

Crawley Borough Council

Agenda for the Full Council

To: The Mayor and Members of the Council

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the **Full Council** which will be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Crawley, on **Wednesday 23 April 2014 at 7.30 p.m.**

Nightline Telephone No. (01293) 551636



Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Please contact Roger Brownings (Legal and Democratic Services Division) if you have any queries regarding this agenda.

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Emergency procedure for meetings will be circulated to Members and visitors attending this meeting. Please familiarise yourself with these procedures and the location of fire exits.

Duration of the Meeting

If the business of the meeting has not been completed within two and a half hours (normally 10.00 p.m.), then in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2, the Mayor will require the meeting to consider if it wishes to continue for a period not exceeding 30 minutes. A vote will be taken and a simple majority in favour will be necessary for the meeting to continue. (Following the meeting's initial extension, consideration will be given to extending the meeting by further periods not exceeding 30 minutes in each case).

Business - Part A

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. Members' Disclosures of Interest

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, members of the Council are reminded that it is a requirement to declare interests where appropriate.

3. Communications

To receive and consider any announcements or communications.

4. Petition

Note by the Petitions Officer (Head of Legal and Democratic Services)

Two petitions have been received by the Council in relation to the Crawley market. These seek the Council to reinstate the Wednesday market in Queen's Square and for the Friday and Saturday High Street markets to relocate to the Queen's Square. Following the subsequent agreement with both Principal Petitioners, both petitions will be considered as one petition. Both of the petitions are requesting the same thing - that they want the market to remain in Queens Square (and on the understanding that this was supported by all those signing the petitions). As both petitions are being considered as one, it has also been agreed with both Principal Petitioners that only one of them will act as the Principal Petitioner in presenting the petitions to the Full Council at this meeting.

In accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme, the Principal Petitioner for the combined Petition will be given five minutes to present the Petition to the meeting and the Petition will then be discussed by Councillors for a maximum of 10 minutes.

The Full Council will decide how to respond to the combined Petition at the meeting. The Council may decide to take the action the Petition requests, not to take the action requested for reasons put forward in the debate, or to commission further investigation into the matter, for example by a relevant committee. Where the issue is one on which the Cabinet is required to make the final decision, the Council will decide whether to make recommendations to inform that decision. The Principal Petitioner will receive written confirmation of this decision. The confirmation will also be published on our website.

The two petitions contain over 1000 signatures and were received by the Council on 26 February 2014. For the reasons set out above, the Full Council is requested to consider those petitions together, which were accepted by the Council's Petitions Officer as reading:-

“WEDNESDAY MARKET SHUTS

Crawley council has shut Queens Square Wednesday Market
This puts Friday and Saturday High Street Market in jeopardy because we
rely on Wednesdays to keep our business going!
You may possibly lose all markets in the town very soon
Do you want all markets to be held in queen's square?"

"SAVE OUR MARKET

We, the undersigned, call on Crawley Borough Council to keep the
Wednesday, Crawley Market, in its present venue, in Queen's Square.
Furthermore we call on the Council to seriously consider moving the market
into Queen's Square, on a Friday and Saturday.

Moving the Market back into the High Street, at this time, would sound the
death bell for this facility. There is not enough foot-fall in the High Street to
produce the number of customers, to keep the market alive. Queen's Square
also has massive problems, at this time, in attracting visitors and shoppers.
The market, on a Wednesday is a popular attraction and brings bustle and life
to the Square."

RECOMMENDATION 1

The Council is recommended to:

- (1) Hear from the Principal Petitioner.
- (2) Determine in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme any
action to be taken in respect of the Petition.

5. Public Question Time

To answer public questions under Council Procedure Rule 9. The questions
must be on matters which are relevant to the functions of the Council, and
should not include statements.

One supplementary question from the questioner will be allowed.

Up to 30 minutes is allocated to Public Question Time.

6. Appointment of Interim Chief Finance Officer

Each local authority is required to designate a suitably qualified officer as
Chief Finance Officer in accordance with Section 114 of the Local
Government Act 1988 and Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.
The appointment is a Council function. Following the retirement of the Head
of Finance, Revenues and Benefits, the Full Council is requested to appoint
Karen Hayes (Deputy Head of Finance) as Interim Chief Finance Officer with
immediate effect.

It will be moved **by Councillor Dr Bloom and seconded by Councillor Burrett:-**

That Karen Hayes (Deputy Head of Finance) be appointed as Interim Chief Finance Officer with immediate effect.

7. Minutes

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on 26 February 2014. (The minutes are on pages 1 to 22 in the Book of Minutes Report, which Members will have before them).

