

Agenda

Council Meeting

Date: Wednesday, 15 November 2023
Time 7.00 pm
Venue: Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, ME10 3HT*

Quorum = 16

Pages

Information about this meeting

*Members of the press and public can listen to this meeting live. Details of how to join the meeting will be added to the website by 14 November 2023.

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1. Emergency Evacuation Procedure

Visitors and members of the public who are unfamiliar with the building and procedures are advised that:

- (a) The fire alarm is a continuous loud ringing. In the event that a fire drill is planned during the meeting, the Chair will advise of this.
- (b) Exit routes from the chamber are located on each side of the room, one directly to a fire escape, the other to the stairs opposite the lifts.
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building until advised to do so. Do not use the lifts.

- (d) Anyone unable to use the stairs should make themselves known during this agenda item.

2. Apologies for Absence

3. Minutes

To approve the [Minutes](#) of the meeting held on 11 October 2023 (Minute Nos. 343 - 351) as a correct record.

4. Declarations of Interest

Councillors should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their families or friends.

The Mayor will ask Members if they have any disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) or disclosable non-pecuniary interests (DNPIs) to declare in respect of items on the agenda. Members with a DPI in an item must leave the room for that item and may not participate in the debate or vote.

Aside from disclosable interests, where a fair-minded and informed observer would think there was a real possibility that a Member might be biased or predetermined on an item, the Member should declare this and leave the room while that item is considered.

Members who are in any doubt about interests, bias or predetermination should contact the monitoring officer for advice prior to the meeting.

5. Mayor's Announcements

6. Questions submitted by the Public

To consider any questions submitted by the public. (The deadline for questions is 4.30 pm on the Wednesday before the meeting – please contact Democratic Services by e-mailing democraticservices@swale.gov.uk or call 01795 417330).

7. Questions submitted by Members

To consider any questions submitted by Members. (The deadline for questions is 4.30 pm on the Monday the week before the meeting – please contact Democratic Services by e-mailing democraticservices@swale.gov.uk or call 01795 417330).

8. Leader's Statement

9. Motion to Encourage GP Partners to receive Iris Training

5 - 6

10. Constitution Amendment - Various

7 - 14

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| 11. | Audit Committee Annual Report 2022/23 | 15 - 24 |
| 12. | Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2024/25 | 25 - 56 |
| 13. | Local Plan Review - Next Steps | 57 - 80 |
| 14. | Outside Body - The Meads Woodland Group | 81 - 84 |
| 15. | Recommendations for Approval | 85 - 86 |

Council is asked to note the recommendations from the following meetings:

Minute No. 359 – Policy and Resources Committee 18 October 2023:

- (1) That the progress of the income banded Council Tax Reduction Scheme be noted.**
- (2) That the Council Tax Reduction Scheme be not changed for 2024/25, except to amend the income bands to align with DWP benefit changes, and that delegation be given to the Director of Resources to make that amendment.**

Minute No. 360 – Policy and Resources Committee 18 October 2023:

- (1) That the amendments set-out in Appendix I of the report be agreed and incorporated into the constitution.**

Minute No. 361 - Policy and Resources Committee 18 October 2023:

- (1) That Council defer a decision as to a timescale for the future stages of the Local Plan Review, until such time as the national planning landscape was clearer, but independent of the process, proceed to develop the evidence base regarding local development need and potential. With this process to be wholly reflective of local circumstance rather than central targets.**

Minute No. 378 Licensing Committee 19 October 2023:

- (1) That the draft Swale Borough Council Street Trading Policy 2024-2027 be noted and the consultation goes ahead.**
- (2) That the policy consultation process be noted, and officers proceed with the same.**

Issued on Tuesday, 7 November 2023

The reports included in Part I of this agenda can be made available in alternative formats. For further information about this service, or to arrange for special facilities to be provided at the meeting, please contact **DEMOCRATIC SERVICES** on **01795 417330**. To find out more about the work of the Council, please visit www.swale.gov.uk

**Chief Executive, Swale Borough Council,
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