

# Council Meeting

**Online Meeting, Virtual Meeting Platform  
Wednesday, 21 October 2020 at 18:00**

# Information for Members of the Public

## **Access to information and meetings**

You have the right of access to all meetings of the Council, its Committees and Cabinet which may be conducted remotely such as by live audio or video broadcast / webcast. You also have the right to see the agenda (the list of items to be discussed at a meeting), which is published on the Council's website at least five working days before the meeting, and minutes once they are published. Dates of the meetings are available here:

<https://colchester.cmis.uk.com/colchester/MeetingCalendar.aspx>.

Occasionally certain issues, for instance, commercially sensitive information or details concerning an individual have to be considered in private. When this is the case an announcement will be made, the live broadcast will end and the meeting will be moved to consider in private.

## **Have Your Say!**

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public at most public meetings. If you would like to submit representations to a meeting and need to find out more, please refer to the Have Your Say! arrangements here:

<https://colchester.cmis.uk.com/colchester/HaveYourSay.aspx>.

Members of the public can register to speak at the meeting using the form access via the link below. Members of the public need to register and submit a copy of their comments by 12.00 noon on the working day before the meeting.

[Council Have Your Say form](#)

**COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Council**  
**Wednesday, 21 October 2020 at 18:00**

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

**Published 20/10/2020**

**You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held online on Wednesday, 21 October 2020 at 18:00 for the transaction of the business stated below.**



**Chief Executive**

**AGENDA**  
**THE LIST OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING**  
**(Part A - open to the public)**

**Please note that the business will be subject to short breaks at approximately 90 minute intervals.**

**Please note that Agenda items 1 to 6 are normally dealt with briefly.**

**1 Welcome and Announcements (Council)**

The Mayor will welcome members of the public and Councillors and will ask the Chaplain to say a prayer. The Mayor will explain the procedures to be followed at the meeting including a reminder for everyone to use microphones at all times when they are speaking, but otherwise keep microphones muted.

**2 Election of the Mayor**

Motion A

Motion to elect Councillor Robert Davidson as the Mayor of the Borough of Colchester for the remainder of the 2020-21 municipal year and for the 2021-22 municipal year.

The Mayor to make the declaration and take the customary oath.

The Mayor to return thanks.

**3 Election of the Deputy Mayor**

Motion B

Motion that Councillor Tim Young be elected as Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Colchester for the remainder of the 2020-21 municipal year and the 2021-22 municipal year.

The Deputy Mayor to make the declaration and return thanks.

#### 4 **Vote of Thanks to Retiring Mayor**

Motion C

Motion of thanks to the Retiring Mayor, Councillor Nick Cope.

The Retiring Mayor to make an acknowledgement.

#### 5 **Mayor's Chaplain and Other Announcements**

The Mayor to announce the appointment of the Mayor's Chaplain and make other announcements.

#### 6 **Motion to Adjourn**

Motion D

The Mayor will invite Council to adjourn for a brief period.

#### 7 **Have Your Say! (Virtual Meetings)**

Members of the public may make representations to meetings of Council. Each representation may be no longer than three minutes (500 words). Members of the public may register their wish to address the meeting by registering online by 12.00 noon on the working day before the meeting date. In addition a written copy of the representation will need to be supplied for use in the event of unforeseen technical difficulties preventing participation at the meeting itself.

#### 8 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors will be asked to say if there are any items on the agenda about which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest which would prevent them from participating in any discussion of the item or participating in any vote upon the item, or any other pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest.

#### 9 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Council)**

E ... Motion that the minutes of the meetings held on 15 July 2020 and 12 August 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.

**Council minutes 150720**

11 - 24

**Council minutes 120820**

25 - 28

10 **Items (if any) referred under the Call-in Procedure (Council)**

The Council consider any items referred by the Scrutiny Panel under the Call-in Procedure because they are considered to be contrary to the policy framework of the Council or contrary to, or not wholly in accordance with, the budget.

11 **Recommendations of the Cabinet, Panels and Committees**

Council will consider the following recommendations:-

11(i) **Better Colchester Strategic Plan 2020-2023** 29 - 30

F... Motion that the recommendation contained in draft minute 494 of the Cabinet meeting of 2 September 2020 be approved and adopted.

11(ii) **Changes to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy** 31 - 34

G... Motion that the changes to the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy, set out in paragraph 5.4 to 5.9 of the report by the Assistant Director, be adopted as part of the Council's Policy Framework.

12 **Notices of Motion pursuant to the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 11**

Council will consider the following Motions:-

(Note: The maximum length of time for the consideration of all such motions shall be 80 minutes. In the event that a motion is still being debated when the 80 minutes have elapsed the Mayor shall invite the proposer of the motion to respond to the debate and then move straight to the vote. )

12(i) **Planning for the Future**

Motion H

Proposer: Councillor Cory

*This Council notes the publication of the Planning White Paper Planning for the Future and expresses its concerns about the proposals it contains.*

*Current planning laws are already in favour of development with 90% of planning applications approved and approximately one million unbuilt permissions sitting with developers nationwide. Proposals outlined in the Planning White Paper Planning for the Future further distances local residents and local democracy from the planning process.*

*This Council therefore resolves to object to any potential detrimental national and local planning policies and calls on our three MPs*

representing Colchester Borough to support the following consultation responses:

