

Council Meeting

**Council Chamber, Town Hall, High Street,
Colchester, CO1 1PJ
Wednesday, 15 July 2015 at 18:00**

Information for Members of the Public

Access to information and meetings

You have the right to attend all meetings of the Council, its Committees and Cabinet. You also have the right to see the agenda, which is usually published 5 working days before the meeting, and minutes once they are published. Dates of the meetings are available at www.colchester.gov.uk or from Democratic Services. Occasionally meetings will need to discuss issues in private. This can only happen on a limited range of issues, which are set by law. When a committee does so, you will be asked to leave the meeting.

Have Your Say!

The Council values contributions from members of the public. Under the Council's Have Your Say! policy you can ask questions or express a view to most public meetings. If you wish to speak at a meeting or wish to find out more, please refer to Attending Meetings and "Have Your Say" at www.colchester.gov.uk

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Access

There is wheelchair access to the Town Hall from St Runwald Street. There is an induction loop in all the meeting rooms. If you need help with reading or understanding this document please use one of the contact details at the bottom of this page and we will try to provide a reading service, translation or other formats you may need.

Facilities

Toilets with lift access, if required, are located on each floor of the Town Hall. A vending machine selling hot and cold drinks is located on the ground floor.

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Evacuate the building using the nearest available exit. Make your way to the assembly area in the car park in St Runwald Street behind the Town Hall. Do not re-enter the building until the Town Hall staff advise you that it is safe to do so.

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COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL
Council
Wednesday, 15 July 2015 at 18:00

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Published 14/07/2015

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held at the Town Hall, Colchester on Wednesday, 15 July 2015 at 18:00 for the transaction of the business stated below.



Chief Executive

AGENDA - Part A
(open to the public including the press)

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

Members of the public may wish to note that Agenda items 1 to 5 are normally brief.

Apologies

Councillors Davies, Fairley-Crowe, Liddy, Lissimore, B. Oxford and G. Oxford

1 Welcome and Announcements

(a) The Mayor to welcome members of the public and Councillors and to invite the Chaplain to address the meeting. The Mayor to remind all speakers of the requirement for microphones to be used at all times.

(b) At the Mayor's discretion, to announce information on-

- action in the event of an emergency;
- use of mobile phones;
- audio recording of the meeting;
- location of toilets.

2 Have Your Say!

The Mayor to ask members of the public to indicate if they wish to ask a question, make a statement or present a petition on any

matter relating to the business of the Council - either on an item on the agenda for this meeting or on a general matter not on this agenda and to invite any such contributions (Council Procedure Rule 6(2)).

(Note: A period of up to 15 minutes is available for general statements and questions under 'Have Your Say!').

3 **Minutes**

Motion that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2015 be confirmed as a correct record.

Minutes of Council meeting 27-05-15

11 - 14

4 **Mayor's Announcements**

Mayor's Announcements (if any) and matters arising pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 8(3).

5 **Declarations of Interest**

The Chairman to invite Councillors to declare individually any interests they may have in the items on the agenda. Councillors should consult Meetings General Procedure Rule 7 for full guidance on the registration and declaration of interests. However Councillors may wish to note the following:-

- Where a Councillor has a disclosable pecuniary interest, other pecuniary interest or a non-pecuniary interest in any business of the authority and he/she is present at a meeting of the authority at which the business is considered, the Councillor must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest, whether or not such interest is registered on his/her register of Interests or if he/she has made a pending notification.
- If a Councillor has a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter being considered at a meeting, he/she must not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter at the meeting. The Councillor must withdraw from the room where the meeting is being held unless he/she has received a dispensation from the Monitoring Officer.
- Where a Councillor has another pecuniary interest in a matter being considered at a meeting and where the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Councillor's judgement of the public interest, the Councillor must disclose the existence and nature of the interest and withdraw from the room where the meeting is being held unless he/she has received a dispensation from the Monitoring Officer.
- Failure to comply with the arrangements regarding disclosable pecuniary interests without reasonable excuse is

a criminal offence, with a penalty of up to £5,000 and disqualification from office for up to 5 years.

6 Items (if any) referred under the Call-in Procedure

To 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.

7 Recommendations of the Cabinet, Panels and Committees

To consider the following recommendations:-

7(i) A New Housing Strategy for Colchester 15 - 16

B... Motion that the recommendation contained in minute 60 of the Cabinet meeting of 18 March 2015 be approved and adopted.

7(ii) Appointment of High Steward 17 - 20

C... Motion that the recommendation contained in the minute 3 from the Governance Committee meeting of 30 June 2015 be approved and adopted

A background note on the Office of High Steward of Colchester is attached.

8 Notices of Motion pursuant to the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 11

Urology Cancer Services

Proposer: Councillor Harris

C... Motion that:-

This Council fully supports the retention of Urology Cancer Services in Colchester.

Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

Proposer: Councillor Scott

D... Motion that this Council notes:

1. That the EU and USA launched negotiations in July 2013 on a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).
2. That negotiations are underway to determine which goods and services TTIP will apply to and if new rules can be agreed to protect investors, harmonise standards, reduce tariffs and open new markets throughout the EU and USA.
3. That there has been no impact assessment about the potential impact on local authorities.
4. That there has been no scrutiny of the negotiating texts by local government and no consultation with local government

representatives

5. That MPs are also unable to scrutinise the negotiating documents.

This Council believes that:

1. TTIP could have a detrimental impact on local services, employment, suppliers and decision-making.
2. A thorough impact assessment of TTIP on local authorities must be undertaken before the negotiations can be concluded.
3. The proposed Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) mechanism has been used by corporations to overturn democratic decisions by all levels of governments at significant public cost. Local decision-making must be protected from ISDS.
4. The EU's food, environmental and labour standards are better than those in the US and TTIP negotiations must raise and not lower these standards across the EU and USA.
5. Sourcing supplies and employment locally is important to strengthening local economies and meeting local needs. TTIP must not impact on local authorities' ability to act in the best interests of its communities.

This Council resolves:

1. To write to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, local MPs and all Eastern Region MEPs raising our serious concerns about the impact of TTIP on local authorities and the secrecy of the negotiating process.
2. To write to the Local Government Association to raise our serious concerns about the impact of TTIP on local authorities and ask them to raise these with government on our behalf.
3. To call for an impact assessment on the impact of TTIP on local authorities.
4. To publicise the Council's concerns about TTIP; join with other local authorities which are opposed to TTIP across Europe and work with local campaigners to raise awareness about the problems of TTIP.
5. To contact the local authorities of municipalities twinned with Colchester asking them to consider passing a similar motion on TTIP.

(iii) Park and Ride

Proposer: Councillor Goss

F...The Park and Ride scheme run by Essex County Council is an important asset for Colchester and this Council without question wants the scheme to succeed. However, this Council believes that it should be modified to include the following:

1. Introduction of stops to serve Colchester Hospital;
2. Family friendly pricing - for example similar to Ipswich;
3. Potentially longer operating hours to maximise the scheme's

usefulness to local people and commuters.

This Council therefore calls on Essex County Council Portfolio Holder Rodney Bass to implement these changes expediently to increase the success of the scheme.

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

(iv) Budget Statement

Proposer: Councillor Bourne

G.... This Council notes, with concern and dismay, the content of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Budget Statement on 8 July.

This Council believes actions from the Summer Budget will impact negatively on many residents in Colchester: particularly those on low incomes; students; residents seeking to access affordable housing; and contains disproportionate cuts to the under 25s.

This Council resolves to mitigate the negative impacts of the Budget by taking local action to support residents of the Borough and continue to invest in schemes that promote economic growth whilst working in partnership with key organisations to care for the most vulnerable.

This Council calls upon the MPs for the Borough of Colchester to oppose those aspects of the Finance Bill which will harm Colchester's interests, even if this means voting with the Opposition in Parliament.

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

(v) Firstsite

Proposer: Councillor Laws

H... Noting the important role of art in contributing to the cultural experience of Colchester, and the widespread support Firstsite is now receiving under the leadership of Anthony Roberts, Council requests the Arts Council to use its influence as the main funder to request that the level of local representation on Firstsite's Board of Trustees be increased, thus ensuring residents of Colchester have a direct say in the long term success of Firstsite.

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

Main Amendment

Proposer: Councillor Hayes

The motion on Firstsite be approved and adopted subject to the deletion of the words:-

“Council requests the Arts Council to use its influence as the main funder to request that the level of local representation on Firstsite’s Board of Trustees be increased”

and their replacement with the following words:

“this Council requests the Board of Directors/Trustees of Firstsite to invite this Council to nominate a councillor to sit on the Firstsite’s Board of Directors/Trustees under the same conditions as the Mercury Theatre”

If approved, the revised Motion would read as follows:-

“Noting the important role of art in contributing to the cultural experience of Colchester, and the widespread support Firstsite is now receiving under the leadership of Anthony Roberts, this Council requests the Board of Directors/Trustees of Firstsite to invite this Council to nominate a councillor to sit on Firstsite’s Board of Directors/Trustees under the same conditions as the Mercury Theatre, thus ensuring residents of Colchester have a direct say in the long term success of Firstsite. “

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

To 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)).

None received at the time of the publication of the Summons.

10 **Changes to the Officer Employment Procedure Rules** 21 - 26

I... Motion that the recommendations contained in the Monitoring Officer's report be approved and adopted.

11 **Schedule of Portfolio Holder Decisions** 27 - 34

To note the schedules of Portfolio Holder decisions covering the period 6 February 2015 to 30 June 2015.

12 **Urgent Items (Council)**

To 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.

13 **Reports Referred to in Recommendations**

The reports specified below are submitted for information and referred to in the recommendations specified in item 7 of the

agenda:

A New Housing Strategy for Colchester: report to Cabinet 18 March 2015

Appointment of High Steward: report to Governance Committee, 30 June 2015

A New Housing Strategy for Colchester 2015-20 - report to Cabinet 35 - 70

Appointment of High Steward - report to Governance Committee 71 - 72

14 **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)