

BOLTON COUNCIL

Members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Bolton on Wednesday next, 16th April, 2014 at 7.00pm when the following business is proposed to be transacted: -

1. Vote of Thanks to the Mayor and Mayoress

Motion to be moved by Councillor M. Connell.

2. Minutes

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Council held on 26th February, 2014 (Section A).

3. Constitution

Motion to be moved by the Leader of the Council:-

That the quarterly report on Executive decisions made under the special urgency provisions of the Access to Information Regulations be noted.

4. Recommendations to Council

Motion to be moved by Councillor Peel:-

That the Sex Establishment Policy, as circulated to members, together with the adoption of the provisions of Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous

Provisions) Act 1982 as amended by Section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009, be approved with effect from 1st August, 2014.

5. Changes in Committee Membership and Appointments to Other Bodies

6. Questions under Standing Order No. 9(a)

7. Questions under Standing Order No. 9(c)

8. Committee Proceedings

To approve the proceedings of the following Committees:-

Planning Committee (See Section B)

Licensing and Environmental Regulations Committee
(See Section C)

9. Scrutiny Committees

To receive and consider the proceedings of the undermentioned Scrutiny Committees:-

Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee (See Section D) (to follow)

Environmental Services Scrutiny Committee (See Section E) (to follow)

Children's Services and Culture Scrutiny Committee
(See Section F) (to follow)

Health Overview and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee (See Section G) (submitted for information only with respect to Health Overview) (enclosed)

10. Items referred to Council from Scrutiny Committees

To consider any motions referred to Council by a Scrutiny Committee.

11. Area Forums

To receive and consider the proceedings of the under mentioned Area Forums:-

Astley Bridge Area Forum

Bradshaw Area Forum

Brightmet Area Forum

Bromley Cross Area Forum

Crompton Area Forum

Farnworth Area Forum

Great Lever Area Forum

Halliwel Area Forum

Harper Green Area Forum

Heaton and Lostock Area Forum

Hulton Area Forum

Kearsley Area Forum

Little Lever and Darcy Lever Area Forum

Rumworth Area Forum

Smithills Area Forum

Tonge with the Haulgh Area Forum

Two Towns Area Forum

Westhoughton with Chew Moor

12. Motions under Standing Order No. 4

(a) Motion to be moved by Councillor Dean:-

That this Council, via the office of the Director of Children Services, would like to encourage our schools (primary and secondary) to fly the Union Jack flag in our school grounds throughout the Borough and encourage them to include the National Anthem as part of school assemblies.

This would inspire children within the Bolton family to be proud of being British enabling them to appreciate our rich history and great heritage.

(b) Motion to be moved by Councillor J. Walsh:-

That this Council welcomes the pledge by the Prime Minister that, “..Having listened to the people of Bolton we’re making sure that before the end of the year we will lengthen trains ... which means 200 extra seats on those key morning commuter trains”.

(c) Motion to be moved by Councillor Lewis:-

This Council notes:-

- The prevalence of Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) in many betting shops across Bolton, dubbed in the media as the “crack cocaine of gambling”.
- That, unlike fruit machines in pubs, bingo halls and amusement arcades (where cash stakes are limited to £2), gamblers can bet up to £100 every 20 seconds on FOBTs to win a jackpot of £500. This is more than 4 times faster than the rate of play in casinos.
- That nationally 80% of betting shop turnover is generated by FOBTs, with only 20% coming from more traditional over-the-counter betting on sports and racing. In Bolton there are currently 50 betting shops with 182 FOBTs, in which a gross amount of £196m was gambled in 2012:-

Bolton North East – 14 betting shops – 51 FOBTs
– £55m gross amount gambled;

Bolton South East – 25 betting shops – 91 FOBTs
– £98m gross amount gambled; and

Bolton West – 11 betting shops – 40 FOBTs -
£43m gross amount gambled.

- The recent economic analysis undertaken by Landman Economics, commissioned by the Campaign for Fairer Gambling, to assess the impact of the growth in FOBT spending on local economies and across the wider consumer economy. This report highlights that an extra £1b FOTB spend produces a net reduction of 13,000 jobs and that the projected doubling of FOBT revenue by 2023 could destroy 23,000 jobs. The

report also highlights the negative impacts of the increase in new betting shops and the relocation of existing shops to primary retail sites.

- The lack of action by central government to address the issues caused by FOBTs, and the announcement made last October by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, Maria Miller MP, not to regulate maximum stakes, speed of play and maximum jackpots. Council notes in contrast the position in the Republic of Ireland where the Government has introduced legislation to outlaw FOBTs in betting shops.

Council believes that the proliferation of FOBTs is causing significant problems in Bolton and believes that the Government should introduce legislation to ban FOBTs in betting shops or, at the very least, give local authorities the powers to protect the wellbeing of communities.

Council therefore agrees to:-

1. write to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport to outline the terms of this motion and demand urgent action against FOBTs by the Government;
2. support the proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act by Hackney Borough Council that the Government creates a separate planning class use for betting shops; and
3. explore other steps that could be taken within existing powers in Bolton to reduce the problems caused by FOBTs in our town in the absence of further Government action.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'S. R. Harriss'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the bottom of the 's'.

SEAN HARRISS
Chief Executive
Town Hall, Bolton

9th April, 2014.

The proceedings of the Cabinet and Executive Cabinet Member Portfolio meetings from 24th February, 2014 to 27th March, 2014 are included for information only in a separate volume, together with the minutes of the meeting of the Audit Committee and Health and Wellbeing Board.