

Wednesday, 27 January 2021

Meeting of the Council

Dear Member

I am pleased to invite you to attend a meeting of Torbay Council which will be held remotely via Zoom (the links to the meeting are set out below) on **Thursday, 4 February 2021** commencing at **5.30 pm**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83458566727?pwd=NGUrdGIDZjhwR1BXYWdPbFp6NTdtQT09>

Meeting ID: 834 5856 6727 Passcode: 936011

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

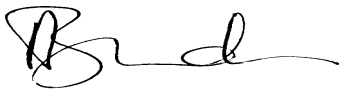
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The items to be discussed at this meeting are attached.

Yours sincerely,



Anne-Marie Bond
Interim Chief Executive

(All members are summoned to attend the meeting of the Council in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972 and Standing Orders A5.)

Together Torbay will thrive

Download this agenda via the free modern.gov app on your [iPad](#), [Android Device](#) or [Blackberry Playbook](#). For information relating to this meeting or to request a copy in another format or language please contact:

June Gurry, Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR

Email: governance.support@torbay.gov.uk - www.torbay.gov.uk

Meeting of the Council Agenda

1. Opening of meeting

2. Apologies for absence

3. Declarations of interests

- (a) To receive declarations of non pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda

For reference: Having declared their non pecuniary interest members may remain in the meeting and speak and, vote on the matter in question. A completed disclosure of interests form should be returned to the Clerk before the conclusion of the meeting.

- (b) To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda

For reference: Where a Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest he/she must leave the meeting during consideration of the item. However, the Member may remain in the meeting to make representations, answer questions or give evidence if the public have a right to do so, but having done so the Member must then immediately leave the meeting, may not vote and must not improperly seek to influence the outcome of the matter. A completed disclosure of interests form should be returned to the Clerk before the conclusion of the meeting.

(Please Note: If Members and Officers wish to seek advice on any potential interests they may have, they should contact Governance Support or Legal Services prior to the meeting.)

4. Communications

To receive any communications or announcements from:

- i) the Civic Mayor – this will include a joint presentation from Torbay Community Development Trust, Age UK and Brixham Does Care on the work they have been doing with the community during Covid-19;
- ii) the Leader of the Council (including an update on the Heart of the South West Joint Committee);
- iii) the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator; and
- iv) the Interim Chief Executive.

5. Members' Questions

To respond to the submitted questions asked under Standing Order A12.

(Pages 5 - 9)

6. Adjournment

The following items form part of the Council's Annual Budget setting process and will be deferred for consideration at an adjourned meeting of the Council to be held on 11 February 2021.

7. Revenue Budget 2021/2022

To consider the recommendations of the Cabinet on the Revenue Budget proposals for 2021/2022 and the Chief Finance Officer's Report.

Please note the reports for this item have been published on the agenda for the Adjourned Council Meeting on 11 February 2021.

8. Capital Plan Budget 2021/2022

To consider the recommendations of the Cabinet on the Capital Plan Budget proposals for 2021/2022.

Please note the reports for this item have been published on the agenda for the Adjourned Council Meeting on 11 February 2021.

9. Treasury Management Strategy 2021/2022 (incorporating the Annual Investment Strategy 2021/2022 and the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy 2021/2022

To consider the submitted report on the above.

Please note the reports for this item have been published on the agenda for the Adjourned Council Meeting on 11 February 2021.

Instructions for the press and public for joining the meeting

If you are using an iPad you will need to install Zoom which can be found in the App Store. You do not need to register for an account just install the software. You only need to install the software once. For other devices you should just be taken direct to the meeting.

Joining a Meeting

Click on the link provided on the agenda above and follow the instructions on screen. If you are using a telephone, dial the Zoom number provided above and follow the instructions. (**Note:** if you are using a landline the call will cost up to 13p per minute and from a mobile between 3p and 55p if the number is not covered by your inclusive minutes.)

You will be placed in a waiting room, when the meeting starts the meeting Host will admit you. Please note if there are technical issues this might not be at the start time given on the agenda.

