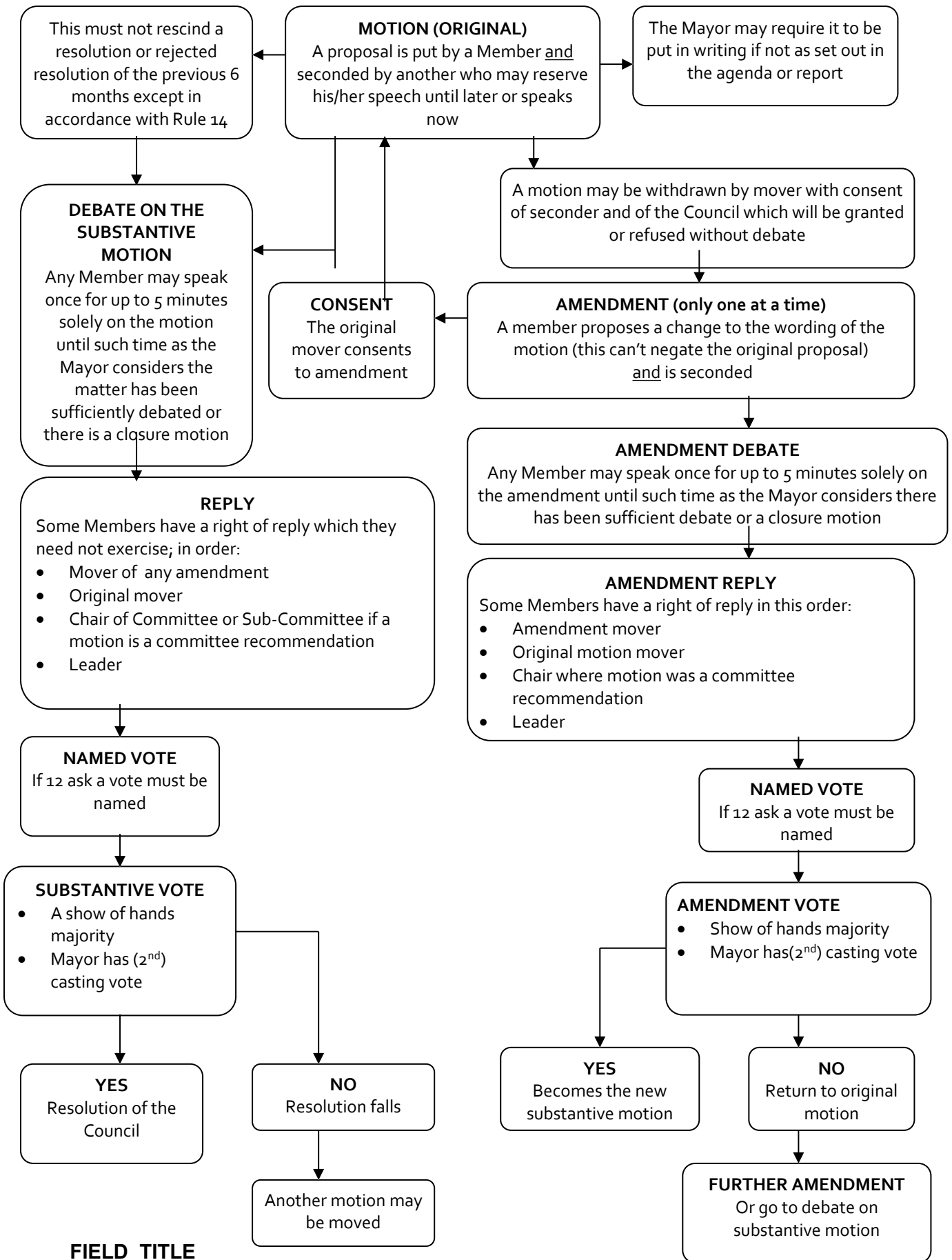
Please switch off all mobile phones before entering the Council Chamber.

4. Tea/Coffee

Refreshments will be available at the conclusion of the meeting, or in the event of a break occurring, during that break.

