



Notice of the next Council Meeting

Members of the Public and the Press are invited to attend all Council Meetings
(Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960)

Dear Councillors,

You are hereby summoned to attend the following meeting:

Meeting of... Extraordinary Full Council Meeting

Place... Auditorium, Town Hall

Date... Thursday, February 1, 2024

Time... 19:00

Councillors will be discussing all the items listed overleaf on the Agenda.

Yours faithfully

David Mears

David Mears FdA FSLCC

Town Clerk

26 January 2024

19.00 (Prior to the start of the meeting)

Questions and comments from members of the public

This provides an opportunity for members of the public (who are not usually permitted to speak during the meeting except by special invitation of the Chairman) to participate before the start of the meeting by asking questions, raising concerns, or making comments on matters affecting Bridgwater. No decision can be taken during this session¹, but the Chairman may decide to refer any matters raised for further consideration.

¹N.B Councils cannot lawfully decide items of business that is not specified in the summons/agenda (LGA1972 Sch 12, paras 10(2)(b) and Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119).

Policing in Bridgwater

A representative from Bridgwater's Police Team (if present) are invited to provide updates and discuss issues in Bridgwater.

Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, any members of the public are allowed to take photographs, film, and audio record the proceedings and report on all public meetings (including on social media). No prior notification is needed but it would be helpful to let the office know of any plans to film or record so that any necessary arrangements can be made to provide reasonable facilities to report on meetings. This permission does not extend to private meetings or parts of meetings which are not open to the public. All recording and photography equipment should be taken away if a public meeting moves into a session which is not open to the Public.

If you are recording the meeting, you are asked to act in a reasonable manner and not disrupt the conduct of meetings, for example by using intrusive lighting, flash photography or asking people to repeat statements for the benefit of the recording. You may not make an oral commentary during the meeting. The Chairman has the power to control public recording and/or reporting so it does not disrupt the meeting. Recording must be clearly visible to anyone at the meeting

A G E N D A

TC2024/1 - To receive Apologies for Absence

TC2024/2 - Declarations of interests

Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

TC2024/3 - To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meetings held on Thursday 7 December 2023, (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))

TC2024/4 - Mayor Announcements

TC2024/5 - To receive a report from the Town Council Leader Cllr Smedley to update members on matters of interest (N.B no decisions can be taken(1))

TC2024/6 - To receive Portfolio Holders reports and consider recommendations

TC2024/7 - To receive Outside Bodies Reports

TC2024/8 - To Note the Action List

TC2024/9 - Finance - to note the year-to-date budget as of 8th January 2024

TC2024/10 - Finance – to note the accounts for payments & income received for December 2023

TC2024/11 - To note the direction of travel for the draft budget preparation and devolution

To receive the report regarding the transfer of the package of devolution from Somerset Council and agree to the recommendations contained therein.

TC2024/12 - To ratify the Town Clerk's decision that the Council leases a unit at Axe Road to house the park and open spaces team

TC2024/13 - Staff Evaluation Report

To receive and approve staff salary figures for existing posts and new posts as evaluated and recommended by independent consultants, Council HR Governance and Support.

Advance notice:

Adoption will be done on block and should councillors wish to discuss individual staff pay then members of the press and public will need to be excluded in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

TC2024/14 - Staff allowance policy -

to adopt the attached policy.

TC2024/15 - Members Allowance Scheme

To receive the independent parish remuneration panel's report and recommendations concerning members allowances for Bridgwater Town Council elected members.
Councillors to resolve whether to adopt a Members Allowance Scheme or not.

TC2024/16 - To note the Council's response to the SRA Flood Risk Strategy Consultation**TC2024/17 - To note the Date of the Next Meeting**

Thursday 14th March 2024

End of Agenda

CIRCULATION

Brian Smedley, Dave Loveridge, Diogo Rodrigues, Gill Slocombe, Irena Hubble, Jacqui Solomon, Kathy Pearce, Leigh Redman, Liz Leavy, Liz Marsh, Mick Lerry, Richard Morgan, Suria Aujla, Tim Mander, Tony Heywood