



EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE GRANGE, NUTHOLT LANE,
ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB7 4EE
Telephone: 01353 665555

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Meeting of the **EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL** will be held on **THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER 2020** commencing at **6.00pm** with up to 15 minutes of Public Question Time, immediately followed by the formal business, and you are summoned to attend for the transaction of the following business.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the introduction of restrictions on gatherings of people by the Government due to the Covid-19 outbreak, this meeting will be conducted remotely facilitated using the Zoom video conferencing system. There will be no access to the meeting at the Council Offices, but there will be Public Question Time at the commencement of the meeting in accordance with the Council's Public Question Time Scheme, as modified for remote meetings. Details of the public viewing arrangements for this meeting are detailed in the Notes box at the end of the Agenda.

A minute's silence will be observed as a mark of respect following the deaths of former District Councillor Graham Steward, Labour Member for Sutton from 1991-2003 and former District Councillor John Willson, Independent Member for Ely West from 1991-1995.

AGENDA

1. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME [oral]

The meeting will commence with up to 15 minutes Public Question Time

Please Note: due to this being a remote meeting, questions from the public should be e-mailed to tracy.couper@eastcambs.gov.uk by 5pm on Tuesday 20 October 2020 (see Notes box at the end of the Agenda)

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [oral]

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [oral]

To receive declarations of interest from Members for any items on the Agenda in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct

4. MINUTES – 16 & 31 JULY 2020

To confirm as a correct record

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|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS | [oral] |
| 6. TO RECEIVE PETITION(S) | [oral] |
| 7. NOTICE OF MOTIONS UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 10 | [oral] |

(i) Protecting the Public's say in the Planning Process

This Council notes:

1. The publication by Government of the White Paper *Planning for the Future* on 6 August 2020, which sets out proposals for changes to the planning process for the future.
2. That the vast majority of planning applications are given the go ahead by local authority planning committees, with permission granted to around nine out of ten applications.
3. That research by the Local Government Association has said that there are existing planning permissions for more than one million homes that have not yet been started.
4. That there is a significant shortage of affordable housing in East Cambridgeshire.

This Council is concerned that the proposals seek to:

1. Reduce or remove the right of residents to object to applications near them.
2. Grant automatic rights for developers to build on land identified as 'for growth'.
3. Remove section 106 payments for infrastructure and their replacement with a national levy.
4. Significantly raise the size of development at which applicants are required to provide affordable housing, from the current ten properties to forty or even fifty.

This Council further notes:

1. The Royal Institute of British Architects called the proposals 'shameful' and said they 'will do almost nothing to guarantee delivery of affordable, well-designed and sustainable homes'. RIBA also said that proposals could lead to the next generation of slum housing.
2. The reforms are opposed by the all-party Local Government Association, currently led by Conservative Councillors.

This Council believes:

1. That existing planning procedures, while not without their flaws, allow for local democratic control over future development, and give local people a say in planning proposals that affect them.
2. That proposals for automatic rights to build in 'growth' areas, and increased permitted development rights, risk unregulated growth and unsustainable communities.

3. That an increase in the threshold for the provision of affordable housing will mean an end to the building of new affordable homes in our rural villages.
4. That local residents must be in the driving seat in shaping the future of their communities, and local determination of the planning framework and planning applications play an important part in this process.

This Council resolves to:

1. Respond to the consultation on the *Planning for the Future* White Paper, and to make representations against the proposals as outlined in this motion.
2. Write to and lobby both of our Members of Parliament, urging them to oppose these proposals and to circulate their replies to members.
3. Highlight its concerns over these proposals to the public and local residents.
4. Instruct officers to bring forward a paper to the Finance & Assets Committee examining the potential for this Council to work with East Cambridgeshire's rural parishes to apply for designation under section 157(1) of the Housing Act 1985, with the consequent power to set its own affordable housing threshold.

Proposer: Cllr Lorna Dupré

Seconder: Cllr Charlotte Cane

(ii) Parking Enforcement

This Council unequivocally endorses the constitutional commitment to free car parking in its off street town centre car parks. This commitment, together with a proportionate enforcement regime, is even more important now to support town centre businesses to recover from the COVID 19 crisis.

Nevertheless, the Council remains concerned at the growing instances of dangerous and anti-social on street car parking across the District, not limited to, but notably in Ely, Littleport, Bottisham and Soham. The on street enforcement regime is not fit for purpose.

The decriminalisation of on street car parking does not offer an appropriate solution to a District committed to free car parking and sound financial management. The Council cannot sign up to a scheme which is irreversible, has significant unfunded capital and revenue commitments and would lead to the introduction of car parking charges in our District.

Therefore, this Council instructs the Director, Operations to engage with the Chief Constable to discuss the provision of a dedicated car parking enforcement resource for the District and/or the effective implementation of CSAS (Community Safety Accreditation Scheme) and furthermore requests that an update is reported to Finance and Assets Committee in January 2021 detailing any legal and financial implications for consideration and decision on how to progress the matter.

Proposer: Cllr Anna Bailey

Seconder: Cllr Joshua Schumann

8. TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

[oral]

9. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEMBER BODIES

- **Treasury Operations Annual Performance Review**
- **Statement of Licensing Policy**

- Risk Management Policy

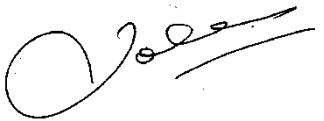
10. EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE LOCAL PLAN AND 'PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE' WHITE PAPER

11. CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY UPDATE REPORT

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC

That the press and public be excluded during the consideration of agenda item no. because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of Category 3 of Part I Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)

12. EXEMPT MINUTES – 31 JULY 2020



J Hill
Chief Executive

To: All Members of the Council

NOTES:

1. Since the introduction of restrictions on gatherings of people by the Government in March 2020, it has not been possible to hold standard face to face public meetings at the Council Offices. This led to a temporary suspension of meetings. The Coronavirus Act 2020 now has been implemented, however, and in Regulations made under Section 78 it gives local authorities the power to hold meetings without it being necessary for any of the participants or audience to be present together in the same room.

The Council has a scheme to allow Public Question Time at the start of the meeting using the Zoom video conferencing system. If you wish to ask a question or make a statement, please contact Tracy Couper, Democratic Services Officer for full Council tracy.couper@eastcambs.gov.uk by 5pm on Tuesday, 20 October 2020. If you are not able to access the meeting remotely, or do not wish to speak via a remote link, your question/statement can be read out on your behalf at the Council meeting.

2. A live stream of the meeting will be available on YouTube at www.eastcambs.gov.uk/meetings/council-22102020 for public viewing.
3. Reports are attached for each agenda item unless marked "oral".

4. If required all items on the agenda can be provided in different formats (e.g. large type, Braille or audio tape, or translated into other languages), on request, by calling Main Reception on (01353) 665555 or e-mail:
translate@eastcambs.gov.uk
5. If the Committee wishes to exclude the public and press from the meeting, a resolution in the following terms will need to be passed:

“That the press and public be excluded during the consideration of the remaining item no(s). X because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the item(s) there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of Category X of Part I Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”