5. Notice of Motion

A Notice of Motion other than those listed in Standing Order 19 must reach the Chief Executive ten clear days before the relevant Meeting of the Council. Further information on Notices of Motion can be found in Section 5, Standing Order 20 of the Constitution of the Council.



FIELD_TITLE

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**ADDITION TO THE STATEMENT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL TO FULL COUNCIL –
19TH JULY 2018**

Submitted by: Councillor Simon Tagg

Portfolio: All

Wards affected: All

6. Cabinet Meeting of the 18th July 2018

6.1. Biodiversity and Habitat Restoration

Cabinet agreed to match fund the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) grant to support projects for environmental improvement in 5 sites across the Borough.

6.2. Kidsgrove Leisure Centre Progress Report

Cabinet received a progress report on the work taking place with the Community Interest Organisation (CIO), the County Council and other partners.

It is intended to bring a further report by the September Cabinet meeting following the completion of the final Business Case for re-opening Kidsgrove Sports Centre.

6.3. Public Space Protection Orders

Cabinet approved two variations to the Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO).

This involves streamlining of the PSPO enforcement process and includes tackling the increase in persistent begging and associated ASB, which has caused complaints from both residents and businesses in Newcastle town centre.

6.4. Changes to Mandatory Houses in Multiple Occupation Licensing from 01.10.2018

Cabinet welcomed the expansion of the criteria for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) licensing.

From the 1st October 2018 the Government will remove the criteria relating to the number of storeys which previously meant that licences were only required for HMOs that had 3 or more storeys.

Cabinet agreed a scheme of fees which aim to offer an incentive for landlords to join the North Staffs Accreditation Scheme and to complete training ensuring ongoing development, therefore further raising the standard of HMOs in the Borough.

**Councillor Simon Tagg
Leader of the Council**

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Finance, Assets & Performance Scrutiny Committee

28th June 2018

Report to Council 19/07/18

The Finance, Assets & Performance Scrutiny Committee met on Thursday, 28th June 2018.

As agreed at the Annual Council meeting on the 16th May 2018, new 'Terms of Reference' were presented to the Committee. Concern was aired at the perceived limiting of the Committee's ability to scrutinise financial and performance areas not included within the two defined portfolio holders areas of concern and in response to this, I will be writing to the Acting Chief Executive and Leader of the Council, to clarify the committee's ability to scrutinise all finance and performance areas of the Council.

Also of note, was the suggested Calendar of Meetings for the year, the proposal to reduce the number of meetings and restrictions on the number of detailed working parties / task and finish groups. Whilst mindful of the capacity of our Officers, the committee was uneasy at the suggestions contained within the terms of reference and whilst the Committee is happy to 'trial' them, the committee also has made it clear to the Acting Chief Executive, as noted in his report to Full Council this evening, that we retain the opportunity to review and amend the terms of reference after 12 months.

During discussions with regard to our work programme for the forthcoming year, committee members were minded to offer the opportunity of 'joint' meetings to the Health, Well Being & Partnerships Committee in Autumn 2018 & Spring 2019 to discuss areas of shared concern, an example being the future of the Guildhall.

The Committee also clarified the operating guidelines for the Constitution Working group and recommended that the Constitution itself be placed on the Risk Register underlining the seriousness and quantity of work required on it in the short and medium term.

And finally, the Committee also agreed to offer the Cabinet pre-decision scrutiny in areas that the Administration would feel productive and in keeping with our terms of reference.

Cllr Mike Stubbs

Chairman

Finance, Assets & Performance Scrutiny Committee

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Audit and Standards Committee

The committee has met once since the last full council meeting, on Monday 25th June 2018.

Members reviewed the terms of reference for the committee, adopted at the previous council meeting, then moved on to the work plan. It was felt that now that the committee has the responsibility for dealing with Standards issues, which have potential to arise at any time, there is a need for appropriate training for all of the members of the committee and it was resolved that this be arranged.

