



12 April 2013

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, 24th April, 2013** at **7.00 pm**.

### THE NEW COMMISSIONING LANDSCAPE

Prior to the meeting there will be a presentation on new health structures by **Marcus Warnes, Chief Operating Officer, NHS North Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Group**.

The presentation will commence at 6.15 pm.

### BUSINESS

**1 Apologies**

**2 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

**(Pages 1 - 12)**

Held on 27 February 2013 to be signed as a correct record.

**3 Declaration of Interests**

**4 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**(a) Former Councillor Freda Myatt**

The Mayor will formally report the recent sad death of former Councillor Freda Myatt and those present will be asked to stand for a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

**(b) Presentation to the Council of the Illuminated Address of Richard Bartlett Mellard, Mayor of Newcastle-under-Lyme 1886/87, 1889/90, 1900/01 and 1904/05**

The Mayor was recently contacted by John Mellard, who was born in Trentham in 1923 but now lives in East Sussex. Mr Mellard is the great nephew of Richard Bartlett Mellard, who was Mayor of Newcastle-under-Lyme in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

Mr Mellard is in possession of an illuminated address and its casket, presented to his great uncle on 9 November 1889, during his Mayoralty, in recognition of his

involvement in the construction of the Municipal Hall (which was demolished in 1967). He has kindly taken the decision to return this historic item to the council in order that it may be kept at the museum. By a coincidence, Mr Mellard's wife was born at the museum in 1923.

Mr Mellard, who is approaching 90 years of age, will not be able to be in attendance at the council meeting to present the address to the council himself, so the Mayor will present it to the Chief Executive on his behalf.

Two other members of the Mellard family were Mayors of the borough, both named William – the first in 1855/56 and 1877/78, and the second in 1912/13; the latter was John Mellard's grandfather.

Mr Mellard's letter to the Mayor, which contains more detail, may be viewed in the Mayor's Parlour.

**(c) General Announcements**

The Mayor will proceed to his general announcements.

**5 REPORT OF THE LEADER**

Report to follow.

**6 REPORTS OF THE CHAIRS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

- (a) Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee
- (b) Transformation and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- (c) Active and Cohesive Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- (d) Cleaner, Greener and Safer Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- (e) Economic Development and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- (f) Health Scrutiny Committee

**7 REPORTS OF THE CHAIRS OF THE STATUTORY COMMITTEES**

- (a) Planning Committee
- (b) Licensing Committee
- (c) Public Protection Committee
- (d) Audit and Risk Committee

**8 Outstanding Issues from Previous Questions and Petitions**

**9 QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR, CABINET MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

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

**10 COUNCIL PLAN**

**(Pages 13 - 40)**

Report attached.

**11 REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION**

Report to follow.

**12 DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION - MOVING THE DATE OF ENGLISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS TO THE DATE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN 2014** (Pages 41 - 56)

Report attached.

**13 MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES**

The council is requested to confirm the following changes to committee memberships:-

- (a) Councillor Trevor Hambleton to replace Councillor Tom Lawton on the Active and Cohesive Communities Scrutiny Committee;
- (b) Councillor George Cairns to replace Councillor Tom Lawton on the Transformation and Resources Scrutiny Committee;
- (c) Councillor Terry Turner to replace Councillor Tom Lawton on the Economic Development and Enterprise Scrutiny Committee;
- (d) Councillor David Loades to replace Councillor Tracey Peers on the Economic Development and Enterprise Scrutiny Committee; and
- (e) Councillor Reg Bailey to replace Councillor Tom Lawton on the Licensing Committee.

**14 APPOINTMENTS AND NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

**Local Authority School Governors**

Staffordshire County Council has invited this council to submit nominations in respect of a number of school governorships where a current local authority governor is nearing the end of his/her term of office (and, in one case, where a vacancy exists). The county council has also invited the relevant county councillors, parish councils, head teachers and chairs of governing bodies to make nominations. From the nominations received, the governor co-ordinator for the area will make recommendations, and the decision as to the successful nominee will be made by the Cabinet Member for Education, Finance and Transformation.

In each case, the governor currently in post may wish to be reappointed for a further term. Nominations must be received by the county council by 10 May 2013.

