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15 July 2013

To the Members of the Council,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **COUNCIL** to be held in the Council Chamber at these Offices on Wednesday 24 July 2013 at 6.00 pm for the transaction of the business set out in the Agenda.



Chief Executive

Members of the Council:

S R Nicholas (Chairman)	M R Eddy	K E Morris
P S Le Chevalier (Vice-Chairman)	R J Frost	M J Ovenden
J S Back	B Gardner	A S Pollitt
B W Bano	J H Goodwin	J A Rook
T J Bartlett	D Hannent	M A Russell
P M Beresford	P J Hawkins	F J W Scales
T A Bond	P G Heath	A R Smith
P M Brivio	G J Hood	C J Smith
B W Butcher	S J Jones	J M Smith
P I Carter	L A Keen	R J Thompson
S S Chandler	N S Kenton	J F Tranter
N J Collor	S M Le Chevalier	R S Walkden
M D Conolly	G Lymer	P Walker
G Cowan	S C Manion	P A Watkins
J A Cronk	K Mills	P M Wallace

AGENDA

1 **APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive any declarations of interest from Members in respect of business to be transacted on the agenda.

Where a Member has a new or registered Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) in a matter under consideration they must disclose that they have an interest and, unless the Monitoring Officer has agreed in advance that the DPI is a 'Sensitive Interest', explain the nature of that interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a DPI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation permitting them to do so. If during the consideration of any item a Member becomes aware that they have a DPI in the matter they should declare the interest immediately and, subject to any dispensations, withdraw from the meeting.

Where a Member is declaring an Other Significant Interest (OSI) they must also disclose the interest and explain the nature of the interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a OSI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation to do so or the meeting is one at which members of the public are permitted to speak for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter. In the latter case, the Member may only participate on the same basis as a member of the public and cannot participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter and must withdraw from the meeting in accordance with the Council's procedure rules.

3 **MINUTES** (Pages 6 - 13)

To confirm the attached Minutes of the meetings held on 22 May 2013.

4 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive any announcements from the Chairman, Leader, Members of the Cabinet or Head of Paid Service.

5 **LEADER'S TIME**

To receive an oral report at the meeting from the Leader (and Cabinet) on the business of the Executive or on any topic or subject that it is felt should be brought to the attention of the Council.

(Up to fifteen minutes is allowed for the Report of the Leader (and Cabinet), up to ten minutes is allowed for the Leader of the Major Opposition Group (or his nominee) to respond, up to five minutes is allowed for the Leader of any other Opposition Group (or his nominee) to respond. The Leader is allowed up to five minutes as a Right of Reply or 25% of the time given to the Opposition Group Leaders, whichever is the greatest.)

6 **SEAT ALLOCATION AND GROUP APPOINTMENTS**

To receive from Group Leaders any changes to seat allocations or appointments.

(Note: Any changes must be within the approved allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with the political balance rules (where applicable).)

7 **STATE OF THE DISTRICT** (Pages 14 - 153)

The Cabinet at its meeting on 8 July 2013 considered the report of the Leader of the Council (**circulated separately – please bring your copy to the meeting**) upon the State of the District. The Cabinet recommended the following to Council:

- "(a) That the report and actions being taken through the Corporate Plan 2012/2016 be noted.
- (b) That the Council moves to receiving the State of the District report in September 2014, and annually thereafter in the same month, in order to allow up-to-date Indices of Multiple Deprivation to be included in the report."

8 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

Up to 60 minutes is allowed for this part of the meeting unless extended by the Chairman of Council on a motion moved, duly seconded and approved by the Council. Members may ask one supplementary question in addition to their original question.

To receive answers in respect of questions from Members of the Council to a Member of the Executive asked in accordance with Rule 12 of the Council Procedure Rules.

- (1) Councillor A S Pollitt will ask the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources and Performance:

Does the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources and Performance agree that the Council's email and telephone systems need updating?

- (2) Councillor P Walker will ask Portfolio Holder for Access and Property Management:

Can the Portfolio Holder for Access and Property Management inform the Council of how many car parking penalty charges issued by this Council have been successfully challenged at the traffic Penalty tribunal in financial years 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13; how many challenges have been upheld and how much is the average cost of each challenge to this Council?

