

Shaftesbury Town Council

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To: All Town Councillors For Information: Dorset Council Councillors, Members of the Public & Press

AGENDA

FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

You are summoned to a meeting of the council for the transaction of the business shown on the agenda below. To be held at **7 pm on Tuesday, 18th July 2023** in the **Council Chamber, Shaftesbury Town Hall**. The meeting will also be hosted online. Public, press and non-committee members, join on your computer or mobile app using <u>Microsoft Teams</u>.

Mrs Brie Logan Town Clerk, 12th July 2023



Public Participation: The Chairman will invite members of the public to present their questions, statements or petitions. The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed twenty minutes. A member of the public shall not speak for more than three minutes.

Members are reminded of their duty under the <u>Code of Conduct</u>, <u>Scheme of Delegation</u> and <u>Standing Orders</u>. The Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, religion, belief or disability), Crime & Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights. Disabled access is available.

All in attendance should be aware that filming, recording, photography or otherwise may occur during the meeting.

The 7 principles of public life

Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty and Leadership (Committee on Standards in Public Life, 1995)

- 1. <u>Apologies To receive and consider for acceptance</u>
- 2. <u>To receive any Declarations of Interests and Requests for Dispensation</u>
- Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 20th June 2023 and the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held on 3rd July 2023
- 4. To receive a report for information to Full Council
- 5. To receive and note minutes of and/or to determine recommendations by committees
- 6. <u>To approve payments and receive financial reports</u>
- 7. To consider awarding community grants for 2023-2024
- 8. <u>To consider awarding a Service Level Agreement to the Citizens Advice Bureau</u>
- 9. To consider the appointment of a new Health & Safety provider
- 10. To consider a Member's Motion To engage a Planning Consultant to generate a report to support a Section 73 application by Persimmon Homes for them to action a Formal Removal of the planning condition to implement a 'Bus Gate' traffic restriction at Mampitts Lane in East Shaftesbury
- 11. To consider the use of the 'bcc' functionality when sending emails to multiple recipients
- 12. <u>Clerk's Report including correspondence and progress report on Full Council business</u>
- 13. Confidential session
 - 13.1 To receive an update on the Town Council Maces
 - 13.2 To re-consider the role of Mace Bearer in light of new information

Agenda Item No. 1

Apologies – To receive and consider for acceptance

The Council (including committees) should approve (or not) the reason for apologies given by absent councillors. If a council member has not attended a meeting of the council (or its committees) or has not tendered apologies which have been accepted by the council (or committee), for six consecutive months, they are disqualified.

Apologies received from Councillor Proctor.

Agenda Item No. 2 To receive any Declarations of Interests and Requests for Dispensation

Members and Officers are reminded of their obligations to declare interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct – adopted in July 2021. The Clerk will report any dispensation requests received. Where a matter arises at a meeting which relates to a councillor's interest, the councillor has the responsibility of declaring that interest in accordance with the adopted code of conduct. (Shaftesbury Town Council Code of Conduct, 2019)

Agenda Item No. 3

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 20th June 2023 and the Extraordinary Full Council meeting on 3rd July 2023

When the meeting is approving the draft minutes of a previous meeting as an accurate record, the only issue for the meeting is whether the minutes accurately record the proceedings of the meeting and the resolutions made at them It is irrelevant if the chairman or other councillors were not present at the meeting to which the draft minutes relate.

If it is necessary for the draft minutes of the previous meeting to be corrected because of inaccuracies, then the amendments to the draft minutes must be approved by resolution. (Tharmarajah, 2013, p. 154).

Recommendation

Confirm the accuracy of the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on $\frac{20^{\text{th}} \text{ June 2023}}{2023}$ and the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held on $\frac{3^{\text{rd}} \text{ July 2023}}{2023}$.

Agenda Item No. 4

To receive a report for information to Full Council

Civic Report

Councillors are invited to provide a report at this point.

Dorset Council Reports

Dorset Councillors are invited to provide a report at this point.

Other Reports

None

Local Organisation Reports

Local Organisation representatives invited to provide a report at this point.

Recommendation

That the reports are received, and any points of note are identified for future meetings of the Council or its committees or for action by officers of the Council.

