



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 in **THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, NUTHOLT LANE, ELY ON THURSDAY 17 OCTOBER 2019** 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.

AGENDA

- 1. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** **[oral]**
The meeting will commence with up to 15 minutes public question time
- 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 – 18 JULY 2019**
To confirm as a correct record
- 5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS** **[oral]**
- 6. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS** **[oral]**

To receive the following Petition of approx 537 verified signatures:

We the undersigned petition East Cambridgeshire District Council to join many other Councils around the UK in declaring a Climate Emergency and to resolve to take appropriate action.

We therefore call on East Cambridgeshire District Council to:

1. Declare a Climate Emergency;
2. Pledge to make ECDC together with its wholly-owned companies and contractors carbon neutral by 2030 and pledge to divest Council investments, including pensions, from fossil fuels;

3. Call on the Government to provide powers, resources and technical support to make the 2030 target possible;
4. Work with local stakeholders to deliver a strategy in line with the target of net zero emissions by 2030, via a Council Working Group and a Citizen's Assembly. These should involve participation from as wide a range of residents, young people, businesses and other relevant parties as possible and should report within 6 months, or at least in time for their recommendations to be funded in the next Budget cycle.

Why is this Important?

We are facing an unprecedented climate and ecological catastrophe. Leading scientists from the IPCC have warned that if we carry on our business as usual and don't take emergency action on Climate Change, we face the gravest threats to our global environment. This includes worsening risks of drought, floods, extreme heat and poverty for hundreds of millions of people. Extreme weather events are already being seen, even in East Cambs which experienced severe drought last year. More recently, during a heatwave in July 2019 which saw temperatures across Europe, the highest temperature ever recorded in the UK was reached in Cambridge.

In the light of this urgent situation, at least 230 Councils in the UK have already declared a Climate Emergency, while cities including Exeter, Bristol and Edinburgh have set themselves ambitious targets of carbon neutrality by 2030.

7. NOTICE OF MOTIONS UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 10

(i) Encouraging Inclusivity

East Cambridgeshire District Council acknowledges with concern the published data on increases in hate incidents and crimes towards people with protected characteristics under the Equalities Act 2010 (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation). We commit to ensuring that every resident of the District is treated with respect, dignity and in an equal manner.

This Council acknowledges its duty under the Equality Act 2010 and has produced a Single Equalities Scheme 2016 – 2020. We further commit to ensuring that it goes beyond this legal duty and seeks to ensure that Inclusivity is at the heart of the Council and the District.

This Council will:

- produce a revised Inclusivity, Equality and Diversity scheme to replace the Single Equality Scheme 2016 – 2020 and commit to ensuring that all its actions and policies are reviewed to ensure that they seek to include all people
- over the course of 2020/21 make unconscious bias training available to all staff and Members
- establish communication with groups representing the diversity of East Cambridgeshire and seek to ensure that these groups feel included in the decisions and processes of this Council
- engage with external bodies to encourage that they live up to the same Inclusivity standards
- publish and promote the success of these policies in creating an Inclusive Council and District.

Proposer Cllr Alison Whelan
Seconded Cllr Christine Whelan

(ii) Climate Emergency

Council notes:

that the impacts of climate breakdown are already causing serious damage around the world.

that the 'Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C', published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in October 2018, (a) describes the enormous harm that a 2°C average rise in global temperatures is likely to cause compared with a 1.5°C rise, and (b) confirms that limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society and the private sector;

that East Cambridgeshire is at significant risk from climate change by both drought from reduced rainfall and flooding from rising sea levels, with the Environment Agency reporting that the river flow on the Ely Ouse is 'notably low', and reports suggesting that a 1.5° rise in temperature would see most of East Cambs under salt water with Ely becoming an island and the fen edge villages becoming coastal villages;

that East Cambridgeshire is a major contributor to Greenhouse gas emissions from allowing our peat to dry out releasing CO₂ into the atmosphere, burning oil and bottled gas for heating and frequently using cars due to inadequate public transport or provision for cyclists and pedestrians;

that all governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to act, and local governments that recognise this should not wait for their national governments to change their policies;

that strong policies to cut emissions also have associated health, wellbeing and economic benefits;

and that, recognising this, a growing number of UK local authorities have already passed 'Climate Emergency' motions.

Council therefore commits to:

Declare a 'Climate Emergency' that requires urgent action.

Make the Council, and its trading subsidiaries' activities net-zero carbon by 2030

Achieve 100% clean energy across the Council and its trading subsidiaries' full range of functions by 2030

Ensure that all strategic decisions, budgets and approaches to planning decisions are in line with a shift to zero carbon by 2030.

