



Borough of Telford and Wrekin

Full Council

Thursday 10 November 2022

6.00 pm

Telford Theatre, Limes Walk, Oakengates, Telford, TF2 6EP

Democratic Services: Jayne Clarke / Stacey 01952 383205 / 384382
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Committee Members: Councillors S Bentley, K T Blundell, M Boylan, A J Burford, S P Burrell, E M Callear, L D Carter, E J Carter, G H Cook, S Davies, N A Dugmore, A J Eade, A R H England, N A M England, R C Evans, V A Fletcher, I T W Fletcher, J Gough, E J Greenaway, C Healy, V J Holt, M B Hosken, T L B Janke, A S Jhawar, J Jones, R T Kiernan, J E Lavery, A Lawrence, J Loveridge, A D McClements, R Mehta, K Middleton, L A Murray, T J Nelson, G L Offland, R A Overton, I Preece, S J Reynolds, G C W Reynolds, S A W Reynolds, H Rhodes, K S Sahota, P J Scott, J M Seymour, C F Smith, M J Smith, B J Thompson, W L Tomlinson, K T Tomlinson, C R Turley, P Watling, B Wennington, D R W White and D Wright

Agenda

Page

1.0 Prayers and Reflections

2.0 Apologies for Absence

3.0 Declarations of Interest

4.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting 7 - 12

To confirm the minutes of the last meeting of the Council.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

5.0 Leader's Report & Announcements

The Leader of the Council may give an oral report on matters of significance to the Borough, comment upon the Cabinet decisions or make any announcements.

6.0 Mayor's Announcements 13 - 18

To note the Mayoral Engagements undertaken since the previous Council meeting.

QUESTIONS

7.0 Public Questions

To receive any questions from the public which have been submitted under Council Procedure Rules 7.11 and 7.12. The session will last no more than 15 minutes with a maximum of 2 minutes allowed for each question and answer. Questions can be asked of the Leader and Cabinet Members.

8.0 Councillor Questions On Notice

To answer questions received under Council Procedure Rule 6.2.

NB In accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 6.2.9 there will be a maximum of 30 minutes allowed for questions and answers. Any question not answered within the 30 minute time limit will receive a written reply within 5 working days.

9.0 Cabinet Decisions Made Since the Last Meeting of the Council 19 - 24

To receive the report on the Cabinet decisions made since publication of the last Council meeting agenda. Cabinet Members may speak on these decisions and Members may ask questions about key decisions of the relevant Cabinet Member for the purposes of clarification only. Members are asked to note the additional delegations to officers granted at those meetings.

DECISION-MAKING

10.0 Independent Inquiry Update Report 25 - 42

To receive an update report in respect of the steps that have been

taken to support, and progress, the implementation of recommendations following the publication of the report of Mr Tom Crowther KC, the Independent Chair of the Independent Inquiry into CSE in Telford.

11.0 Recommendations from Cabinet

11.1 Cabinet - 13 October 2022 - 2022/23 Financial Monitoring Report 43 - 48

To receive the report with the latest financial monitoring position for the year.

12.0 Recommendations from Boards and Committees

12.1 Audit Committee - 19 July 2022 - Treasury Management - 2021/22 Annual Report and 2022/23 Update 49 - 76

At its meeting held on 19 July 2022, the Audit Committee made the following recommendation to Council:

RESOLVED – that the report be recommended to Full Council.

12.2 Standards Committee - 28 September 2022 - Appointment of Independent Persons 77 - 80

At its meeting held on 28 September 2022, the Standards Committee made the following recommendation to Council.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL that the appointments of Thomas Senior and Julia Lynch as Independent Persons for Telford and Wrekin Council be approved for an initial period of four years.

Leave of Absence

13.0 Councillor Leave of Absences 81 - 82

Councillors Miles Hosken and Karen Tomlinson have requested that they be granted up to six months leave of absence from Council duties.

DEBATE

14.0 Motions on Notice

14.1 Councillor A J Burford will propose the following Motion:-

“This Council calls on the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to carry out an urgent review and reversal of the Government’s downgrade plan for our health and social care services and to provide the necessary resources to ensure Telford & Wrekin and Shropshire

has the health and social care services that our residents deserve.

The Government's shambolic plans to downgrade Telford's 24/7 A&E to a so called 'A&E Local' has been discredited by a number of clinical bodies and means that Telford would be the largest and growing town in England without a fully functional A&E. The government also still plans to move our Consultant led Women and Children Unit from Telford, which flies in the face of recognised clinical need, the very reason why it was built in Telford! We note, with deep concern, that the cost of the Government's downgrade plan is between £500m and £600m, yet they have only allocated a loan of £312m, which will inevitably mean some vital services will have to be cut as a result.

This does not make sense - Telford & Wrekin and Shropshire residents deserve better. This Council agrees to:-

- Urgently write to the Health and Social Care Secretary to ask for an urgent review and reversal of the Government's downgrade plan; and
- Take all steps necessary to make a referral to the Independent Reconfiguration Panel to seek a review of this decision."

The Motion will be seconded by Councillor A D McClements.

14.2 Councillor P R Watling will propose the following Motion:-

"This Conservative government has crashed the British economy from Downing Street as a result of their unfunded 'mini' budget. Families and households here in Telford and Wrekin will pay more for their mortgages, rents, food, and fuel and public services will have less money to pay for services that residents here in Telford and Wrekin rely on – from social care to education, health and policing to council services. Great Britain is in a cost of living crisis because the Conservative government has crashed the economy.

We, as a council, are committed to reducing inequalities across Telford and Wrekin which has been at the heart of our work for more than a decade. This has provided a strong foundation that enabled us to quickly mobilise additional support for our community throughout the Covid pandemic, and other emergencies, such as flooding. This unprecedented cost of living crisis means that our residents and businesses now need us to be on their side more than ever.

As a council on the side of our resident this Council:-

- Declares a cost of living emergency
- Will write to the government and local MPs seeking urgent assurance that the council budget will be protected in real-terms so that the council can support residents here in Telford and Wrekin
- As already set out last year, remains committed to freezing general council tax in April 2023 for the second year in a row – and notes the council has the lowest council tax in the Midlands for the services that

we provide

- Agrees to do all it can with the resources available to it to aid residents through the cost of living crisis but acknowledges that without government support for residents and the council – cuts to services are inevitable. ”

The Motion will be seconded by Councillor K Middleton.

14.3 Councillor A J Eade will propose the following Motion:-

“This Council calls for average speed cameras to be installed on the section of the dangerous A41, which runs through the Borough of Telford & Wrekin.

Council also undertakes to support colleagues at Shropshire Council in lobbying the Police and Crime Commissioner to allocate the £400,000 available funding to deliver this essential safety measure.”

The Motion will be seconded by Councillor S P Burrell.