

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

THE COUNTY COUNCIL

SUMMONS AND AGENDA

for the Meeting on Tuesday 1 April 2003 at 10.30 a.m. in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Hertford.

GROUP MEETINGS

Conservative Group	9.15 a.m.	Committee Room 'B'
Labour Group	9.15 a.m.	Committee Room 'A'
Liberal Democrat Group	9.15 a.m.	Committee Room 'C'

PRAYERS 10.20 a.m.

Prayers led by Father Michael Donaghy, St Augustines Roman Catholic Church, Hodddesdon.

1. MINUTES

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13 February 2003 (previously circulated), subject to the following amendment:-

ITEM 16.2 – REGIONAL ASSEMBLIES (PREPARATIONS) BILL

The following amendment proposed by C J White and seconded was LOST:-

“Replace the last sentence of penultimate paragraph of Appendix 3 with:

‘From these figures it is clear that support for a referendum varies widely dependent on how much and what information is provided to the respondents. One key piece of information not included in MORI’s questions was that an elected regional assembly would replace and subsume an existing unelected body which was already making decisions on their behalf.

The County Council believes that the views expressed indicate sufficient support to justify holding a referendum during which the electors of Hertfordshire would be able to hear and consider all the benefits and disbenefits of having an elected regional chamber.

However the County Council cannot accept that such a referendum should be preceded by a review of local government in the region for the reasons already stated. It is evident, from the large reduction in support for an elected regional chamber recorded by MORI when electors were told that a unitary form of

government must be simultaneously introduced, that this aspect of the Government's proposals, as well as having not logical basis, is currently extremely unpopular with electors and would almost certainly distort the result of a referendum and thus render it pointless'."

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

3. APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

To approve the appointment of a new Chief Executive.

4. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 7(1)

To deal with any questions directed to the Leader of the Council and Executive Members about the discharge of their responsibilities. All such questions shall have been notified to the County Secretary at least 5 clear working days before the meeting.

At the end of each reply the questioner may put one supplementary question to the person to whom the original question was put, who may reply orally or may undertake to reply in writing within 7 days.

The period allocated to questions shall not exceed 30 minutes. Any remaining after that period has elapsed shall be answered in writing within 7 days.

5. QUESTIONS: HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY - STANDING ORDER 7(6)

To deal with any questions from Members of the Council on the discharge of the functions of the Hertfordshire Police Authority, directed to a person so nominated by that Authority (the Vice-Chairman of the Authority, I H Laidlaw-Dickson). All such questions shall have been notified to the County Secretary at least 10 clear days before the meeting. (Same procedure as Item 4.)

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS - STANDING ORDER 7(10)

To deal with any questions from any member of the public being resident in or a registered local government elector of Hertfordshire, to the Leader of the Council and Executive Members about any matter over which the Council has power, or which directly affects the county. All such questions shall have been notified to the County Secretary at least 10 clear days before the meeting. (Same procedure as Item 4.)

7. PUBLIC PETITIONS - STANDING ORDER 14

(The opportunity for any member of the public, being resident in or a registered local government elector of Hertfordshire to present a petition relating to a matter with which the Council is concerned, containing 100 or more signatures of residents or business ratepayers of Hertfordshire.

Notification of intent to present a petition must have been given to the County Secretary at least 14 clear days before the meeting where an item relating to the subject matter of the petition does not appear in the agenda, or at least 3 clear days where the item is the subject of a report.)

Reports from Cabinet – 24 March 2003

To consider the following reports which will have been considered by Cabinet on 24 March, and their proposals which will be circulated prior to the Council meeting:-

- 8. ADMISSION RULES AND CO-ORDINATED SCHEME FOR COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED NURSERY, INFANT, JUNIOR AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS**
- 9. ADMISSION RULES AND CO-ORDINATED SCHEME FOR COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SECONDARY SCHOOLS**
- 10. TRADING STANDARDS SERVICE DELIVERY AND FOOD LAW ENFORCEMENT PLANS 2003/4**

[Note: Items 8, 9 and 10 will have been circulated to all members of the Council as part of the Cabinet distribution. To avoid unnecessary reprinting members are asked to bring their copies with them to the Council meeting.]

- 11. IMPLICATIONS OF CABINET CHANGES**

Reports from Scrutiny Committees

- 12. REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 18 MARCH 2003 – FLY TIPPING AND DUMPING IN HERTFORDSHIRE**
- 13. REPORT OF THE RESOURCES, PROSPERITY, PARTNERSHIP AND CONSULTATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 20 MARCH 2003 – SIMPLY DONE EFFICIENCIES PROGRAMME**

Reports from Other Committees

- 14. ETHICAL STANDARDS ISSUES – UPDATE**

Report of the Standards Committee

Other Items

- 15. KEY DECISIONS/FORWARD PLAN**

To note the position of Key Decisions in the decision-making process shown in the current edition of the Forward Plan (circulated separately).

16. ITEMS OF BUSINESS REQUESTED BY MEMBERS

None notified.

NOTICES OF MOTION - STANDING ORDER 8 (5)

17. C J White to move:-

“This Council remains concerned about the increasing noise levels on our trunk roads, especially the A1(M), and the lack of progress in introducing noise reduction measures such as special low noise surfaces and screening, and accordingly resolves

- to express its concern to the Highways Agency*
- to urge the Cabinet to give high priority to campaigning for road noise reduction.”*

18. B A York to move:-

“That, given the failure of 24/Seven to restore electricity supply to so many street lights, which have been out for so long throughout the county, and the consequent security and safety issues for the public, the County Council consider, as a matter of urgency:

- (a) imposing sanctions on 24/Seven;*
- (b) making representations to appropriate regulatory bodies and the LGA; and*
- (c) sending a deputation to the appropriate minister.”*

19. S B A Giles-Medhurst to move:-

“In view of the appalling track record of the current contractors and their failure to repair or restore electrical supplies to many hundreds of street lights across Hertfordshire that has and is creating a dangerous situation for members of the public this Council resolves to take all measure required, including legal ones, to have this service restored to the levels Hertfordshire did enjoy prior to these contractors taking over or failing that for the contractors to be removed and replaced with ones that can deliver the service expected by Hertfordshire residents. The Council so urges the Cabinet to act to ensure ‘normal’ service is restored.”

ANDREW LAYCOCK
County Secretary