Agenda Item No. 5 To receive and note minutes of and/or to determine recommendations by committees

Reports provided within this item are to be received, they provide updates on decisions already taken by the Committee(s) and actions taken under the Scheme of Delegation (where not previously reported) that need to be resolved.

Receive and note minutes of and/or to determine recommendations by committees.

When a council delegates its responsibilities to a committee, sub-committee, officer or another local authority, they are acting for and on behalf of the council. The statutory authority for a delegation is found in Local government Act, 1972 s.101. (NALC, 2018)

Minutes for the Planning and Highways committee are provided for information using the hyperlinks below and any recommendations for Full Council to consider are noted.

Draft minutes from the Planning and Highways committee meeting on <u>4th July 2023</u>.

Ref	Recommendation	The Council are requested to resolve:
P&H	No recommendations arising from the July meeting that need a Full Council resolution.	
SSAC	No formal meeting this month.	

Recommendation

That the minutes are received and noted.

To approve payments and receive financial reports

Summary

The Council should have a clear understanding of the Council's financial position throughout the year. Every local council must ensure that it has a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of its functions.

The following summaries are for the committee to receive and note:

Balance Sheet Detailed Income and Expenditure by budget heading (Q1) List of payments Q1 budget review to follow.

If any councillor would like to see any additional information, please let the office team know and this will be arranged.

Legal Implications

Every local authority shall make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs and shall secure that one of their officers has responsibility for the administration of those affairs. *Local Government Act 1972 s.151*

Recommendation

That the Council receives and notes the income and expenditure records, general reserves balance and resolves on the payments list for this month and raises any queries it may have.

Reason for Recommendation

Members should be kept up to date with the council's accounts to ensure that there are sufficient funds to meet commitments.

To consider awarding community grants for 2023-2024

Background

A <u>table of grants received</u> has been produced to show all information in one document. The table shows the value and purpose of each application, and/ or 'grant in kind', is referenced.

<u>Grants</u>

Out of the 23 applications received, ten were not compliant with the policy. The table of applications includes columns (G & H) which shows compliance/ non-compliance with policy. Column I shows the revised figures which are subsequently aligned with the policy.

The revised value of grant applications submitted that are compliant with policy is £21,910.

The Grant Awarding Policy can be accessed via the appendix below.

A link is provided for each application in the appendix section. There is also a hard copy file if any members want to come to the office to review the information in advance of the Full Council meeting.

<u>Costs</u>

The value of grant applications (as submitted) is £26,582.49 revised to £21,910 (re compliance to policy).

The budget for grants and Service Level Agreements is set out in the table below.

Expenditure Detail (Cost Centre 303 Grants and SLA)	Current Annual Budget
4350 Community Grants	20,000
4352 Service Level Agreements	4,000
Cost Centre 303 Net Expenditure	24,000

Recommendation

That the Council considers providing grants to local organisations in accordance with its grants awarding policy not exceeding the total accounting centre budget of £24,000 and that the Town Clerk be authorised to take all such steps as she considers necessary to comply with the resolution.

<u>Appendix</u>

Grant Awarding Policy

Note: Councillors will receive the individual grant applications separately. These are not in the public domain due to some financial information not being publicly available.

To consider awarding a Service Level Agreement to the Citizens Advice Bureau

Background

The Service Level Agreement (SLA) for 2022/23 with the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) runs in line with the Town Council's financial year and therefore the current SLA expired in March 2023.

Further Information

The CAB are keen for the continued support from STC and have requested for a new SLA for 2023/24, with an increase of £1,000, making the total value of the SLA £5,000.

Information received from the CAB:

We would like to request an extension of our Service Level Agreement with an increase to £5,000 for the financial year 2023/24. As you are no doubt aware, we are facing unprecedented demand from local residents for our help as they face the long-term impact of the COVID pandemic and the ongoing Cost of Living crisis. Many people in the local area are finding it hard to survive on their limited incomes and struggling to pay their rents, keep their homes warm and put food on the table.

Many of these individuals are accessing our service by phone or email and, although stretched, we are just managing to cope with the rise in demand by increasing our North Dorset advice team. We have now moved to a post-Covid hybrid model where advisers remotely work from home or come into the office. This is more accessible for members of our team and increases our capacity but does require more supervision and management time .

