



# EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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

## NOTICE OF MEETING

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Annual Meeting of the **EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL** will be held on **THURSDAY 21 MAY 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 death of former District Councillor Colin Fordham, Independent Member for Soham from 1999 to 2007 & 2011 to 2015**

## 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](mailto:tracy.couper@eastcambs.gov.uk) by 5pm on Tuesday 19 May 2020 (see Notes box at the end of the Agenda)

### 2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 2020/21

**Nomination**

Cllr Lis Every

**Proposed By**

Cllr Anna Bailey

**Seconded By**

Cllr Josh Schumann

### 3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [oral]

### 4. 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

## 5. MINUTES – 20 FEBRUARY 2020

To confirm as a correct record

## 6. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN 2020/21

<b>Nomination</b>	<b>Proposed By</b>	<b>Seconded By</b>
Cllr Alan Sharp Cllr Gareth Wilson	Cllr Anna Bailey Cllr Simon Harries	Cllr Josh Schumann Cllr Christine Whelan

## 7. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [oral]

## 8. TO RECEIVE PETITION(S) (if any) [oral]

## 9. NOTICE OF MOTIONS UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 10 [oral]

### Rebuilding from the Coronavirus Pandemic

Council notes the Coronavirus pandemic is the worse health emergency in over a century and is predicted by the Bank of England to lead to the largest annual contraction in UK GDP for more than three centuries. The impact at national, international and local level is unprecedented in recent history.

Council recognises that the Coronavirus pandemic has had a significant impact on many people's health and well-being and has caused many deaths across our district. We offer our sympathy to all the people affected.

We also express our gratitude to the medical and care staff, and other key workers who have kept core services going, and to those council staff in East Cambridgeshire who have maintained services to the public throughout the crisis. We are also grateful to our Parish Councils and the many community groups which are supporting residents across the district with shopping, gardening, prescription collection, pet care and many other imaginative initiatives.

As well as continuing to deliver services and support to assist our communities in their response, we recognise the challenges ahead that we face including:

1. The Bank of England predicting a 14% fall in GDP impacting many of our residents' lives and the local economy;
2. Likely continuing restrictions on retail and leisure providers including pubs, restaurants and businesses dependent on tourism;
3. Lord Deben, as chair of the UK Independent Committee on Climate Change, stating "the actions needed to tackle climate change are central to rebuilding our economy".

We need to re-purpose the council to move beyond day to day service delivery to address the massive challenges we face for the District's recovery and its longer-term resilience. We also welcome new opportunities, notably:

1. To build on the community spirit demonstrated across the district;
2. To support and develop community support groups across our District that have provided essential support to residents;
3. To maintain reduction in vehicle journeys and increase in cycling and walking and the consequent environmental improvements.

This Council therefore resolves as a first step to set up a working party, modelled on the successful Bus working party, to work with businesses, community groups and other authorities from parishes through to central government to help drive an environmentally, socially and economically sustainable recovery for East Cambs.

Amongst the initiatives the Group should consider, but not be limited to, are:

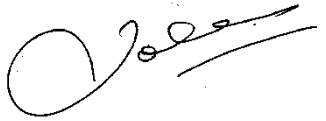
1. A business survey, to fully understand the needs and concerns of our business community and represent our district in discussions with the Combined Authority;
2. A parish council and community groups survey, to fully understand their needs and concerns and their capacity to assist with the recovery;
3. Collecting options for experimental transport initiatives which can be promoted to the county council for speedy implementation to privilege active modes of travel to and within economic centres within the district;
4. Engaging ECTC and the wider developer community to use the likely post-covid housing market conditions as an opportunity to build more affordable and social housing;
5. Exploring further opportunities to facilitate working from home and remote locations through the deployment across the district of initiatives such as 5G and ultrafast broadband infrastructure.

Proposer: Cllr Charlotte Cane

Seconder: Cllr Mark Inskip

- 10. TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS (if any) [oral]**
- 11. LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, GROUP LEADERS AND DEPUTY GROUP LEADERS**
- 12. POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY**
- 13. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND SUB COMMITTEES (INCLUDING SUBSTITUTES) AND OTHER MEMBER BODIES 2020/21**
- 14. CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY**
  - (a) Appointments to Combined Authority**
  - (b) Update Report**
- 15. WITCHFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADOPTION**

Due to being an A4 colour document, the Witchford Neighbourhood Plan has been circulated separately. A copy is available on the Council's website [www.eastcambs.gov.uk](http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk) and on request from Democratic Services
- 16. COVID-19 UPDATE**
- 17. ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ON THE GROUNDS OF URGENCY**



**J Hill**  
**Chief Executive**

To: All Members of the Council

**NOTE:**

**AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING, THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES/SUB-COMMITTEES WILL MEET TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN AND A VICE-CHAIRMAN, ETC, FOR 2020/21:**

- **FINANCE AND ASSETS COMMITTEE**
- **OPERATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**
- **LICENSING COMMITTEE**
- **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**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](mailto:tracy.couper@eastcambs.gov.uk) by 5pm on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> May 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-21052020](http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/meetings/council-21052020) 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](mailto: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).”