Details of the schools and governors nearing the end of their terms of office are set out below:-

| <b>School</b>                               | <b>Governor</b>           | <b>Expires</b> |
|---|---------------------------|----------------|
| Langdale Primary School                     | Mr John Heesom            | 30/04/13       |
| Seabridge Primary School                    | Mr John Axon              | 31/08/13       |
| Seabridge Primary School                    | Mrs Aileen Clark          | 31/08/13       |
| The Blackfriars and Coppice Federation      | Mr Michael Deakin         | 31/03/13       |
| Oaklands Nursery School                     | Mrs Paula Pattinson       | 31/08/13       |
| May Bank Infants School                     | Councillor Simon Tagg     | 31/08/13       |
| Maryhill High School – A Media Arts College | Councillor Silvia Burgess | 31/10/13       |
| Hempstalls Primary School                   | Councillor John Williams  | 31/08/13       |
| Clough Hall Technology School               | Cnty Cllr Geoffrey Locke  | 31/10/13       |
| Churchfields Primary School                 | Vacancy                   | N/A            |
| Chesterton Community Sports College         | Councillor John Cooper    | 31/10/13       |

The council is requested to consider whether it wishes to make nominations in respect of any of the above.

## **West Midland Reserve Forces and Cadets Association**

The West Midland Reserve Forces and Cadets Association has approached the council seeking the appointment of a representative. The council was last represented on the organisation by former Councillor David Clarke, but no representation appears to have been in place in recent years.

In order to assist the council in considering the request, further information has been sought from the organisation and the Chief Executive of the association has provided that set out below.

*The West Midland Reserve Forces and Cadets Association has an influential and wide ranging role. It is a regional civilian body comprising voluntary members and a full-time secretariat. It has been established by statute to offer advice and support to the Defence Council on behalf of the Reserve Forces and Cadet Movement. By virtue of our Scheme of Association, endorsed by the Defence Council and enshrined in the Reserve Forces Act of 1996, we are entitled to appoint various Elected Representative Members of Local Government to our Association in order to forge and maintain closer links between the defence and local communities within the counties we represent.*

*Reservists and Cadets are part of the local community in a way that Regular forces are not. They therefore need the support of an organisation whose people are familiar with and prominent within the community. Moreover we also help to promote the image of all three services, both regular and reserves, within the community through liaison with local authorities, employers, trade unions and other influential groups and individuals.*

*Thus our members provide this local Defence footprint throughout the West Midlands. The duties of our Representative Members are not too onerous. Apart from the general support implied in the paragraphs above, routinely there are two events each year at which we would expect to see the Council Representative; the Annual General Meeting and the Annual County Briefing.*

*To conclude, we have enjoyed Representative Membership from Newcastle Borough Council in the past and I would hope that this arrangement will continue.*

Accordingly, the council is invited to appoint a representative to the organisation.

## **15 MOTIONS**

### **Councillor Kyle Robinson has submitted the following motion in accordance with Procedure Rule 12:-**

“This council notes that:

The Coalition government’s bedroom tax will bring disastrous consequences to the country and to Newcastle-under-Lyme specifically.

- Two thirds of the households hit are home to someone with a disability
- Weekend mums and dads will have to try and find additional money to enable their children to stay with them

Further, the policy is being introduced at the same time that millionaires are being given a substantial tax break.

This council believes that:

- It is not fair to residents in social housing that they should be financially penalised on the basis of the house in which they have made their home and in

- circumstances with which they are confronted through no fault of their own.
- It is cynical and shameful for the government to deliberately implement a policy that it knows cannot possibly lead to the desired outcomes of that policy – namely that people should be forced to downsize their homes on the basis of financial penalty when there is not sufficient stock of housing to permit such downsizing.

This council resolves that:

- (1) The Mayor should write to the Secretary of State to condemn the bedroom tax (spare room subsidy) and the impact it will have on residents in Newcastle-under-Lyme.
- (2) The Council be informed at a future meeting, with detailed information, of the impact of the policy on residents of the borough once the tax has been implemented.”

**Councillor Robin Studd has submitted the following motion on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group in accordance with Procedure Rule 12:-**

“This council welcomes the lifting of the tax burden on the working families of North Staffordshire, and notes that 5,360 taxpayers in Newcastle (10,760 in Stoke-on-Trent) are being taken out of taxation altogether, and that nearly 51,000 Newcastle residents (91,900 in Stoke-on-Trent) will see a very substantial reduction in their tax burden. The Council therefore notes that the total value of the tax cuts to the residents of North Staffordshire is well over £100 million each year.”

**16 URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any business which is urgent in the opinion of the Mayor, in accordance with Procedure Rule 7.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SJA', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Chief Executive

## **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 front of the former Hubanks store 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, which will be circulating around the Council Chamber. Please ensure that the sheet is signed before leaving the meeting.

### **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**

Notice of a 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.