In 2022-23, we helped 441 clients from Shaftesbury Town ward, an increase of **64%** on the clients we helped in 2021-22. Throughout the year, we have maintained our outreach one day a week at Shaftesbury Library. At this point, we do not intend to increase the outreach hours at the library.

A Draft SLA has been prepared.

Financial Information

The SLA budget for 2023/24 has been set at £4000.

Recommendation

Councillors are requested to consider the information and if they wish to award the SLA to the Citizens Advice Bureau at £5,000pa for 2023/24.

To consider the appointment of a new Health & Safety provider

Background

The Town Council has been with its current Health & Safety provider for the last five years. The service was satisfactory, however at times it was very generic and not tailored to a local council. Notice on the current contract has been given, which runs out in September 2023.

Information

Three Health & Safety consultants have been contacted, with two of the three having a deeper understanding of local councils.

The current H&S provider offered one visit pa, with unlimited email and telephone support and guidance at a cost of £176 per month.

<u>Quotes</u>

Company A

Details	Length of	Total Cost
	contract	
• assign a highly-qualified field-based, DBS-checked H&S Consultant		
to visit premises	5 year contract	2,771pa + VAT
 assign our office-based H&S Consultants to give 	with 1 visit per	
additional day-to-day telephone and email support	annum	Equates to
 initial visit to understand organisation 		£230.92 per
• one visit a year thereafter - an annual audit of your ongoing health		month)
and safety compliance		
 bespoke Health & Safety Management System, to include a 		
detailed H&S Policy and Employee Handbook and all the necessary		
arrangements to ensure its effective implementation		
General Risk Assessment		
Practical Guidance		
Health & Safety Software		
Regular news and topic specific webinars / webcasts		
 Serious accident and emergency support 		
Online Training		

<u>Company B</u>

Details	Length of	Total Cost
	contract	
Review and audit current Health and Safety systems	Option 1	£2,100pa + VAT
Install a new H&S Management system & create an action plan	5 year contract	Equates to £175
Ongoing support through visits and 24/7 advice line	with 4 visits	per month
Full support dealing with accidents and emergencies	per annum	
Fee for Intervention cover	(5 in year 1)	
Classroom training if required and sufficient visits		
Templated Risk Assessments & Toolbox talks	Option 2	£1320pa + VAT
• The fees are fixed over the chosen term, even if employee	5 year contract	Equates to
numbers increase year on year	with 2 visits	£110/month
	per annum	
	(3 in year 1)	

 will charge £1.00 per month until your existing agreement ends, helping for a seamless transition from your existing provider(s). At the end of the term, no notice of termination is required and there is no auto renewal. 	Option 3 3 year contract with 4 visits per annum (5 in year 1)	£2,400pa + VAT Equates to £200 per month
	Option 4 3 year contract with 2 visits per annum (3 in year 1)	£1,680pa +VAT Equates to £140 per month

Company C

Details	Length of	Total Cost
	contract	
Competent Person: a named representative.		
 Safety, health and environmental updates provided to your nominated person (The Council to nominate a person to act as liaison with Company C who will act as the main point of contact with the Council). Dedicated health and safety consultant Unlimited email support provided to your nominated person on Council safety, health and environmental issues. Telephone access to your Company C competent person for the Council's nominated person. Dedicated 24 / 7 Health and Safety support and advice Inspection and audit days as detailed above. Discount on services and training courses, promoted by Company C outside of the retainer contract 10%. Act as the Councils legally required Competent Person Bi-annual visits to carry out a general Risk Assessment Provide a prioritised Risk Management report and action plan Review of individual risk assessments annually Provision of correspondence, forms and on-line resources for documents and practical guides Regular legislation updates and monitoring of legal compliance 	2 years with 2 visits per annum	£2,500 + VAT + travel expenses 45p/mile one off cost + £5,400per annum + VAT

Recommendation

Councillors are requested to consider the information provided. It is recommended that STC engages the services of Contractor B, Option 4 at a total cost of £1,680 pa taking funds from budget line 4341 / 302 Legal & Professional.