Support and work with all other relevant agencies towards making the entire area zero carbon within the same timescale;

Ensure that political and chief officer leadership teams and trading subsidiaries' Directors embed this work in all areas and take responsibility for reducing, as rapidly as possible, the carbon emissions resulting from the Council's activities, ensuring that any recommendations are fully costed and that committees and full Council review council activities taking account of production and consumption emissions and set up a joint members and officers working group to produce an action plan within 12 months, together with budget actions and a measured baseline;

Ensure that Council considers the impact of climate change and the environment when reviewing Council policies and strategies;

Work with, influence and inspire partners across the district, county and region to help deliver this goal through all relevant strategies, plans and shared resources;

Council to take steps to proactively include young people in the process, ensuring that they have a voice in shaping the future;

Establish an East Cambridgeshire Climate Change Partnership, involving councillors, residents, young people below voting age, academics and other relevant parties, to prioritise carbon reduction measures, identify related benefits to employment, health, agricultural and transport sectors and develop a strategy in line with the 'net-zero carbon by 2030' target;

Require East Cambs Trading Limited to investigate ways to build zero carbon homes in East Cambridgeshire and report to Council within 12 months on the proposed ways forward with a view to building zero carbon homes by 2022 at the latest;

Require East Cambs Street Scene Limited to work with Council officers to develop a capital assets replacement and refurbishment programme and review work processes to report to Council within 12 months on proposed ways forward to become a zero-carbon operation;

Ensure that all reports in preparation for the 2020/21 and future budget cycles and investment strategies will take into account the actions the council will take to address this emergency;

Ask officers to investigate the most appropriate training for members and officers about how to promote carbon neutral policies for future consideration by Council;

Write to the Secretary of State to request that Government provides the powers, resources and help with funding to make this possible, and ask local MPs to do likewise;

Consider other actions that could be implemented, including (but not restricted to): renewable energy generation and storage, providing electric vehicle infrastructure and encouraging alternatives to private car use, increasing the efficiency of buildings, in particular to address fuel poverty; proactively using local planning powers to accelerate the delivery of net zero-carbon new developments and communities, coordinating a series of information and training events to raise awareness and share good practice.

Proposer – Cllr Mark Inskip

Seconder – Cllr Charlotte Cane

(iii) Climate Change

The current generation has a duty to protect and improve the health of our planet for those that follow.

The world is facing unprecedented challenges in population growth, climate change, pollution and ever increasing and competing demands on its land and natural resources. By 2050 the world population is expected to rise from its current level of 7.7 billion to 9.2 billion. There is global consensus that climate change poses significant risk to the health of the planet and its ability to sustain life.

Local Authorities have a responsibility, both in their own activities and those undertaken with partners, as well as in the influence they can bring to bear to reduce the adverse effects of their populations on the planet.

Cambridgeshire and East Cambridgeshire are growing areas; increasing populations result in increasing need for businesses, houses, health, retail and leisure outlets, transport and other supporting infrastructure, all of which lead to adverse impacts on the environment. With growth comes a responsibility to balance competing demands and mitigate the negative impacts of that growth as far as is reasonably possible.

This Council thanks residents for calling for action and acknowledges that it has a significant role to play in protecting and improving the environment for future generations.

Council notes the positive actions it is already undertaking:

- A District wide review of bus services to inform a detailed plan, which aims to increase the number and frequency of services, to be presented to the Combined Authority in its county wide bus review
- Development of an East Cambs Strategic Cycle/Footpath Network, identifying gaps in the current network, and seeking funding opportunities to improve the network over time
- Thanks to our residents, achievement of one of the highest recycling rates in the country, leading to a new target of 65%; we stand ready to make further improvements in line with the Government's emerging Resources and Waste Strategy
- Through planning policy we favour sustainable development, we secure energy and sustainability measures on all developments of 5 dwellings or more and we seek BREEAM 'very good' build standard on non-domestic developments greater than 1000m²
- We seek to secure landscaping and tree planting in new developments
- Our Tree Strategy and Conservation Area policies are helping to protect and improve the tree stock across the District
- We work with wildlife groups to increase habitat and biodiversity
- We have established wildflower habitats on some of our own open spaces
- Our Purge on Plastics campaign and action plan is helping to reduce the Council's use of single use plastics and to encourage others across the district to do the same
- Ely Markets' Bring your Own Campaign is helping to raise awareness and reduce the use of single use plastic by market traders and customers
- We are signed up to and supporting the Doubling Nature campaign and the Local Nature Partnership
- Our free energy advice service helps residents improve the energy efficiency of their homes
- Participation in the Energy Company Obligation Flexible Eligibility Scheme is helping to reduce carbon emissions and tackle fuel poverty
- Together with Cambridgeshire County Council we are developing an Innovate UK bid to design an energy system to deliver net zero carbon emissions from energy use in East Cambridgeshire by 2050; the project focuses on shifting transport, gas and oil use to electricity and to grow the electricity network to cater for the change
- We are working with Swaffham Prior Community Land Trust and Cambridgeshire County Council to secure funding for the low carbon Swaffham Prior Community Heat Scheme
- Kennett Community Land Trust has been designed using Garden Village principles

- We are building new homes at Haddenham Community Land Trust to high energy efficient standards
- 2 rapid electric vehicle charging points were installed at The Hive car park
- At end of life all lightbulbs on Council premises are replaced with LED lightbulbs
- Grant applications to the Council are asked to explain what steps are being taken to make a project environmentally sustainable

