



COUNCIL MEETING

Members are summoned to attend a Meeting

of the Town Council to be held at **7pm** on

Wednesday 16 January 2019

**at Loughton Library & Town Hall
Traps Hill, Loughton, IG10 1HD**

to transact the business as shown in the agenda.

Enid K Walsh
Town Clerk
10 January 2019

Councillor S Murray (Town Mayor)
Councillor S Murphy (Deputy Town Mayor)

P Abraham
T Cochrane
T Downing
J Mahoney
C C Pond

J Angold-Stephens
B Cohen
J Jennings
A Omer
C P Pond

P Beales
M Dalton
J Jogia
T Owen
M Stubbings

R Brookes
C Davies
K Latchford
S Pewsey
D Wixley

Note to Councillors:
If you are unable to attend the meeting,
please phone your apologies
to the office on 020 8508 4200

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 Suspension of Standing Orders

The Council is asked, in accordance with Standing Order 32, to agree to suspend Standing Order 2 h(i)(iv) for this meeting only, as the meeting is a special one with only three main agenda items.

3 Declarations of Interest

For Councillors to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in any items on the Agenda.

4 Public Representations

To hear any representations from members of the public who have registered a request to address the Council in accordance with Standing Order no 1(h).

5 Local Plan Examination in Public

The Strategy and Staff Group met with the barrister and planning consultant on Thursday 3 January 2019 to discuss the approach to be made at the hearings. Further details will be provided at the meeting.

6 Street Lighting

The District Council has recently provided limited information on the possible reinstatement of all night street lighting in the area.

* A copy of the correspondence is provided on page 3.

The Council is asked to endorse the Town Clerk's response to the District Council as follows:

Loughton Town Council is interested in this idea, but will need to consider the matter thoroughly. We may not be in a position to make a speedy decision given that our budget preparations for 2019/20 are almost complete.

We have some initial queries on the initiative. Could you confirm whether:

- 1. we could elect to have lights on for Friday and Saturday nights only (days on which the Night Tube runs) at 2/7ths of the cost; and*
- 2. if we could decide to start midway through the financial year on a pro-rata basis?*

Additionally, a request for more information has been submitted:

- 3. a detailed breakdown of the costs; and*
- 4. whether the commitment of parish and town councils to this proposal will delay the installation of LED street lighting in this district.*

The Council is asked to confirm its position on this matter.

7 Council Precept for 2019/20

To consider the recommendation of the Resources and General Services Committee made at its meeting held on 9 January 2018.

- * See attached report (pages 4 – 5) and Appendix A.

**Enid K Walsh
TOWN CLERK
10 January 2019**

Agenda item 6

Street Lighting – copy of email text from Acting Chief Executive, EFDC

You may be aware that as a result of concerns raised by local residents. the District Police Commander, the Member of Parliament for Epping Forest, and the Leader of the District Council, have been working closely with Councillor Kevin Bentley, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure at Essex County Council, about the possibility of reinstating all night street lighting.

As a result, Councillor Whitbread was able to advise the December Meeting of Full Council, that he was now in receipt of the estimated costs of all night illumination at Town and Parish Council level. Councillor Whitbread also informed Members of the District Council that he hoped that Town and Parish Councils who wished to see the reinstatement of all night lighting in their local areas, would give serious consideration to funding the initiative.

To this end, please see below the list of Town/Parish areas and estimated costs provided by Essex for your consideration. You will see that the County Council have only identified 14 out of our 24 Town/Parishes. I have asked for clarification on this point, however, it may be that some local Councils e.g. Theydon Bois or indeed some of the small rural parishes do not have street lighting infrastructure provided by the County Council. However, you may well have local knowledge which would clarify the omission.

Notwithstanding, if you would like to be part of the all night lighting initiative, could you please formally confirm both your interest and willingness to meet the costs. Our understanding is that the costs are in relation to electricity only, and no other maintenance charges will be made. I fully appreciate that this proposal has come at a time when your budget planning is well advanced. However, some Town/Parish Councils have already indicated that they may in the first instance use reserves, as opposed to precepting for the cost.

The Leader of Council is due to meet with Councillor Bentley in the next two weeks to feedback on the potential level of interest. Therefore I would appreciate a response, if only in principal, as soon as practically possible. Unfortunately, I am not in a position to provide any further detail around which individual lights are Essex responsibility, based on the level of information provided by Essex to date. Similarly, I believe there is little flexibility to partially light some areas and not others. It would appear to be all night street lighting or the current partial lighting arrangement.

Local Town/Parish Area	Annual Cost as of Jan 2019
Abridge	784.43
Buckhurst Hill	£12,314.44
Chigwell	£16,136.96
Epping	£13,200.05
Fyfield	£619.20
Loughton	£33,840.74
Matching	£30.70
Nazeing	£1,395.38
North Weald	£10,243.05
Ongar	£4,903.85
Roydon	£824.44
Sheering	£3,364.68
Stapleford Abbots	£172.74
Waltham Abbey	£27,236.75

Agenda item 7 – Council Precept for 2019/20

The Council is asked to consider:

- i) the budget for 2019/20;
- ii) the amount to be taken from reserves; and
- iii) the level of the precept.

7.1 At its meeting on 9 January 2019, the Resources and General Services Committee considered the Estimates submitted by all the committees. It also looked at the Council’s running costs for 2019/20 and the forecast General Reserves at the end of 2018/19. The budget savings proposed in the agenda report were accepted with the exception of that for the Roding Valley Recreation Ground play area where £10,000 new money towards the refurbishment project remained.

7.2 Use of Reserves

The budgeted net core running costs for 2019/20 amount to £411,593. (*This derives from the sum of column 1 of each of the revised committees’ rolling programmes less their estimated income.*)

The forecast for the level of general reserves as at 31 March 2019 is £281,870.

Using £25,000 from the forecast general reserves reduces them to £242,458 equivalent to 62.41% of the budgeted net core running costs. This meets the Council’s reserves policy.

7.3 Summary of Committees’ Estimates

Committee	Income		Expenditure	Expenditure including re-charges
	£	£		
Resources & General Services	35,515		458,981	180,981
Recreation	127,778		536,000	682,000
Environment and Heritage	18,075		119,960	216,960
Planning and Licensing	0		45,200	80,200
	181,368	181,368		
Interest	6,000	6,000		
Use from earmarked reserves				
Resources & General Services	14,000			
Recreation	133,250			
Environment & Heritage	36,500			
Planning and Licensing	45,000			
	228,750	228,750		
Total income/expenditure		416,118	1,160,141	1,160,141
Less money from general reserves		25,000		
Net requirement		719,023		
Rounding		719,000		

Full budget details together with the revised Rolling Programmes may be found in Appendix A, provided under separate cover.

7.4 Precept for 2019/20

For information: The tax base for 2019/20 has been confirmed as 12,580.6. (*This is the figure that when divided into the Precept gives the Band D figure.*)

RECOMMENDED that the Council's precept for 2019/20 be set at £719,000.

This will give the Loughton proportion of the annual council tax for a band D property as £57.15, an increase of £3.56 on that for the current year of £53.59.

The Council is asked to confirm:

- i) the budget for 2019/20;
- ii) the amount to be taken from reserves; and
- iii) the level of the Precept.