To consider a Member's Motion - To engage a Planning Consultant to generate a report to support a Section 73 application by Persimmon Homes for them to action a Formal Removal of the planning condition to implement a 'Bus Gate' traffic restriction at Mampitts Lane in East Shaftesbury

Background

At the Full Council meeting on 21st March 2023 **RESOLVED** to write to Dorset Council, requesting that either:

- 1. The bus gate is moved from its current proposed installation site to the end of Pound Lane, as it meets Mampitts Road, keeping Mampitts Road as an additional access route for The Maltings.
- 2. The condition is rescinded and instead traffic calming measures are installed at the entrance to/ on Pound Lane.
- 3. The condition is rescinded and a No Entry sign is installed at the entrance to Pound Lane facing Mampitts Road, excepting buses and cyclists.

<u>A letter was sent to Dorset Council</u> outlining the above resolution. This is the <u>response received from</u> <u>Dorset Council</u>.

Title of Motion	To engage a Planning Consultant to generate a report to support a Section 73 application by Persimmon Homes for them to action a Formal Removal of the planning condition to implement a 'Bus Gate' traffic restriction at Mampitts Lane in East Shaftesbury
Proposed by	Cllr Peter Yeo
Seconded by*	Cllr Karen Tippins
Proposed Resolution 1	Sub-Contract work to STC's preferred Planning Consultant to provide evidence to assisting Persimmon Homes in the production and completion of the Section 73 application to formally remove the planning 'condition' for the implementation of the 'Bus Gate' traffic restriction at Mampitts Lane, East Shaftesbury.

Information

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	1.	A petition of over 300 signatures were submitted to Dorset Council from residents to stop the implementation of the 'Bus Gate' traffic restriction. This should form part of the evidence for Persimmon.
	2.	The Planning Consultants have previously been engaged by STC beforehand regarding the lack of 'spine road' and northern link exit to Wincombe Lane. This should form part of the Section 73 evidence for Persimmon Homes.
	3.	Statement from Persimmon Homes – June 2023:
Background (provided by the proposer)		The bus gate was a condition on the planning permission and the Council (Dorset Council) is correct that a s73 application would be required in order to formally remove the requirement for a bus gate. Persimmon would be the party that would need to submit this. I am of the opinion that any such application is likely to be a protracted determination process given the significant stakeholder interest. In addition, Persimmon believes it would be difficult to legitimately justify, in planning terms, the removal of the bus gate given it is part of a decision approved by the Planning Inspectorate. I am not convinced that 'unreasonableness' could be argued as a legitimate reason given its imposition by the Planning Inspectorate. Persimmon is intent on installing the bus gate as soon as possible following the legal process of the Traffic Regulation Order, should it be approved by Dorset Council.
		This is a contentious issue; there are stakeholders who wish for the bus gate to be installed, and some that do not. Some of which are Persimmon's customers who bought houses in the knowledge that a bus gate was to be installed to restrict vehicular access close to their property. Persimmon could be open to private legal challenge by property owners should it decide not to install the bus gate. Persimmon's intention is to implement the planning permission fully
		and install the bus gate and wishes to remain impartial unless there is a material reason not to do so. If, however, there is general consensus among the local residents as a whole to remove the bus gate then Persimmon may be persuaded to investigate the submission of an application to remove the bus gate requirement. I am, however, not sure how this would be ascertained and proven (to) both Persimmon and the Council's (Dorset Council's) satisfaction.

