



**TO: ALL MEMBERS  
OF THE COUNCIL**

My Ref: PAR\CWLM\COUNCIL

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby summoned under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12, Section 10, to attend a Meeting of the **TOWN COUNCIL** to be held at Newton's Place, 43 Wolborough Street, Newton Abbot on **WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024 at 7:00pm** to transact the business specified in the Agenda set out below.

Yours sincerely

Town Clerk

**READING:** The Mayor will hold a moment of reflection prior to the meeting.

## **A G E N D A**

### **PART A – GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS**

- 1. WELCOME FROM THE MAYOR**
- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence.

*Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a record to be kept of the members present and that this record form part of the minutes of the meeting. Members who cannot attend a meeting should tender apologies to the Town Clerk as it is usual for the grounds upon which apologies are tendered also to be recorded. Under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence are accepted.*

- 3. INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Members are invited to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in items to be considered at this meeting.

- 4. MINUTES**

To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

**APPENDIX A**

5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** (7.10 – 7.25 p.m. approx)

The Committee sets aside, a short period at the commencement of the meeting when the public can ask questions or make statements in accordance with the rules of public participation as contained at the end of this agenda.

6. **EMERGENCY PLAN - PRESENTATION (10 minutes + 10 mins Q&A)**

- a) To receive a presentation from Devon Communities Together on the benefits of creating an Emergency Plan.
- b) To discuss and consider creating an Emergency Plan for Newton Abbot.

7. **REPORTS OF COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

To receive reports from Councillors on activities in their roles as County and/or District Councillors.

8. **MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- (a) Mayoral activities since the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 **APPENDIX B**
- (b) Other appropriate items including Mayoral activities in the course of preparation.

**PART B – MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMITTEES AND ITEMS FOR DECISION**

9. **PRECEPT 2023/24**

- (a) To discuss the recommendation made by the meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024, Minute number 24/01(356).

That the Council is **RECOMMENDED** to adopt a Precept in the sum of **£1,594,558** for the year 2024/25 representing an *increase* of £31.62 p.a. or 0.61p per week (representing an annual payment of £181.88 / £15.16 per month / £3.50p per week) or 21.04% for a Band D property in Newton Abbot and that Teignbridge District Council be requested to collect on the Town Council's behalf the sum of **£1,594,558**.

- (b) To resolve the Precept for 2024/25.

10. **REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

- A. To fill the current vacancies for Councillor representatives on:
  - i. Devon Association of Local Council (DALC) County Committee.
  - ii. Devon & Cornwall Police Advocate.
  - iii. Stover Canal Trust.
  - iv. Court Leet.

B. To receive a report from Councillor Louise Cooke, the Council's representative on the Bradley Barton Community Association.

## 11. PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEES

To receive and in so far as may be necessary to approve reports, minutes and recommendations of the under mentioned Committees as presented by the respective Committee Chairperson: -

<b>Minutes/Committee</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson</b>
A. Planning	21/11/23	Joyce/Yabsley <b>APPENDIX C</b>
B. Planning	12/12/23	Joyce/Yabsley <b>APPENDIX D</b>
C. Planning	09/01/24	Joyce/Yabsley <b>APPENDIX E</b>
D. Finance & Audit	10/01/24	Parker/Vacancy <b>APPENDIX F</b>

## 12. POLICIES

To consider and adopt the Policy document as circulated:

- Biodiversity Policy (NEW) **APPENDIX G**

## 13. BIODIVERSITY EMERGENCY

To declare a biodiversity emergency and to pledge to provide leadership to ensure that the Council works with organisations, partners and its community to reverse the decline in biodiversity and deliver measurable biodiversity net gain within Newton Abbot.

## 14. CALENDAR OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2024 – 2025

To approve and adopt the Calendar of Council and Committee Meetings and Events for 2024 – 2025. **APPENDIX H**

## PART C – ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

### 15. LATE CORRESPONDENCE (if any)

For information.

### 16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**Distribution:**

All Members of Newton Abbot Town Council

Ann Marie Morris MP

District Councillors Jackie Hook, Liam Mullone, Rob Hayes.

District Councillor Martin Wrigley

Inspector J Johnson

Communications Advisor Nigel Canham

## **RULES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT MEETINGS OF NEWTON ABBOT TOWN COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEES/SUB-COMMITTEES**

The Council will set aside a short period at the commencement of each meeting when members of the public can ask questions or make statements.

Should an individual or representative of a group or body wish to address Members of the Council the following rules are to be followed: -

### **1. General**

Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at ordinary meetings of the Council and its Committees and Sub-Committees. If an informal group have a common interest, one of their number is to be identified to speak on behalf of the whole.

### **2. Order**

Questions/statements will be asked in the order notice of them was received, except that the Chairman may group together similar questions.

### **3. Notice**

A question or statement may only be taken if notice has been given by delivering it in writing or by electronic mail to the Clerk no later than 48 hours before the day of the meeting.

### **4. Number**

At any one meeting no person may submit more than one question/statement.

### **5. Scope**

The Clerk may reject a question/statement if it:

- is not about a matter for which the local authority has a responsibility or which affects the Town of Newton Abbot;
- is defamatory, frivolous or offensive;
- is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the past six months; or
- requires the disclosure of confidential information.

### **6. Speaking at the meeting**

The Chairman will invite the individual to put the question/statement to the Meeting. If a questioner who has submitted a written question is unable to be present, they may ask the Chairman or Clerk to put the question on their behalf.

### **7. Supplemental question**

A questioner who has put a question in person may also put one supplementary question without notice. A supplementary question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply. The Chairman may reject a supplementary question on any of the grounds in Rule 5 above.