- **Diminishing local input:** The proposals contained within the White Paper risk diminishing the role of planning authorities, planning committee members and ward councillors. Automatic permission granted in “growth areas” and permission in principle in “renewal areas, give no democratic oversight of local development;
- **Sites already have permission:** The million sites nationwide currently in the system with existing planning permissions for houses that have not yet been built, or even started to be built, along with the high proportion of planning applications that are agreed, are a clear sign that the planning process is not a barrier to development;
- **Give Local Authorities, Parish, Town and Community Councils more power and resources:** While the current planning system is not perfect this is at least in part due to reductions in central government funding to local planning authorities which have, in turn, led to local authorities reducing expenditure on planning services. Such reductions have affected both the processing of planning applications and enforcement activities;
- **Targets for Affordable Housing must be met:** Strengthen our hand in providing affordable housing and reform viability assessment criteria that allow developers to get away without providing adequate affordable housing.
- **Net-zero Carbon development needed now:** Implement a much earlier target for net-zero carbon standards for new build-housing. 2050 is too late, investment must be given to enable net-zero building from now on;
- **Contributions must benefit communities not developers:** The ‘nationalisation’ of the level of developer contributions could assist large national developers at the expense of local communities. Faster is not always better when local community infrastructure requires thoughtful development. Proposals must encourage the use of local, small and medium developers, as well as self-build;
- **Neighbourhood Plans:** Neighbourhood Plans are an effective tool for the community to shape local areas, including local infrastructure, services and housing. They must be supported and strengthened in any future planning reforms.

In addition to making these points to the government, we ask that our three MPs support Colchester Borough Council’s ‘Planning for the Future: White Paper August 2020’ Consultation response.

As the motion relates to a non-executive matter it will be debated and determined at the meeting.

## 12(ii) Saving Paxman Factory

Motion I

Proposer: Councillor Scordis

*This Council notes the sad news that Colchester's historic Paxman factory is due to close as MAN Energy Solutions look to uproot to Stockport. This will lead to the end of the manufacture of Colchester's historic diesel engine, which has previously been used by the Ministry of Defence and British train stock, until contracts were cancelled for cheaper models outside Britain.*

*This Council also calls on Will Quince MP to lobby the Ministry of Defence and train companies to look at providing contracts to Paxmans to keep this historic factory running and protect local jobs and manufacturing in Colchester.*

As the motion relates to a non-executive matter it will be debated and determined at the meeting.

Main Amendment

Proposer: Councillor Dundas

In the second sentence of the first paragraph, the deletion of the words “, until contracts were cancelled for cheaper models outside Britain.”

The addition of the following words at the end of the first paragraph: “As we move towards a carbon neutral economy and more trainlines are electrified the demand for these diesel engines is inevitably declining but it is regrettable that investment was not made in Colchester by MAN to enable a move to manufacture renewables and other modern power plants “

The addition of the following words at the start of the second paragraph: “As preference for UK manufacturers is currently not possible under EU public procurement law outside of security critical areas, “

The deletion of the following words in the second paragraph “train companies to look at providing contracts to Paxmans” and their replacement with the following words: “Department of Transport to take advantage of any new rules which may apply after the end of the transition period on December 31 2020 and look at giving preference to UK manufacturers, and to MAN Energy Colchester in particular, in procurement matters”

Should the amendment be approved the revised wording of the motion would be as follows:-

*This Council notes the sad news that Colchester's historic Paxman factory is due to close as MAN Energy Solutions look to uproot to Stockport. This will lead to the end of the manufacture of*

*Colchester's historic diesel engine, which has previously been used by the Ministry of Defence and British train stock. As we move towards a carbon neutral economy and more trainlines are electrified the demand for these diesel engines is inevitably declining but it is regrettable that investment was not made in Colchester by MAN to enable a move to manufacture renewables and other modern power plants.*

*As preference for UK manufacturers is currently not possible under EU public procurement law outside of security critical areas, this Council also calls on Will Quince MP to lobby the Ministry of Defence and Department of Transport to take advantage of any new rules which may apply after the end of the transition period on December 31 2020 and look at giving preference to UK manufacturers, and to MAN Energy Colchester in particular, in procurement matters to keep this historic factory running and protect local jobs and manufacturing in Colchester.*

**13 Questions to Cabinet Members and Chairmen pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 10**

Cabinet members and Chairmen will receive and answer pre-notified questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10(1) followed by any oral questions (not submitted in advance) in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10(3).

(Note: a period of up to 60 minutes is available for pre-notified questions and oral questions by Members of the Council to Cabinet Members and Chairmen (or in their absence Deputy Chairmen)).

At the time of the publication of the Summons, no pre-notified questions had been received.

**14 Schedule of Portfolio Holder Decisions 35 - 40**

Council is invited to note the Schedule of Portfolio Holder decisions for the period 3 July 2020 - 2 October 2020.

**15 Urgent Items (Council)**

Council will consider any business not specified in the Summons which by reason of special circumstances the Mayor determines should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

**16 Reports Referred to in Recommendations**

The reports specified below are submitted for information and referred to in the recommendations specified in item 11 of the agenda:

**Better Colchester Strategic Plan, Report to Cabinet, 2 September 2020**

41 - 62

**Changes to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy, report to Licensing Committee, 11 August 2020** 63 - 66

**Changes to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy, report to Licensing Committee, 30 September 2020** 67 - 70

17 **Exclusion of the Public (not Scrutiny or Executive)**

In accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the public, including the press, from the meeting so that any items containing exempt information (for example confidential personal, financial or legal advice), in Part B of this agenda (printed on yellow paper) can be decided. (Exempt information is defined in Section 100I and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

**Part B**  
**(not open to the public including the press)**