	In 2021 Shaftesbury Town Council commissioned a <u>Spine Road report</u> (and within this report reference was made to the Bus Gate which is another planning condition linked to Eastern development in Shaftesbury).
	The Bus Gate is a specific requirement of an appeal decision to grant approval for development. A subsequent application to discharge the relevant condition (no. 33) was submitted by the developer to the Local Planning Authority (ref. 2/2017/1489/DOC) and this was confirmed as being discharged on 3 rd May 2018.
	In March 2023, following a Shaftesbury Town Council resolution, a request was submitted to Dorset Council based on three potential alternative options to move it from its current proposed location;
	a) The bus gate is moved from its current proposed installation site to the end of Pound Lane, as it meets Mampitts Road, keeping Mampitts Road as an additional access route for The Maltings.
	b) The condition is rescinded and instead traffic calming measures are
	installed at the entrance to/ on Pound Lane.c) The condition is rescinded and a No Entry sign is installed at the entrance
	to Pound Lane facing Mampitts Road, excepting buses and cyclists.
	A <u>response</u> from Dorset Council was received in May 2023.
Background (provided by the Proper Officer)	The residents on the north side of the Bus Gate (Mampitts Lane vicinity) oppose it and those residents on the other side (Pound Lane) near the bus gate want the bus gate with some who bought houses with the knowledge that a bus gate was to be installed to restrict vehicular access close to their property.
	Having made an enquiry with a representative at TOR, it was suggested it may be more appropriate to commission an up-to-date review by a transport consultant. This review, in the form of a report would need to detail the technical merit of the bus gate versus removing it versus an alternative solution(s). The strength of argument put forward against the bus gate condition may depend on the alternative merit of options that were previously submitted to Dorset Council, as detailed above, <u>or</u> something else.
	A condition can be removed if it is proven that it is:
	 Not necessary, or Not enforceable, or Not reasonable (for example it doesn't make sense and is not fair)
	So, for an application to be successful it would need to be proven that there is no longer a need for the bus gate or that the condition is unreasonable.
	Taking this into account the purpose of the report would need to identify the optimum transport solution and why this makes more sense and is more reasonable than the bus gate technical solution that was proposed.
	This report should be as objective as possible, even if the expert analysis concludes that a bus gate is still a valid option.

Financial implication (anticipated by the proposer)	\pounds 3,000 - \pounds 5,000 initially from General Reserve – application to remove Section 73 – using Anti 'Bus Gate' Petition plus witness statement/evidence supplied by Planning Consultant – O'Rouke and maybe the same Planning Barrister used for Enmore Court
Financial implications (anticipated by the Proper Officer)	Funds would need to be drawn from Professional and Legal fees – budget line 4341 noting year to date spend is £5,136 versus budget of £18,000.
Legal implications	To be determined by a Planning Consultant
Proposer 's signature	CUr P Yeo - 05 Jul 2023
Seconder's signature	CUr K Tippins - 05 Jul 2023

To consider the use of the 'bcc' functionality when sending emails to multiple recipients

Background

The 'Bcc' functionality is being used when sending emails to numerous recipients, with the recipient being advised which other groups of users are blind carbon copied in. This has proven to be an efficient use of email functionality.

Information

STC's current <u>Internet, Email and Phone policy</u> does not include anything on the use of the 'Bcc' functionality.

Using 'Bcc' prevents an accidental 'Reply All'. It also reduces the amount of email traffic and members receiving unnecessary volume of emails.

Note: Depending on who the recipients are 'Bcc' will still be applicable in order to be compliant with GDPR.

Recommendation

Members are asked to agree an update to the Internet, Email and Phone policy to include the use of 'Bcc' as an option when emailing all councillors.

Clerks Report including correspondence and progress report on Full Council business

Report Content/Detail

Reports provided within this item are to be received, they provide updates on decisions already taken by the Council and actions taken under the Scheme of Delegation (where not previously reported) that need to be resolved.

12.1 Clerk's Report

Lido 2023 – The income data is now being compiled on a weekly basis and this information tracks the season performance up to and including 11th July. The YTD income is tracking at +195% on last year, boosted by the sales of season tickets and the unseasonably hot weather in June as shown on the graph which can be accessed via the link.

<u>Coppice Street Car Park</u> - Phase 1 – the SSE works to relocate the electric meter from the WC block to the car park machine starts on 26th July. Phase 2 – demolition of the WC block and resurfacing works start on a date TBC.

<u>The Mound – Historic England</u> response (excerpt) from Historic England - *The path needs to be part of a wider programme of management on the site to control encroaching scrub and encourage an unbroken grass sward over the site – given the underlying geology of the site this is likely to be of both archaeological and ecological benefit. I'm sure you will be able to remind me, but I think this is one of the sites that I'd produced an outline of the management requirements for a proposed management agreement, and I'm happy to discuss this to create a forward work plan that might also incorporate better access onto the mound in the form of a floating stair.*

This update is for information only – a report will be presented for consideration by STC in the near future.

Town Hall – The architect contract has been signed by STC and is awaiting countersignature by PWCR.

Town Hall – As part of the roof renovation works an <u>asbestos refurbishment survey</u> and <u>asbestos</u> <u>management survey</u> were carried out. These documents are for information only and have been published on Contracts Finder as art of the tender process.

