



Andrew Hunkin
Strategic Director (Corporate)
Babergh District Council
Corks Lane, Hadleigh, Ipswich IP7 6SJ

DX NO: 85055 Exchange: Babergh
Website: www.babergh.gov.uk

TO: THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

17 February 2014

PLEASE NOTE TIME OF MEETING AND CHANGE FROM USUAL DAY

Dear Sir/Madam

A Meeting of the Babergh District Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Corks Lane, Hadleigh on **Tuesday, 25 February 2014 at 5.30 p.m.**

For those wishing to attend, prayers will be said at 5.25 p.m. prior to the commencement of the Council meeting.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Hunkin
Strategic Director (Corporate)

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Babergh District Council
Council Offices, Corks Lane, Hadleigh, Ipswich, IP7 6SJ
Telephone (01473) 822801
Facsimile (01473) 825742
Minicom (01473) 825878
DX 85055 Babergh
www.babergh.gov.uk

Strategic Director (Corporate): Andrew Hunkin
Head of Corporate Organisation: Peter Quirk, **Head of Corporate Resources:** Katherine Steel
Chief Finance Officers (S151): Katherine Steel (Mid Suffolk), Barry Hunter (Babergh), **Monitoring Officer:** Esther Thornton

PART I1 MINUTES

To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on [17 December 2013](#) (copy attached) as a correct record.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members to declare any interests as appropriate in respect of items to be considered at this meeting.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence.

4 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Paper N113](#)

In addition to any announcements made at the meeting, please see Paper N113 attached, detailing events attended by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

5 TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF PETITIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 13

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 13, the Chief Executive will report the receipt of the following petition. There can be no debate or comment upon these matters at the Council meeting.

Planning Application No. B/13/01519/ROC – Application under Section 73 of Town and Country Planning Act (1990) to vary conditions 8 and 9: reduce the potential number of Friday events from 52 to 27 per calendar year (Condition 8) and increase number of weekend events from 25 to 50 per calendar year (Condition 9) – Wherstead Park, The Street, Wherstead

Petition signed by approximately 25 residents of Babergh objecting to the proposal. The petition will be reported to the meeting of the Planning Committee on 19 February 2014 and will be taken into account when the application is determined at a future meeting of the Committee.

6 RECORDED VOTES AT BUDGET MEETINGS – THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (STANDING ORDERS) (ENGLAND) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2014

The Strategic Director (Corporate) to report that the Government has made Regulations coming into force on 25 February 2014 which make it mandatory for Councils, as soon as is practicable after the Regulations come into force, to amend their standing orders so as to include provisions requiring recorded votes on budget and council tax matters in the interests of 'transparency and democratic accountability'.

The necessary amendments to both Councils' Procedure Rules will be made as part of the current review of their Constitutions.

In the meantime, the Government's expectation is that all Councils will implement at their Budget meetings this year the practice of recording votes on any decision relating to the budget or council tax. In addition to substantive motions agreeing the budget, setting council taxes or issuing precepts, this practice will be applied to any amendments proposed at the meeting relating to budget decisions.

Members are therefore asked to pass the following resolution ahead of the debate on Item 8 of this agenda.

That, notwithstanding Council Procedure Rule No 22.5, the names for and against any motion or amendment or abstention from voting on any decision relating to the budget or council tax shall be taken down in writing and entered into the minutes of the meeting.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(a) Treasury Management Strategy 2014/15 (Babergh Audit Committee – Minute No 6 and Strategy Committee 13 February 2014)

[Paper
N102R](#)

The Strategy Committee accepted the recommendations of the Babergh Audit Committee following its consideration of Paper N102.

Paper N102R (attached) incorporates minor amendments identified by the Strategy Committee during its discussion.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

- (1) **That the key factors and information relating to and affecting treasury management activities set out in Appendices A and B to Paper N102R be noted.**
- (2) **That the following be approved:**
 - (a) **The Treasury Management Policy Statement set out in Appendix C to Paper N102R.**
 - (b) **The Draft Treasury Management Strategy for 2014/15, incorporating the proposed changes referred to in paragraphs 8.16 and 8.17 of Paper N102R and including the Annual Investment Strategy as set out in Appendix D to Paper N102R.**
 - (c) **The Prudential Indicators and MRP Statement set out in Appendices F and G to Paper N102R.**

- (3) That Santander UK Plc be included on the counterparty list (for short-term lending only).
- (4) That it be noted that actual borrowing for the period 2014/15 to 2016/17 and the impact on future revenue budgets will be dependent on the development of business cases for capital/project investment to date and the income generated by these.

(b) Babergh Core Strategy and Policies (2011-2031) – Adoption (Strategy Committee 13 February 2014)

[Paper N108](#)

The Strategy Committee considered Paper N108 and agreed recommendations (1) and (2) for the adoption of the Core Strategy, as set out below. The Committee also agreed to authorise the Corporate Manager – Spatial Planning Policy to make typographical and other minor amendments to the Core Strategy and Policies document (recommendation (3) below).

Members are asked to note that the link in Paper N108 (referred to in Appendix A) is to a revised version of the document which incorporates minor corrections already identified by the Corporate Manager.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

- (1) That the Inspector's Report be accepted and the Babergh Core Strategy and Policies (2011-2031) be adopted, as per the conclusions of the Inspector's Report, incorporating the proposed changes required for soundness (Main Modifications).
- (2) That this new Plan document be introduced and implemented for all operational planning purposes (including determining planning applications) with immediate effect following the Council decision on 25 February 2014 and subject to any amendments made under the delegation referred to in (3) below.
- (3) That the Corporate Manager – Spatial Planning Policy be authorised to make such typographical corrections and other minor amendments to the Core Strategy and Policies document as he considers necessary, prior to publication of the final document.

8 FINANCIAL OUTLOOK INCLUDING THE 2014/15 GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGETS AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY

[Paper N114](#)

Paper N114 (Joint report from the Heads of Corporate Resources and Housing) attached.

The Strategy Committee at its meeting on 13 February considered the Draft Budgets and Financial Outlook for 2014/15, following which amendments identified at the meeting were addressed and incorporated in Paper N114, together with the standard resolutions to be passed by the Council in relation to the Budget and Council Tax setting.

The Committee also considered the following recommendations from the Joint Scrutiny Committee:-

- (1) That in view of increasing financial risks and uncertainties, consideration be given to having a higher General Fund working balance / reserve and a clear policy in relation to this.
- (2) That the community grants budget be increased in 2014/15 to reflect the fact that this has not been increased over recent years.

Strategy Committee did not accept the recommendations as put forward, but agreed to make revised recommendations, as set out below:-

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

- (1) That in view of increasing financial risks and uncertainties, consideration be given to reserves policy as part of the review of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.**
- (2) That the community grants budget be reviewed as part of the priority based budgeting exercise which will review all our spend and assess how it contributes towards our priorities.**

9 JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REPORT

[Paper N115](#)

Paper N115 attached.

10 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Chairmen of Committees to answer any questions from the public of which notice has been given no later than midday two working days before the day of the meeting in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 14.

ITEM	BUSINESS
11	<u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS</u> The Chairman of the Council and the Chairmen of Committees and Sub-Committees to answer any questions on any matters in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affect the District and which fall within the terms of reference of that Committee or Sub-Committee of which due notice has been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 15.4 (a) and (b).
12	<u>PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2014/15</u> Report by the Head of Corporate Organisation attached.

[Paper N116](#)

For further information on any of the Part 1 items listed above, please contact Linda Sheppard on 01473 826610 or via email at committee.services@babergh.gov.uk