



LANCASTER
CITY COUNCIL

Promoting City, Coast & Countryside

COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, 15 April 2015
2.00 p.m.
Morecambe Town Hall

Mark Cullinan,
Chief Executive,
Town Hall,
Dalton Square,
LANCASTER,
LA1 1PJ



LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL

Promoting City, Coast & Countryside

Sir/Madam,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Lancaster City Council to be held in the Town Hall, Morecambe on Wednesday, 15 April 2015 commencing at 2.00 p.m. for the following purposes:

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

2. **MINUTES**

To receive as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the City Council held on 4 March 2015, (previously circulated).

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive declarations by Members of interests in respect of items on this Agenda.

Members are reminded that, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting).

Whilst not a legal requirement, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10 and in the interests of clarity and transparency, Members should declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, at this point in the meeting.

In accordance with Part B Section 2 of the Code Of Conduct, Members are required to declare the existence and nature of any other interests as defined in paragraphs 8(1) or 9(2) of the Code of Conduct.

4. **ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

5. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive any announcements which may be submitted by the Mayor or Chief Executive.

6. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12**

To receive questions in accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rules 12.1 and 12.3 which require members of the public to give at least 3 days' notice in writing of questions to a Member of Cabinet or Committee Chairman.

7. **PETITIONS AND ADDRESSES**

To receive any petitions and/or addresses from members of the public which have been notified to the Chief Executive in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

8. **LEADER'S REPORT** (Pages 1 - 2)

To receive the Cabinet Leader's report on proceedings since the last meeting of Council.

9. **MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT** (Pages 3 - 4)

To receive the Annual Report of the Mayor.

10. **EXECUTIVE ANNUAL REPORT** (Pages 5 - 56)

To receive the Executive Annual Report containing the Business Progress Reports of the Leader and each Cabinet Member in accordance with Article 7.06 (j).

Whilst the Executive Annual Report will be published as a separate document in due course, the reports of individual Cabinet Members are included in this agenda and will be presented at the meeting.

11. **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT** (Pages 57 - 71)

To receive the annual report of Overview and Scrutiny.

12. **AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT** (Pages 72 - 74)

To receive the annual report of the Audit Committee.

13. **MEMBER CHAMPIONS' ANNUAL REPORT** (Pages 75 - 83)

To receive the annual reports of the Council's Member Champions for Older People, Children and Young People and Veterans.

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

14. **NOTICE OF MOTION - HAPPY MOUNT PARK** (Pages 84 - 85)

To consider the following motion submitted by Councillor Roger Dennison and Councillor Caroline Jackson:

There are problems arising from the occasional situation of the gates of Happy Mount Park not being locked at night.

This has resulted in cars driving in, and youths congregating inside, with the possibility of accidents and vandalism.

Proposal:

This council agrees to request officers to develop a contingency plan for the locking of H.M.P. gates each evening at dusk. This contingency plan should include the resources of the friends group.

An officer briefing note is attached.

15. **NOTICE OF MOTION - LANCASTER UNIVERSITY ON-CAMPUS RENTS** (Page 86)

To consider the following motion submitted by Councillors Filmore, Kay, Brookes and Barry:

This council notes:

1. Lancaster University intends to increase on-campus rents by 2.5% and international and postgraduate tuition fees by 5%.
2. These increases come at a time when the University is running a substantial budget surplus.
3. The Court of Lancaster University recently voted against the increases.
4. The average on-campus rent advertised for 2015/16 is approx. £109 per week for a single room in shared accommodation.
5. This let is equivalent to 76% of the maximum student maintenance loan, leaving some students dependant on their parents or part-time jobs to meet their basic living costs.
6. The local housing allowance rate for a single bedroom in a shared house is approx. £55 per week, almost half the average rent on campus.

This council believes:

1. Students make an important contribution to the prosperity of Lancaster and the district.
2. That above inflation increases in rent and fees will cause some students considerable financial hardship.
3. That the financial wellbeing of students is inextricably linked to the economic wellbeing of the district.
4. That in the spirit of the university's motto – 'truth lies open to all' – education at Lancaster University should be accessible for everyone.

This council resolves:

To write to the Vice Chancellor of Lancaster University, expressing serious concern regarding the proposed fee and rent increases, and ask what the University is doing to ensure students from unprivileged backgrounds are able to afford their studies.

An officer briefing note is attached.

OTHER BUSINESS

16. **TERM OF OFFICE OF THE LEADER** (Pages 87 - 89)

To consider the report of the Monitoring Officer.

17. **CONSTITUTION: APPEALS COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE** (Pages 90 - 92)

To consider the report of the Monitoring Officer.

18. **APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR'S SERGEANT** (Pages 93 - 94)

To consider the report of the Chief Officer (Governance).

19. **QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 13.2**

To receive questions in accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rules 13.2 and 13.4 which require a Member to give at least 3 working days' notice, in writing, of the question to the Chief Executive.



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Chief Executive

Town Hall,
Dalton Square,
LANCASTER,
LA1 1PJ

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