<u>Skate Park Works</u> - The works outlined and agreed at the April Full Council meeting have now been completed, which have transformed the facility. Whilst overall some issues have successfully been addressed, there remain 'areas' that need to be highlighted. These works are an important step in continued efforts to upkeep/maintain the facility. Quotes are currently being sought and these will be presented to council for consideration in August.

<u>Park Walk</u> – <u>The Secretary of State</u> has given scheduled monument consent for the repair works to the tarmac on Park Walk. Officers will now be seeking quotes for the works and this information will be presented to STC for consideration.

12.2 Delegated Decisions for Information (within the Clerk's delegated spend)

Delegated Decision	Comments	Cost	Budget
Tree Works	Quote - Tree work to remove dead cotoneaster and elms on Jubilee steps (G11 on Risk Assessment)	£795 + VAT	4256 Treework
Re-valuation of STC buildings	As part of the insurance schedule for this year it was recommended an up to date valuation on the following assets was undertaken <u>Town Hall</u> , <u>Barton Hill Swimming Pool (Lido</u>) and <u>Bell Street Convenience</u>	£378 + VAT	4330 Insurance
Town Hall Bat survey	A <u>preliminary bat roost survey</u> needs to be undertaken as part of the Town Hall works. The survey is scheduled for 14 th July. Note these costs are for the assessment – if evidence of roosting is found then further survey work will need to be undertaken.	£550	4905 EMR Town Hall
OWL recording device	The recording of STC meetings were of poor visual and sound quality. The new device will ensure that future meetings are live streamed and recorded to a more professional standard.	£802.97	4416 IT equipment
Laptop	An additional device was purchased to give each member of staff, including agency staff, their own device. Note: Line 4416 IT equipment is overspent - Budget £0 versus YTD spend £1,361.97	£559	4416 IT equipment

Recommendation

That the reports are received and noted and any actions arising identified for future meetings of the Council or its Committees and to **resolve** on any matters as referenced above

12.3 Other Matters to resolve

No	Subject	Description	Cost		
12.3.1	Dorset	The current Order expires on 31 December 2023. From 1 January 2024	£O		
	Council	we will need to either extend the current Order (if unamended) or			
	consultation	provide a new Order if changes are required. A public consultation is			
	on a Dog	required for either option. The public consultation will run from 14			
	related	June 2023 until 25 August 2023 and can be accessed on the Dorset			
	Public Space	Council website. Results will be published online and will guide			
	Protection	councillors' decision making for the PSPO relating to dog control. It			
	Order	would be much appreciated if you could give 15-20 minutes of your			
	(PSPO)	time, to complete the survey.			
	Recommendation: Councillors should consider if the wish to respond to this consultation as a				
	corporate bo	orate body.			
12.3.2	Park Walk	In April 2023 STC RESOLVED to proceed with Option 2 and to	Additional		
	shelter	appoint AG Master builder to undertake the renovation of the Shelter	£465		
	renovation	at a cost of £4,400. During the works it was evident that additional			
		work was required. The extras included 2 extra man days stripping			
		and repairing and stabilising the wooden frames as these were held			
		together with a ton of mastic and painted over, plus extra materials			
		have been added at cost price.			
		The revised invoice has been submitted for payment.			
	Recommenda	ation: Councillors approve the unavoidable additional costs associated w	ith the		
	renovation of the shelter.				

To consider entering into confidential session (1) to receive an update on the Town Council Maces and (2) to re-consider the role of Mace Bearer in light of new information

<u>Summary</u>

A meeting of a council must be open to the public and the press. They can be excluded only by a resolution if publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business or for some other reason stated in the resolution and arising out of the business to be transacted. The power to exclude is not exercisable generally but only for a particular occasion. (Public Bodies [Admission to meetings] Act, 1960). These rules apply equally to committees of the council. (Local Government Act, 1972 s.100).

The confidential reports relating to items 1 and 2 will be circulated to members separately.

Legal Authority and Implication

A body may, by resolution, exclude the public from a meeting (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings; and where such a resolution is passed, this Act shall not require the meeting to be open to the public during proceedings to which the resolution applies" (Public Bodies [Admission to meetings] Act, 1960)

Recommendation

That the public be excluded during the discussion of the remaining agenda items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of confidential information and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

The Council RESOLVES to accept the recommendations as outlined in the confidential reports.