



Worcester
CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL

AGENDA

Date: Tuesday, 14th July, 2020

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Remote Meeting

COUNCIL

Information for Members of the Public

Access to the Guildhall is via the front entrance in the High Street. The nearest car park is Copenhagen Street (pay and display). If you are a wheelchair user or have restricted mobility, access to the Guildhall can be gained either through the door on the right side of the forecourt as you face the Guildhall, or through the sliding doors at the rear of the Guildhall. There is dedicated disabled parking space at the rear (access via Copenhagen Street). Most meetings are held on the ground floor, which can be reached by using a lift. If you are a wheelchair user or have restricted mobility and you wish to attend a meeting, please telephone or email the officer mentioned below in advance and we will make any necessary arrangements to assist your visit.

Part I of the Agenda includes items for discussion in public. You have the right to inspect copies of Minutes and reports on this part of the Agenda as well as background documents used in the preparation of these reports. Details of the background papers appear at the foot of each report. Part II of the Agenda (if applicable) deals with items of 'Exempt Information' for which it is anticipated that the public may be excluded from the meeting and neither reports nor background papers are open to public inspection.

Please note that this is a public meeting and members of the public and press are permitted to report on the proceedings. "Reporting" includes filming, photographing, making an audio recording and providing commentary on proceedings. Any communicative method can be used to report on the proceedings, including the internet, to publish, post or share the proceedings. Accordingly, the attendance of members of the public at this meeting may be recorded and broadcast. By choosing to attend this public meeting you are deemed to have given your consent to being filmed or recorded and for any footage to be broadcast or published.

Please note the Council audio records and live streams many of its meetings. These recordings are published on the relevant meeting pages of the Council's website. A notice to this effect will be posted in the meeting room. If a member of the public chooses to speak at a meeting of the City Council he/she will be deemed to have given their consent to being recorded and audio being published live to the Council's website. The Chairman of the meeting, can at their discretion, terminate or suspend recording, if in their opinion, continuing to do so would prejudice the proceedings of the meeting or if they consider that continued recording might infringe the rights of any individual, or breach any statutory provision

At the start of the meeting under the item 'Public Participation' up to fifteen minutes in total is allowed for members of the public to present a petition, ask a question or comment on any matter on the Agenda or within the remit of the Council in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10. **Participants need to indicate that they wish to speak by 12 noon on the working day before the meeting by writing, emailing or telephoning the officer mentioned below.**

If you have any queries about this Agenda or to discuss the arrangements for the taking of photographs, film, video or sound recording please contact **Claire Chaplin, Democratic and Civic Services Manager, Democratic Services, Guildhall, Worcester WR1 2EY. Telephone: 01905 722005 (direct line); E-Mail Address: committeeadministration@worcester.gov.uk**

This agenda can be made available in large print, braille, on PC disk, tape or in a number of ethnic minority languages. Please contact the above named officer for further information. Agendas and minutes relating to all City Council Committees and Council Meetings are also available electronically, click on the option "Committee Minutes and Documents", Website Address: worcester.gov.uk

Council
Tuesday, 14 July 2020

Members of the Council:-

Chairman: The Mayor

Councillor Patricia Agar (LCo)
Councillor Mel Allcott (LD)
Councillor Mohammad Altaf (C)
Councillor Alan Amos (C)
Councillor Bill Amos (C)
Councillor Jenny Barnes (LCo)
Councillor Marc Bayliss (C)
Councillor Roger Berry (LCo)
Councillor Tracey Biggs (L)
Councillor Marjory Bisset (G)
Councillor Chris Cawthorne (L)
Councillor Tom Collins (L)
Councillor Simon Cronin (L)
Councillor Lynn Denham (L)
Councillor Allah Ditta (C)
Councillor Simon Geraghty (C)
Councillor Adrian Gregson (L)
Councillor Louise Griffiths (C)

Councillor Nida Hassan (C)
Councillor Jo Hodges (L)
Councillor Mrs. Lucy Hodgson (C)
Councillor Stephen Hodgson (C)
Councillor Mike Johnson (C)
Councillor Matthew Lamb (L)
Councillor Neil Laurenson (G)
Councillor Steve Mackay (C)
Councillor Chris Mitchell (C)
Councillor Jabba Riaz (L)
Councillor Andrew Roberts (C)
Councillor Joy Squires (L)
Councillor Andy Stafford (C)
Councillor Ceri Marie Stalker (L)
Councillor James Stanley (C)
Councillor Louis Stephen (G)
Councillor Richard Udall (L)

C = Conservative G = Green L = Labour LCo = Labour and Co-operative
LD = Liberal Democrat

You are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of the Worcester City Council to be held as a Remote Meeting on Tuesday, 14th July, 2020 at 7.00 pm at which meeting the following business is proposed to be transacted.

AGENDA

Part 1
(ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION IN PUBLIC)

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| <p>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>3. MINUTES
Page(s): 1 - 10</p> <p>4. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS</p> <p>5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p> | <p>To receive any declarations of interest.</p> <p>Of the meeting held on 19th May 2020 to be approved and signed.</p> <p>To receive any communications the Mayor may wish to make.</p> <p>Up to a total of fifteen minutes can be allowed, each speaker being allocated a maximum of five minutes, for members of the public to present a petition, ask a question or comment on any matter on the Agenda or within the remit of the Council in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.</p> |
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6. **QUESTIONS**

The Leader of the Council, the Deputy Leader of the Council or the Chair of any Committee or Sub-Committee to take any questions that may be submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9.

7. **NOTICES OF MOTION**

To consider any Notices of Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 8.

Adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Anti-Semitism

Anti-Semitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of anti-Semitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.

Worcester City Council will not tolerate anti-Semitic behaviour and therefore adopts the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of anti-Semitism, including all its examples, and include its application in the Members' Code of Conduct and in any governance relating to Council staff and officers.

Proposed by: Councillor Griffiths

Reducing the Number of Empty Properties

Full Council notes:

1. There are currently (as of 27/01/20) 327 houses in Worcester that are termed long-term empty – empty & substantially unfurnished for at least six months.
2. There are 86 properties that have been empty for more than two years and these properties currently are liable to a premium of 100% additional council tax.

3. There are 15 properties that have been empty for more than five years and 13 properties that have been empty for more than ten years.

Full Council believes that:

1. An empty home is a wasted resource, both for the owner who could otherwise make financial gains by letting or selling the property, and for those who are in need of housing.
2. Returning empty properties into use helps increase housing supply and regenerate rundown areas. It is also important to consider the blight that empty properties sometimes cause to local areas in attracting petty crime and devaluing neighbouring property.

The Council will:

1. Publicise the opportunities that empty properties provide and encourage more local residents to report potentially empty properties to the Council.
2. Proactively work with and advise property owners with houses that have been **empty for more than one year** to bring their property back into use.
3. From April 2021 increase the council tax payable on empty properties of **more than five years** from 100% to 200% premium.
4. From April 2021 increase the council tax payable on empty properties of **more than 10 years** to 300% premium.
5. Prior to implementation the specific details of how these additional empty premium charges will be applied will be referred back to the Communities Committee to ensure that any unintended consequences can be minimised.

Proposed by: Councillor Stephen

Ethnic and Racial Inequality

This Council values the cultural diversity of our city and commits to addressing ethnic and racial inequality in Worcester. We call on officers

- to review the collection of data by the Council on race and ethnicity
- implement training to tackle racism
- develop and implement targets for the employment of ethnic minorities
- ensure equality law is applied in relation to all policy areas and decisions

in line with the general recommendations in the Runnymede Trust 'State of the Nation' report 2020.

Proposed by: Councillor Denham

8. REPORT FROM THE RELEVANT COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WHICH ARE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION

To receive reports on matters which by law or in accordance with the Constitution are referred to Council for decision.

8.1 Referral Report from Standards Committee, 13th November 2019 - Code of Conduct

That the Council adopts the draft Code of Conduct attached to this report and delegates authority to the Council's Monitoring Officer to make any minor changes necessary to the Constitution to give effect to this recommendation.

Contact Officer: Sian Stroud, Deputy Director – Governance
Tel: 01905 722019

<p>8.2 <u>Referral Report from Policy and Resources Committee, 4th February 2020 - Capital and Investment Strategies 2020/21 - 2022/23</u></p>	<p>That the Council agree to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. adopt the Capital Strategy and Investment Strategy for 202/21 – 2022/23 as set out in Appendices 1 and 2; ii revise the limit on the Development Fund in accordance with the proposals set out in the report; and iii revise the Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary for external debt in accordance with the proposals set out in the report. <p>Contact Officer: Shane Flynn, Corporate Director – Finance and Resources Tel: 01905 722536</p>
<p>8.3 <u>Referral Report from Environment Committee, 3rd March 2020 - Procurement and Introduction of In Cab Technology for Waste Collection Vehicles</u></p>	<p>That the Council agrees to amend the Capital Programme in the sum of £26,087 to facilitate the installation of 'Jobtrak' to complement the existing Dennis Connect System.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Kevin McFeeley, Environmental Operations Manager (Waste/Fleet) Tel: 01905 722383</p>
<p>8.4 <u>Referral Report from Licensing and Environmental Health Committee, 12th March 2020 - Cumulative Impact Policy Review - Licensing Act 2003</u></p>	<p>That the Council approve the revised Statement of Licensing Policy.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Niall McMenamin, Senior Licensing Practitioner Tel: 01905 822799</p>
<p>8.5 <u>Referral Report from Policy and Resources Committee, 9th June 2020 - Electrical Safety Enforcement Charges In The Private Rented Sector</u></p>	<p>That the Council approve the financial penalties under the Electrical Safety Standards in the Private Rented Sector (England) Regulations 2020, as set out in the report, for inclusion within the Worcester City Council Fees and Charges Schedule for 2020/2021.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Ismene Broad, Private Sector Team Manager Tel: 01905 7225252</p>

9. **REPORT FROM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL ON ANY MATTERS WHICH HE IS OF THE OPINION REQUIRE URGENT CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL**

To receive a report, if necessary.

10. **ITEMS INVOLVING THE DISCLOSURE OF EXEMPT INFORMATION**

The Council is invited to pass the following resolution:-

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of information as defined in Schedule 12A of the said Act.

**PART II
(ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION IN PRIVATE)**

Exempt – not for publication because the items contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) – category 3

11. **ANY EXEMPT ISSUES**

To consider any exempt matters which might arise.

12. **REFERRAL REPORT FROM POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE, 9TH JUNE 2020 - INTRODUCTION OF 'PAY FOR EXTRA WEIGHT' SYSTEM FOR NON-RECYCLABLE TRADE WASTE**

That the Council approve the proposed Fees & Charges for 2020/21 for commercial waste detailed in Appendix B. These are commercially sensitive and are not for publication.

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Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Kevin McFeeley,
Environmental
Operations Team
Manager -
Waste/Fleet
Tel: 01905
722383

David Blake
Managing Director
Guildhall
Worcester WR1 2EY

Date: 6 July 2020