- (3) Councillor P Walker will ask Portfolio Holder for Access and Property Management:

Could the Portfolio Holder for Access and Property Management explain, with specific references, DDC's discretion policies within the Council's Parking Enforcement Policy?

- (4) Councillor P J Hawkins will ask Portfolio Holder for Access and Property Management:

Could the Portfolio Holder for Access and Property Management explain how the dilapidated state of the tennis court in Victoria Park, Deal will provide for the Wimbledon Champions of the future?

- (5) Councillor A S Pollitt will ask Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources and Performance:

Does the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources and Performance share my concerns that the financial cuts are restricting the ability of officers of the Council to provide information to Councillors, thereby running the risk of contravening the Access to Information Act?

- (6) Councillor P M Wallace will ask the Leader of the Council:

Will the Leader of the Council inform the Council of the procedures he intends to follow so that all members will have an opportunity to contribute to this Council's response to the County Council's misguided proposals for the closure and service level reductions of Children's Centres and Sure Start centres in Dover and Deal?

- (7) Councillor B W Bano will ask the Leader of the Council:

What steps does the Leader of the Council propose to take in order to implement the guidelines issued by the Secretary of State on 12 June on the webcasting, filming and other recording of Cabinet meetings?

- (8) Councillor B W Bano will ask Portfolio Holder for Skills, Training, Tourism and Culture:

Following the failure of East Kent's bid to be shortlisted for the Capital of Culture, how will the Portfolio Holder for Skills, Training, Tourism and Culture take forward the cultural agenda in the District? Does he plan to produce a cultural strategy?

- (9) Councillor P Walker will ask Portfolio Holder for Skills, Training, Tourism and Culture:

Maintenance of the DDC position in the realms of Tourism requires a radical overhaul, so would the Portfolio Holder for Skills, Training, Tourism and Culture agree to set up an All Party working group to improve our position?

- (10) Councillor B Gardner will ask Portfolio Holder for Environment, Waste and Planning:

Can the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Waste and Planning inform the Council as to whether the vexed question of substitutes at Planning Committee meetings has been resolved and can he comment on the potential impact on the validity of planning decisions over the last 3 years?

9 **MOTION**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, Councillor M R Eddy will move:

"This Council opposes the resumption of the export of live animals to continental Europe from the port of Dover, despite widespread opposition from the British public and resolves to lobby the Secretaries of State for Transport and for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to amend the outdated Harbours, Docks and Piers Clauses Act 1847 in order to allow port authorities in the UK the right to refuse the use of its port to any ship involved in such activities.

The Council also resolves to lobby Dover Harbour Board to grant RSPCA inspectors access to the port and inspect any future shipments of live animals to the Continent."

10 **URGENT BUSINESS TIME**

To consider any other items deemed by the Chairman of the Council to be urgent in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.

**Access to Meetings and Information**

- Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the Council, its Committees and Sub-Committees. You may remain present throughout them except during the consideration of exempt or confidential information.
- All meetings are held at the Council Offices, Whitfield unless otherwise indicated on the front page of the agenda. There is disabled access via the Council Chamber entrance and a disabled toilet is available in the foyer. In addition, there is a PA system and hearing loop within the Council Chamber.
- Agenda papers are published five clear working days before the meeting. Alternatively, a limited supply of agendas will be available at the meeting, free of charge, and all agendas, reports and minutes can be viewed and downloaded from our website [www.dover.gov.uk](http://www.dover.gov.uk). Minutes are normally published within five working days of each meeting. All agenda papers and minutes are available for public inspection for a period of six years from the date of the meeting. Basic translations of specific reports and the Minutes are available on request in 12 different languages.
- If you require any further information about the contents of this agenda or your right to gain access to information held by the Council please contact Louise Cooke, Democratic Services Manager, telephone: (01304) 872352 or email: [louise.cooke@dover.gov.uk](mailto:louise.cooke@dover.gov.uk) for details.

**Large print copies of this agenda can be supplied on request.**