Council recognises the need to build on this positive work, to further embed positive environmental thinking, behaviours, and action throughout our organisation and to seek to influence partners and others to do the same.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Note the positive actions and work that have already been completed or begun
- Commit to the following actions, to begin immediately:
 - Launch and publicise an online 'Ideas Forum' for residents to submit their ideas for consideration on how the Council can tackle climate change
 - Develop a Supplementary Planning Document for the Natural Environment
 - Conduct a review of the management, use of pesticides and the grass cutting schedule of our own open spaces and develop a Parks and Open Spaces Eco Plan to reduce adverse environmental impacts and increase biodiversity
 - Request East Cambs Trading Company to consider if and how the Parks and Open Spaces Eco Plan can be applied to customers of the Company
 - Promote tree schemes by the Woodland Trust and other organisations to encourage tree planting throughout the District
- Assess the feasibility and capability of new carbon emission free vehicles available on the market when any Council owned vehicle comes to the end of its life, alongside consideration of the required investment in infrastructure to charge and maintain a carbon emission free fleet
- Task the Operational Services Committee to develop a costed Environment and Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, including targets and timescales to reduce carbon emissions and pollution and protect and enhance biodiversity and present to Committee within 6 months; as part of this work, Committee will explore and consider the following, which is not an exhaustive list:
 - Measures in conjunction with the Combined Authority
 - Measures in conjunction with Cambridgeshire County Council
 - Measures in conjunction with other organisations and customers
 - Measures required and feasibility of reaching net zero carbon emissions by the Council by 2050
 - Pre-application Planning fee incentives/discounts for schemes using eco-friendly building methods and heating and cooling systems and green energy schemes
 - Incentives/discounts on taxi license fees for ultra-low and zero emission vehicles at renewal
 - Installing more electric charging points in Council owned car parks
 - Installing additional water refill stations on Council premises
 - Communications Plan, including:
 - Changing the culture of the Council to one of 'Think Zero'
 - Promotion of the online 'Ideas Forum'
 - Michael Recycle 'Zero Hero' cut the carbon campaign
 - Schools engagement
 - Measures in the emerging Youth Strategy

Proposer: Cllr Anna Bailey

Secunder: Cllr Josh Schumann

8. TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS [oral]

9. CORPORATE PLAN 2019-23

Due to being an A3 colour document, the Corporate Plan, Appendix 1 of the report, has been circulated separately to Councillors and Officers. Copies are available on the Council's website www.eastcambs.gov.uk or from Democratic Services.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

- **Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy**
- **ECTC Business Plan 2019/20**

The Business Plan includes an Exempt Appendix

11. POLLING DISTRICT, POLLING PLACES AND POLLING STATIONS REVIEW

12. IRP REPORT

13. CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW & AMENDMENTS

14. ECTC SHAREHOLDER AGREEMENT & ARRANGEMENTS

15. ECSS SHAREHOLDER AGREEMENT & ARRANGEMENTS

16. REVIEW OF LOCAL PLAN 2015 AND WIDER PLANNING POLICY MATTERS

17. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY UPDATE AND PROPOSED CHANGES

18. COMBINED AUTHORITY UPDATE REPORT

To receive reports on the activities of the Combined Authority from the Council's appointee(s)

19. ACTION TAKEN ON THE GROUNDS OF URGENCY:

- **Independent Remuneration Panel**
- **Independent Persons**

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)

20. ASSET MANAGEMENT MATTER



J Hill
Chief Executive

To: All Members of the Council

NOTES:

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting. This Council has adopted a 'Purge on Plastics' strategy and is working towards the removal of all consumer single use plastics in our workplace. Therefore, we do not provide disposable cups in our building and would ask members of the public to bring your own reusable bottle/cup to meetings where water/hot drinks will be available.

If you are visiting The Grange during normal office hours you should report to the main reception desk, where you will be asked to fill in a visitor's pass that must be worn at all times whilst you are in the building. Please remember to return your pass before you leave.

This will not apply if you come to an evening meeting: in this case you will enter via the rear access doors in the glass atrium at the back of the building and a Facilities Assistant will direct you to the room in which the meeting will take place.

The maximum capacity for meetings in the Council Chamber has been set by the Fire Officer at 100 persons. Allowing for Member/Officer attendance and room layout constraints, this will normally give a capacity for public attendance of 30-40 people. Admittance to the Council Chamber is on a "first come, first served" basis and public access will be from 15 minutes before the start time of the meeting.

There are a number of schemes aimed at encouraging public participation in the Council's activities and meetings. These include public question times and a process to enable petitions to be submitted. Details of these can be obtained by calling the telephone number as listed at the top of this agenda or by logging onto the Council's website.

Meetings of full Council may be webcast in accordance with our Procedure Rules.

Fire instructions for meetings:

- If the fire alarm sounds please make your way out of the building by the nearest available exit - i.e. the back staircase or the fire escape in the chamber. Do not to use the lifts.

- The fire assembly point is in the front staff car park by the exit barrier.
- This building has an auto-call system to the fire services, so there is no need for anyone to call the fire services.
- The Committee Officer will sweep the area to ensure that everyone is out of this area.

Reports are attached for each agenda item unless marked “oral”.

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@eastcamb.s.gov.uk

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).”