The Corporate Risk Management Report for Q4 2017/18 was presented, where a number of issues were highlighted in relation to planning, housing, recycling revenue and air quality. Members' comments were noted for future reference.

Members then looked at reports relating to Health and Safety and Treasury Management where there were no major issues, then moved on to the Draft Statement of Accounts 2017/18. These will be reviewed again at the next meeting, to be held on 30th July to fit in with the new , earlier requirement to have the accounts signed off by the end of July.

Members raised concerns about the lack of references to complaints about changes to Council's Constitution in the Annual Governance Statement 2017/18. It was felt that these were possibly more relevant to the 2018/19 year but the committee resolved to approve the report subject to the Constitution and Member Support Working Group meeting as soon as possible, to look at these issues.

Finally, Members were presented with the Audit Plan for the forthcoming year, prepared with outside assistance. This was approved, as was the continuation of the reporting arrangements as set out in the report.

Next Meeting 30th July 2018.

Paul Waring (Chair)

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QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR, CABINET MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

To the Leader of the Council:

1. At the meeting of full council on 21st February 2018, in a discussion on enforcement policy, I asked that a review of planning enforcement be carried out. Councillor Tagg agreed that a review of planning enforcement would be carried out (see minutes of Council meeting 21/02/18, section 12, page 9). Can I ask for an update as to the status of that review?

Councillor Tony Kearon.
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To the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Growth:

2. Over the last 12 months a number of petitions have been submitted to this council in relation to the Joint Local Plan, including my own petition opposing plans to build 424 homes on Clough Hall Playing Fields, which was signed by over 1,200 local residents. Can the Cabinet Member for Planning and Growth please inform this council when responses to those petitions will be published?

Councillor Kyle Robinson.
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To the Portfolio Holder for Leisure:

3. Can the Cabinet Member responsible for parks please explain to me why the council has ceased locking up Clough Hall Park in the evening and why local residents and local ward councillors were not formally consulted on this decision?

Councillor Kyle Robinson.
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To the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources:

4. The Licensing Annual Performance Report was published at the end of June. As well as the usual service plan some additional projects were detailed. Could the portfolio holder please confirm that adequate staffing and financial resources are in place to allow for these additional activities to be undertaken, especially as the outcome of many of the projects will impact upon my own ward.

Councillor Elizabeth Shenton.
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To the Leader of the Council:

5. At a previous Council Meeting I asked Cllr Rout, the then Portfolio Holder for Culture & Localism, about the availability of funding for a new Sport & Leisure Centre in Kidsgrove. She confirmed that funding was in place. Can the Leader tell me if he has managed to locate the said funding?

Councillor Andrew Fear.

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To the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Efficiency:

6. When the current administration took over, the overspend on the Council's General Fund Revenue Budget was anticipated to be as high as £300,000. The final out- turn was a surplus of £4,868.00. It was noted that this figure was unaudited and that the audit commenced on 2nd July. Can the Portfolio Holder give an update on where we are with the Audit of Accounts in respect of this figure?

Councillor Paul Waring.

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To the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Recycling:

7. During Britain in Bloom judging period, grass cutting and street cleaning vehicles have been taken off their regular routes to prepare the judged route; what arrangement has been made to reimburse the service department for the time these vehicles were used for this purpose and how has this change in service been communicated with residents?

Councillor Emily Horsfall.

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LABOUR GROUP SUBSTITUTES

Audit and Standards

Tony Kearon
Amelia Rout
Kyle Robinson
Chris Spence

Employment

Tony Kearon
Mike Stubbs
Ruth Wright

Licensing and Public Protection

Chris Spence
Dave Jones
Emily Horsfall

Planning

Sylvia Dymond
Kyle Robinson*
Emily Horsfall*
(* will require training)

Health and Well being

Amelia Rout
Sue Moffat
Chris Spence
Annabel Driver

Economy, Environment, Place

Tony Kearon
Amelia Rout
Mike Stubbs
Chris Spence

Conservation Advisory

Tony Kearon

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