8. Items for debate (Reserved Items)

Prior to the introduction of the Reports of the Cabinet, Overview and Scrutiny Commission and Committees (as contained in the Book of Minutes), Members will be given the opportunity to indicate on which items they wish to speak.

These Reserved Items will then be the only matters to be the subject of a debate.

9. Reports of the Cabinet, Overview and Scrutiny Commission and Committees

- (1) To receive the following reports of the meetings of the Cabinet, Overview and Scrutiny Commission and Committees.
 - (a) Development Control Committee – 17 February 2014.
 - (b) Development Control Committee – 10 March 2014.
 - (c) Audit and Governance Committee – 12 March 2014.
Including Recommendation 2 relating to the Code of Corporate Governance.
 - (d) Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 17 March 2014.
 - (e) Cabinet – 19 March 2014.
 - (f) General Purposes Committee – 31 March 2014.
Including Recommendations 3 and 4 relating to the Use of Social Media, Photography, Filming and Recording at Council Meetings and the Annual Review of the Constitution.
 - (g) Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 7 April 2014. **(To Follow)**.
 - (h) Appointments and Investigating Committee – 8 April 2014. **(To Follow)**.
 - (i) Development Control Committee – 8 April 2014. **(To Follow)**.
 - (j) Cabinet – 9 April 2014. **(To Follow)**.
Including Recommendation 5 relating to the Homelessness Strategy 2014 - 2019.
- (2) To adopt the recommendations to full Council, which have not been reserved for debate.

10. Reserved Items

To deal with items reserved for debate including any recommendations, which have been identified by Members under Agenda Item 8.

Councillors who have reserved items for debate, may speak on an item for no more than 5 minutes.

11. Notices of Motion

- (a) To consider, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12, the following Notice of Motion to be moved by Councillor P C Smith and seconded by Councillor Ward:-

“This council recognises the recent campaign and petition organised by Crawley market traders, and signed by thousands of local residents, expressing their opposition to the forced removal of the Wednesday market at Queens Square ("the Square").

The council also recognises that the lack of notice to traders, which resulted in them facing one week's notice of having to move back to the High Street permanently, was unsatisfactory, and lessons need to be learnt from this.

The council is committed to a strong and vibrant market, and also a successful Square that attracts businesses and shoppers into the Town Centre. It believes that the market on Wednesday has helped to attract additional footfall to the Square, and has contributed to the Square appearing more active and successful on those days.

The council recognises the concerns of market traders, and the financial pressures they are experiencing with the current conditions for the market on the High Street. It also recognises that the Square is in need of renovation, and work may need to commence in future to ensure the Square remains a premier location for retail, for both residents and visitors alike.

The council therefore resolves:

- (1) to request that the Head of Planning and Environmental Services uses her delegated powers under the constitution to continue to give individual consents to market traders to trade in the Square each Wednesday, and in doing so she may require such traders to also commit to trading at the market in the High Street on other days;
- (2) for the relevant council officers to undertake urgent work to enhance public awareness of the market being held on Fridays and Saturdays in the High Street and to take practical steps to increase footfall there, if possible;
- (3) to commit to the market being allowed to continue in the Square on Wednesdays until such time as the square is required for improvement works to begin, to enhance and regenerate the square as part of ongoing plans by this council and West Sussex County Council to maintain Crawley's place as a successful shopping centre;
- (4) to instruct officers to investigate ways that a more suitable location for traders can be found, such as moving the Wednesday market somewhere

nearer the Square than the High Street, such as along the paving between Parkside and Queensway, and

(5) to instruct council officers to work sensitively with traders, in a spirit of mutual co-operation, to accommodate "special events" and displays in the Square in a way that allows both the market and the proposed events to take place in the square without disruption to each other."

(b) To consider, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12, the following Notice of Motion to be moved by Councillor P C Smith and seconded by Councillor Lamb:-

"This council recognises the need to approve a Local Plan at the first possible opportunity.

The council therefore resolves to pass the Local Plan 2030 as soon as can be arranged."

12. Members' Written Questions

To answer Members' written questions under Council Procedure Rule 10.3.

13. Announcements by Cabinet Members

An opportunity for Cabinet Members to report verbally (if necessary) on issues relating to their Portfolio not covered elsewhere on the agenda and deal with questions relating to these issues.

14. Questions to Cabinet Members

To answer questions to Cabinet Members under Council Procedure Rule 10.1.

Up to 15 minutes is allocated for questions to Cabinet Members.

15. Questions to Committee Chairs

To answer questions to Committee Chairs.

Up to 15 minutes is allocated for questions to Committee Chairs.

16. Supplemental Agenda

Any urgent item(s) complying with Section 100(B) of the Local Government Act 1972.

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