



North East Derbyshire District Council

Contact: Alan Maher
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Date: Friday, 24 February 2023

To: **All Members of the Council**

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held on **Monday, 6 March 2023 at 3.00 pm** in the District Council Offices, Mill Lane, Wingerworth, Chesterfield S42 6NG

Group meetings will be arranged, where necessary, by the Group Leaders.

The meeting will also be live streamed from the Council's website on its You Tube Channel. Click on the following link if you want to view the meeting:

[North East Derbyshire District Council - YouTube](#)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Steuberg".

Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interest and/or other interests, not already on their register of interests, in any items on the agenda and withdraw from the meeting at the appropriate time.

3 Minutes of Last Meeting (Pages 8 - 16)

To approve as a correct record and the Chair to sign the attached Minutes of the Council meeting held on 30 January 2023.

4 Chair's Announcements

Councillor D Ruff, Chair of the Council.

5 Leader's Announcements

Councillor A Dale, Leader of the Council.

6 Talent Pipeline - Presentation (Pages 17 - 36)

Managing Director and Head of Paid Service

7 Level of Council Tax 2023-24 (Pages 37 - 43)

Report of Councillor J Kenyon, Portfolio Holder for Economy, Transformation and Climate Change.

8 Auditors Annual Report 2021-22 (Pages 44 - 70)

Report of Councillor J Kenyon, Portfolio Holder for Economy, Transformation and Climate Change.

9 Pay Policy Statement - REVISED VERSION NOW PUBLISHED (Pages 71 - 80)

Managing Director and Head of Paid Service.

10 Members Allowances - NOW PUBLISHED (Pages 81 - 84)

Report of the Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer.

11 Public Participation

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No 8 to allow members of the public to ask questions about the Council's activities for a period up to fifteen minutes. The replies to any such questions will be given by the appropriate Cabinet

Member. Questions must be received in writing or by email to the Monitoring Officer by 12pm (Noon) twelve clear working days before the meeting.

No questions have been submitted under Procedure Rule No 8 for this meeting.

12 To answer any questions from Members asked under Procedure Rule No 9.2

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No 9.2 to allow Members to ask questions about Council activities. The replies to any such questions will be given by the Chair of the Council or relevant Committee or the appropriate Cabinet Member. Questions must be received in writing or by email to the Monitoring Officer by 12pm (Noon) twelve clear working days before the meeting.

No questions have been submitted under Procedure Rule No 9.2 for this meeting.

13 To consider any Motions from Members under Procedure Rule No 10

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No 10 to consider Motions on notice from Members. Motions must be received in writing or by email to the Monitoring Officer by 12pm (Noon) twelve clear working days before the meeting.

Motion 'A'

Proposed by Councillor P Windley

Council notes;

- Litter picking and street cleansing is within the remit of the District Council.
- Over the years, the frequency of litter picking and street cleansing in North East Derbyshire has declined.
- Because of this decline, Volunteers, Parish and Town Councils have been forced to take action themselves to try to combat the scourge of litter throughout the district.

Resolves;

- For the District Council to produce a plan on how to improve street cleansing and properly resource litter picking.
- To start a campaign to combat litter throughout North East Derbyshire.

Motion 'B'

Proposed by Councillor D Hancock

Council notes the introduction of Voter Identification for the Local Elections on 4th May 2023.

The Elections Act 2022 will require voters to present an approved form of Photo ID at a polling station in order to vote. Acceptable ID includes passports, driving

licenses, older persons bus passes and Voter Authority Certificates for those without an existing valid ID.

Council notes there is little evidence that voter fraud is a systemic issue in UK elections:

- In the 2019 General, Local, European and Mayoral Elections only 4 convictions resulting from allegations of in-person voter fraud – out of 58 million votes cast.
- In the 2021 Local Elections just one caution for election fraud was issued by the police.

Council fully agrees with the comments made by the Electoral Commission to the Government in September 2022 advising that the new rules could not “be delivered in a way which is fully secure, accessible and workable”, pointing out that 7.5% of voters do not currently hold an acceptable form of ID and over 1000 voters were denied the opportunity to vote during Voter ID trials in the 2018 and 2019 Local Elections.

Council is deeply concerned that the requirement to provide Photo ID will present a significant barrier for thousands of residents in North East Derbyshire to exercise their right to vote.

Council notes the acceptable forms of ID listed by the Government are weighted towards more affluent and older voters who are more likely to possess passports, driving licenses, older persons bus passes and senior PASS cards. Forms of photo ID most likely to be held by younger people (such as young persons railcards) have been excluded.

Council believes the rushed and last-minute timeframe in which this legislation has been enacted has put an enormous strain on staff and resources at North East Derbyshire District Council to communicate the new rules to voters, provide Voter Authority Certificates to thousands of local residents and training polling station staff in the lead up to the 2023 Local Elections.

Council instructs the Managing Director, the Leader of the Council and other group leaders to write to the Cabinet Office to express the Council’s complete opposition about the damaging effect on democracy that mandatory Voter ID will have in UK elections and to demand that this section of the new legislation is repealed immediately.

Motion ‘C’

Proposed by Councillor R Shipman

Council notes;

One group can currently hold all committee chairs when there is a simple majority elected on the Council.

Council believes;

No party should have all the chair positions on every committee, and that they should be distributed on a fair basis.

Council resolves;

To introduce a system to appoint committee chairs on the basis of proportionality of all elected members.

To enshrine the new system in the Councils constitution.

See attached example;

Chairs of Standing Committees = 7 (4 Scrutiny, Planning, Licensing and Standards)

If all 4 parties are included, this is:

Conservative - $26/53 \times 7 = 3.43$ rounded down to 3

Labour – $18/53 \times 7 = 2.38$ rounded down to 2

Independents – $6/53 \times 7 = 0.79$ rounded up to 1

Lib Dems – $3/53 \times 7 = 0.4$ rounded up to 1

It will be the same figures for Vice Chairs.

14 Chair's Urgent Business (Public)

To consider any other matter which the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

15 Exclusion of the Public

The Chair to move:-

That the public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the following item(s) of business to avoid the disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2, Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

16 Councillor Dispensation (Pages 85 - 88)

Report of the Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer.
(Paragraphs 1 & 2)

17 Chair's Urgent Business (Private)

To consider any other matter which the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.



North East Derbyshire District Council

Access for All statement

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- **Phone** - [01246 231111](tel:01246231111)
- **Email** - connectne@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk
- **Text** - [07800 00 24 25](tel:07800002425)
- **BSL Video Call** – a three way video call with us and a BSL interpreter. It is free to call North East Derbyshire District Council with [Sign Solutions](#) or call into the offices at Wingerworth.
- Call with [Relay UK](#) via textphone or app on [0800 500 888](tel:0800500888)– a free phone service
- **Visiting** our [offices](#) at Wingerworth – 2013 Mill lane, [S42 6NG](#)