



**Cannock Chase Council**

**Council Meeting**

**Wednesday 8 September 2021 at 6:00pm**

**Meeting to be Held in the Ballroom, 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 14 July, Minute Nos. 19 – 30; Page Nos. 13 – 20.

**4. Presentation of Certificates to Aldermen and Alderwomen**

The Chairman to present Certificates to those former Councillors appointed as Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen at the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 19 May 2021.

**5. The Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence**

To receive any announcements and correspondence from the Chairman of the Council.

**6. The Leader's Announcements and Correspondence**

To receive any announcements and correspondence from the Leader of the Council.

**7. Changes to Membership of Committees etc. 2021/22**

The receive notification from the Leader of the Conservative Group of changes to membership of the Licensing & Public Protection Committee that requires approval by Council.

**8. Recommendations Referred from Cabinet, Committees etc.**

Council is requested to consider recommendations from the Cabinet meeting held on 8 July 2021, and the Standards Committee held on 12 July 2021, in respect of the following matters:

**(i) Enabling Digital / Paperless Meetings and Revised Start Times for Calendar of Meetings 2021/22 (Cabinet 08/07/21, Minute No. 18)**

"That the following be recommended to Council at its meeting to be held on 8 September 2021:

- (A) All Members be provided with a Council laptop or tablet device during the current municipal year, and that in future, new equipment be provided upon election or re-election as a councillor.
- (B) Subject to recommendation (A) being agreed, Members will cease to be entitled to receive a communications allowance.
- (C) An assessment be made of the ongoing costs and practicalities of live streaming meetings and reported back to Members for further consideration.
- (D) The start times of Cabinet, Scrutiny Committees, Audit & Governance Committee and Standards Committee meetings, as detailed in the Calendar of Meetings 2021-22 approved by Council on 21 April 2021, be amended to 6:00p.m. with effect from the September / October cycle of meetings. Further, that the Chairs of these meetings be authorised, in consultation with the Joint Chief Executive, to start a meeting earlier where it is necessary to invite external representatives to attend the meeting.
- (E) The Chairmen, officers, and regular attendees at other Committees, such as Planning Control Committee and the Licensing & Public Protection Committee, be consulted on whether it is practicable to change the start times of these meetings.
- (F) The Joint Chief Executive, as appropriate, in consultation with the Chairman of the Council, relevant Chairmen of Committees and / or Leader of the Council, as appropriate, be authorised to amend the Calendar of Meetings, through convening additional meetings, or the postponement / cancellation of meetings, if required."

A copy of the accompanying report for the above recommendations can viewed on the [8 July Cabinet](#) meeting page on the Council's website.

*An updated Calendar of Meetings 2021-22, reflecting the proposals detailed in recommendation (D), above, is enclosed for Members' information (Item 8.1 – 8.9).*

**(ii) LGA Model Code of Conduct (Standards Committee 12/07/21, Minute No. 4)**

“That Council, at its meeting to be held on September 2021, be recommended to adopt the Local Government Association’s Model Code of Conduct as set out in Appendix 1 of the Report.”

A copy of the accompanying report for the above recommendation can be viewed on the [12 July Standards Committee](#) meeting page on the Council’s website.

**9. Motions Received under Council Procedure Rule 6**

**(i)** To consider the following Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 6 by Councillor P.E. Woodhead, Leader of the Chase Community Independents and Green Group:

“At the recent General Assembly of the Local Government Association delegates of all political parties and none from Councils across the Country unanimously supported the following motion at the Annual Conference:

**Proposes that:**

**In light of**

- The significant and far-reaching steps that councils across the United Kingdom are taking to combat climate change, cut carbon emissions and protect our environment; including such measures as:
  - o Declaring a climate and biodiversity emergency, action now taken by nearly three-quarters of all local councils;
  - o Announcing extensive commitments often with detailed action plans to reach net-zero carbon by 2030, surpassing the vague government commitments of 2035;
  - o Implementing broad community level action on climate change, such as climate assemblies, green bonds, warmer homes schemes, sourcing electricity demand from renewables, and developing new parks, open spaces and active travel measures;
- The significance of the ‘Conference of the Parties,’ (COP26) UN Conference on Climate Change taking place this year in Glasgow, hosted by the UK; and its aims to accelerate action towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- The response of local councils to the issue of sustainable food, given that food systems account for 1/3 of total greenhouse gas emissions, environmental degradation, food waste and socio-economic and health inequalities; in particular the efforts of councils during the Covid-19 crisis in providing food to local communities, as well as supporting community food growing and assisting food banks.

**The Association therefore agrees to:**

- Call on national government to ensure the adequate representation of local government at COP26, in order to promote the significant contribution, leadership and efforts of local councils in reducing toxic carbon emissions across the UK,

and to champion the innovative and rapid progress being made at a local level to tackle climate change.

- Encourage councils to continue their work to address climate change by:
  - promoting further signatories to the Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration<sup>[1]</sup>. This Declaration confirms the commitment of local and regional authorities to develop sustainable food policy, and calls on national government to put food and farming at the heart of the global response to the climate emergency at COP26
  - promoting greater participation from local councils to the UK100<sup>[2]</sup>: the network for UK locally elected leaders who have pledged to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, and switch to clean energy as soon as possible.

<sup>[1]</sup> <https://www.glasgowdeclaration.org/>

<sup>[2]</sup> <https://www.uk100.org/>

Cannock Chase Council fully endorses the commitment and call from the Local Government Association to addressing the Climate Emergency and undertakes to:

- Accelerate our own plans, initiatives, and commitments from our own declaration of a Climate Emergency in 2019.
- Write to our Member of Parliament and relevant Secretary of State to highlight and importance of the efforts of this Council and others across the Country in leading and addressing the actions needed to prevent catastrophic Climate Change and biodiversity collapse.
- To advance membership of this Council to the UK100 and sign up to the Glasgow Declaration.”

*Note this motion is my own submission based upon the motion passed at the Local Government Association Annual Conference in July 2021.*

## **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. Exclusion of the Public**

The Chairman to move the following motion:

"That the public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act, 1972."

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**Part 2**

**12. Comments and Questions on Part 2 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees, Sub-Committees and Panels under Rule 9**

To receive any comments or questions submitted under Rule 9 on Part 2 Minutes of meetings of Cabinet, Committees, Sub-Committees or Panels as included in the Minutes Record circulated alongside this agenda.



**T. Clegg  
Chief Executive**

31 August 2021

## **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.