

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE A SEMINAR TO WHICH ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL ARE INVITED ON ENVIRONMENT ON TUESDAY, 10 JULY 10.00 A.M. TO 12 NOON FOLLOWED BY A BUFFET LUNCH

AGENDA for a meeting of the ENVIRONMENT SELECT COMMITTEE in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Hertford, on Tuesday 10 July 2001 at 2.15 pm.

MEMBER MEETINGS (FOR MEMBERS ONLY)

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|------------------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| Conservative | 3.30 pm | 3 July | Environment Room 1 |
| Labour/Lib Dem | 5.15 pm | 3 July | Environment Room 1 |
| Conservative | 9.30 am | 10 July | Committee Room 'A' |
| Labour | 9.30 am | 10 July | Committee Room 'C' |
| Liberal Democrat | 9.30 am | 10 July | Room 111 |

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10) - QUORUM 3

J Anderson, S A Batson, M V Bayes, N K Brook (Chairman), R N Copping, D J Drake, S Jones, H M Saunders, I Simpson, B A York (Vice Chairman)

AGENDA

AUDIO SYSTEM

The Council Chamber is fitted with an audio system to assist those with hearing impairment. Anyone who wishes to use this should contact main (front) reception.

PART 1 (PUBLIC) AGENDA

Meetings of the Committee are open to the public (this includes the press) and attendance is welcomed. However, there may be occasions when the public are excluded from the meeting for particular items of business. Any such items are taken at the end of the public part of the meeting and are listed under "Part II ('closed') agenda."

MINUTES

To confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 19 June 2001 (to follow).

PUBLIC PETITIONS (Standing Order SC10)

Any member of the public, (who is a resident in Hertfordshire or is on the electoral register for Hertfordshire) may present a petition to the Committee. An authorised representative of any Hertfordshire parish or town council subscribing to a parish charter approved by the County Council may also present a petition to the Committee in relation to matters within that parish. The subject of the petition must be appropriate for the Committee and must be signed by at least 100 residents or business ratepayers of Hertfordshire.

Notification of intent to present a petition must be given in writing to the County Secretary, (County Hall, Hertford, SG13 8DE) at least fourteen clear days before the meeting where an item relating to the subject matter of the petition does not appear on the agenda for the meeting and at least three clear days before where the item is the subject of a report.

If you have any queries about the procedure please contact Joan Blake on telephone no. (01992) 555560.

- (i) A petition will be presented regarding carriageway works on the A1000 High Street, Potters Bar.
- (ii) A petition will be presented regarding re-occurring flooding of the underpass by the museum, St George's Way, Stevenage.

QUESTION TIME

Members are able to question the relevant Executive Member(s) on matters which are not the subject of reports on the agenda. A member who wishes to ask a question shall give written notice of it to the County Secretary at least three clear working days before the meeting stating to whom the question is to be put. Written copies of the questions and answers shall be available at the meeting. Questions shall be answered orally at the meeting in the order in which notice has been received. The member asking the question may ask one supplementary question. The person responding may choose to answer such a supplementary question, or promise a written reply within seven days. The period of time allocated for questions shall not exceed ten minutes. Any questions remaining after that period has elapsed shall be answered in writing within seven days. The Chairman may, however, accept questions without notice if satisfied they are urgent. Such questions shall not count towards the allocated time limit of 10 minutes and shall be answered orally at the meeting or in writing within 7 days.

Questions relating to matters on the agenda shall be asked when that matter is discussed and may be addressed to the Chairman or to an officer, who may answer orally or may undertake to provide a written reply within seven days.

George Wenham to ask the Executive Member for Environment:

"The County Council, having organised a contract bus service, finds that a bus operative wishes to take the service over as a commercial operation. If this happens would it not be right and proper that, should the commercial operation subsequently fail, the County Council revert to a contract service?"

George Wenham to ask the Executive Member for Environment:

"The Government has redefined the national cost of the concessionary bus fares scheme as being £54 million which will be paid through the SSA based on the percentage of elderly in the population. This SSA base will apply to the Herts County Council, I understand.

Since in Hertfordshire the expenses of concessionary fares are taken up almost completely by the ten District councils, surely it will be very wise of the Herts County Council to allocate this money in turn to the ten District Councils."

George Wenham to ask the Director of Environment:

"There has been considerable disquiet amongst users and local people about the works going on at Hatfield Railway Station. Work started and then ceased for about six weeks. As a result access to the trains and exits from the station have been especially hazardous in terms of rough gravel, stones and general disorder especially in inclement weather, when the station entrance is closed and passengers have to go through the side gate through the rubble. What is going on has nothing to do with the refused planning permission for Railtrack to build a mini superstore, though the locals fear the worst and fear that an appeal has succeeded. It seemd that Herts County Council and Railtrack sought to improve passenger exits and links with buses and bus shelters, quite a straightforward exercise one would think. However I understand that the work has stopped because neither the HCC nor Railtrack are quite sure who owns "which piece of land", fearing that until this is settled no improvement can be done and passengers will have to suffer.

Will the Director of Environment please look into this situation and give an answer which may nevertheless be historical and weird, but must be settled in order that users of the rail, bus, taxis to say nothing about the cyclists whose stand was in the middle of these works, may enjoy their journey to work and even more relax on their journey home in the dark?"

The following reports are attached to this agenda:-

The Executive Member for these items is Iris Tarry unless stated otherwise.

Report of the County Secretary

1. FUNCTIONS AND REMIT OF THE ENVIRONMENT SELECT COMMITTEE

Report of the Director of Environment

2. NEW ROADS AND STREET WORKS ACT 1991: REPORT OF ACTIVITIES FOR 2000

Scrutiny Items

Report of the County Secretary

3. SELECT COMMITTEE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2001/02

4. SCRUTINY OF DEVELOPMENT CONTROL ENFORCEMENT AND MONITORING PROVISION WITHIN HERTFORDSHIRE

ITEMS REFERRED TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL

The Select Committee may choose to refer one or more items and the Opposition may select one item to the Council.

PART II ('CLOSED') AGENDA

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There are no items of Part II business on this agenda but if an item is notified the Chairman will move:-

"That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph ... of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the said Act."

Please note that full papers have been despatched to Committee members only. All other members have been sent the front sheets of each report.

If you require a copy of any of the reports mentioned above or require further information about this agenda please contact Nikki Patient, Committee Services, County Secretary's Department, on telephone no. (01992) 555560 or fax. 01992 555518