



CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER, 2019 AT 4:00 P.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

Notice is hereby given of the above mentioned meeting of the Council which you are summoned to attend for the purpose of transacting the business set out below:-

1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members

To declare any interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

Members should refer to the guidance included as part of this agenda.

3. Minutes

To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 July, 2019, Minute Nos. 22 – 31; Page Nos. 14 – 22.

4. The Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence

To receive any Announcements and Correspondence from the Chairman of the Council.

5. The Leader's Announcements and Correspondence

To receive any Announcements and Correspondence from the Leader of the Council.

6. Changes to Membership of Committees etc. 2019/20

To receive notification from the Conservative Group Leader of changes to Committees' membership which require approval by Council (Item 6.1).

7. Questions Received under Council Procedure Rule 8

No Questions have been received under Council Procedure Rule 8.

8. Recommendations Referred from Cabinet, Committees etc.

None received.

9. Motions Received under Council Procedure Rule 6

- (i) To consider the following Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 6 by Councillor Mrs. A.A. Fitzgerald, Housing Shadow Portfolio Leader:

“There is a housing crisis at multiple levels in this Country. Not only is there not enough housing stock, but there is not enough housing stock of suitable green standards to help us move to a carbon neutral society. Minimum standards are what is currently achieved with the new homes that are being built, rather than achieving level 6 carbon neutral homes. Whilst recognising the financial challenges, Council housing stock must be made greener and more sustainable. It is acknowledged that some green housing schemes cause challenges for residents therefore progressive and incremental changes will ensure that the Council and residents alike learn how to make the most of the continuous improvements being made. Therefore, this Council moves:

- 1) The current planning policy be put to the relevant Promoting Prosperity Scrutiny Committee to identify ways that it can be made to force greener construction with incremental improvements. This should initially focus on council stock in order to provide tenants with the largest benefit, saving them money on their heating bills and keeping more of their money in their own pockets;
- 2) For there to be an asset/land review to identify all potential sites that a level 6 carbon neutral pilot scheme could be run, with potential residents chosen at random by the Housing department and educated on the systems in the housing to maximise benefits; and
- 3) For a full report on the pilot scheme to be produced and presented to Council 12 months after the first residents move in on the viability of rolling this scheme out across the district.”

- (ii) To consider the following Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 6 by Councillor P.E. Woodhead, Leader of the Green Group:

“Fair Tax Declaration

Full Council notes that:

1. The pressure on organisations to pay the right amount of tax in the right place at the right time has never been stronger.
2. Polling from the Institute for Business Ethics finds that “corporate tax avoidance” has, since 2013, been the clear number one concern of the

British public when it comes to business conduct.

3. Almost two-thirds (63%) of the public agree that the Government and local councils should consider a company's ethics and how they pay their tax as well as value for money and quality of service provided, when undertaking procurement.
4. Around 17.5% of public contracts in the UK have been won by companies with links to tax havens.
5. It has been conservatively estimated that losses from multinational profit-shifting (just one form of tax avoidance) could be costing the UK some £7bn per annum in lost corporation tax revenues.
6. The Fair Tax Mark offers a means for business to demonstrate good tax conduct, and has been secured by organisations with a combined annual income of £50bn and more than 6,500 outlets and premises, including many social enterprises and co-operatives.

Full Council believes that:

1. Paying tax is often presented as a burden, but it shouldn't be.
2. Tax enables us to provide services from education, health and social care, to flood defence, roads, policing and defence. It also helps to counter financial inequalities and rebalance distorted economies.
3. As recipients of significant public funding, local authorities should take the lead in the promotion of exemplary tax conduct; be that by ensuring contractors are paying their proper share of tax, or by refusing to go along with offshore tax dodging when buying land and property.
4. Where substantive stakes are held in private enterprises, then influence should be wielded to ensure that such businesses are exemplars of tax transparency and tax avoidance is shunned – e.g. no use of marketed schemes requiring disclosure under DOTAS regulations (Disclosure of Tax Avoidance Schemes) or arrangements that might fall foul of the General Anti-Abuse Rule.
5. More action is needed, however current law significantly restricts councils' ability to either penalise poor tax conduct or reward good tax conduct, when buying goods or services.
6. UK cities, counties and towns can and should stand up for responsible tax conduct – doing what they can within existing frameworks and pledging to do more given the opportunity, as active supporters of international tax justice.

Full Council resolves to:

1. Approve the Councils for Fair Tax Declaration.
2. Support Fair Tax Week events in the area, and celebrate the tax contribution made by responsible businesses who say what they pay with pride.
3. Support calls for urgent reform of EU and UK law to enable local authorities to better penalise poor tax conduct and reward good tax conduct through their procurement policies.

4. Not use offshore vehicles for the purchase of land or property, especially where this leads to reduced payments of stamp duty.
5. Receive a further report on how the Council can develop an efficient and effective framework to lead by example and demonstrate good practice in our tax conduct to:
 - (a) Ensure contractors implement IR35 robustly and pay a fair share of employment taxes.
 - (b) Undertake due diligence to ensure that not-for-profit structures are not being used inappropriately as an artificial device to reduce the payment of tax and business rates.
 - (c) Demand clarity on the ultimate beneficial ownership of suppliers and their consolidated profit & loss position.
 - (d) Promote Fair Tax Mark certification for any business in which we have a significant stake and where corporation tax is due.”

10. Comments and Questions on Part 1 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees, Sub-Committees and Panels under Rule 9

To receive any comments or questions submitted under Rule 9 on Part 1 Minutes of meetings of Cabinet, Committees, Sub-Committees or Panels as included in the Minutes Record circulated alongside this agenda.

11. Annual Treasury Management Report 2018/19

Report of the Head of Finance (Item 11.1 – 11.11).

12. Scrutiny Committees' Annual Reports 2018/19

To receive for information the Annual Reports of the:

- Community Scrutiny Committee (Item 12.1 – 12.2);
- Corporate Scrutiny Committee (Item 12.3 – 12.9);
- Promoting Prosperity Scrutiny Committee (Item 12.10 – 12.15);
- Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee (Item 12.16 – 12.28).



T. McGovern,
Managing Director

27 August, 2019

GUIDANCE ON DECLARING PERSONAL, PECUNIARY AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

DEFINITION OF WHAT IS A PERSONAL, PECUNIARY AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

A PERSONAL INTEREST is one where your well-being or financial position, or those of a member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association would be affected to a greater extent than the majority of Council Tax payers, ratepayers, or inhabitants of the electoral ward(s) affected by the decision. You automatically have a personal interest if you have given notice in the Register of Members' Interests, e.g. if you are appointed to an outside body by the Council.

A PECUNIARY INTEREST is a personal interest where the matter

- a) affects your financial position or that of a member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association or a body in which you have registered in the Register of Members Interests or
- b) relates to the determining of any consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to you or any person with whom you have a close association or a body in which you have registered in the Register of Members Interests

and, in either case, where a member of the public knowing the facts would reasonably regard the interest as so significant it is likely to affect your judgement of the public interest

A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST is an interest of yourself or your partner (which means spouse or civil partner, a person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom you are living as if you are civil partners) in respect of employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried out for profit or gain; sponsorship; contracts; land; licences; corporate tenancies; or securities, as defined with the Localism Act, 2011.

PLEASE MAKE IT CLEAR WHETHER IT IS A PERSONAL, PECUNIARY OR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST.

It would be helpful if, prior to the commencement of the meeting, Members informed the Monitoring Officer of any declarations of interest, of which you are aware. This will help in the recording of the declarations in the Minutes of the meeting.

DECLARING INTERESTS AT FULL COUNCIL

The Code of Conduct requires that personal interests where you have a personal interest in any business of the Council, and where you are aware or ought reasonably to be aware of the existence of the personal interest, and you attend a meeting of the Council at which the business is considered, you must disclose to that

meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent.

Some items will be mentioned in the papers for full Council but are not actually being considered by Full Council. In such circumstances the Monitoring Officer's advice to Members is that there is no need to declare an interest unless the particular matter is mentioned or discussed. As a general rule, Members only need to declare an interest at full Council in the following circumstances:

- Where a matter is before the Council for a decision and/or
- Where the matter in which the Member has an interest is specifically mentioned or discussed at the Council meeting.