Upon entry you will be muted and your video switched off so that only the meeting participants can be seen. When you join the meeting the Host will unmute your microphone, ask you to confirm your name and update your name as either public or press. Select gallery view if you want see all the participants.

If you have joined the meeting via telephone, your telephone number will appear on screen and will be displayed for all to see until the Host has confirmed your name and then they will rename your telephone number to either public or press.

Speaking at a Meeting

If you are registered to speak at the meeting and when it is your turn to address the Meeting, the Chairman will invite you to speak giving the Host the instruction to unmute your microphone and switch your video on (where appropriate) therefore please pause for a couple of seconds to ensure your microphone is on.

Upon the conclusion of your speech/time limit, the Host will mute your microphone and turn off your video.

Meeting Etiquette for Registered Speakers - things to consider when speaking at public meetings on video

- Background – the meeting is public and people will be able to see what is behind you therefore consider what you will have on display behind you.
- Camera angle – sit front on, upright with the device in front of you.
- Who else is in the room – make sure you are in a position where nobody will enter the camera shot who doesn't want to appear in the public meeting.
- Background noise – try where possible to minimise background noise.
- Aim to join the meeting 15 minutes before it is due to start.

Agenda Item 5

Meeting of the Council, Thursday, 4 February 2021

Questions Under Standing Order A12

A member may only submit three questions for consideration at each Council Meeting. Each member will present their first question in turn, when all the first questions have been dealt with the second and third questions may be asked in turn. The time for member's questions will be limited to a total of 30 minutes.

First Round

<p>Question (1) by Councillor Chris Lewis to the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing (Councillor Long)</p>	<p>On the 26th September 2019 a decision was taken by full Council to start the process of the Compulsory Purchase of Crossways in Paignton - the motion was Proposed by Cllr Long and Seconded by myself.</p> <p>Through the training that was available to all Members on CPO's it was stated that a CPO should take between twelve to eighteen months to complete. It is now fifteen months since the decision was made, can Cllr Long please provide the Council with an update and a time scale of when Crossways will be in the ownership of the Authority.</p>
<p>Question (2) by Councillor Barbara Lewis to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)</p>	<p>At the last Council meeting I asked the Portfolio holder Councillor Morey when the lights on Paignton Seafront were going to be repaired.</p> <p>In his response, see below, he states that "work will be progressed over the next few weeks". Over two months later the good people of Paignton are still waiting for the lights to be returned to their former glory! Can the Portfolio holder please provide a revised timescale for the work to be carried out?</p> <p>Councillor Mike Morey - Council Meeting 3rd December 2020 "As with all of our illuminations, the lights on Paignton Seafront have recently been inspected in line with regulations and safety standards that are aimed at protecting the general public. The next step is to re-string these illuminations with new wires where it is necessary. We will then work within the budget to undertake repairs to the lights and this work will be progressed over the coming weeks."</p>
<p>Question (3) by Councillor Atiya-Alla to the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Community Services (Councillor Carter)</p>	<p>What is the demand for laptops or similar devices in Torbay for those without access to them in order to study from home? What shortfall is there?</p>
<p>Question (4) by Councillor Pentney to the Children's Services (Councillor Law)</p>	<p>When do we expect our next letter from the Minister regarding Torbay's children's service regarding our progress out of special measures?</p>

<p>Question (5) by Councillor Mandy Darling to the Cabinet Member for Adults and Public Health (Councillor Stockman)</p>	<p>What actions have been taken to establish the extent of under-reporting of domestic abuse in Torbay, and what measures are being undertaken to meet it?</p>
<p>Question (6) by Councillor Dudley to the Cabinet Member for Finance (Councillor Cowell)</p>	<p>Can you please advise what additional help Torbay Council may be developing to help those who may be facing personal debt or housing challenges during the economic crisis?</p>
<p>Question (7) by Councillor Dart to the Cabinet Member for Finance (Councillor Cowell)</p>	<p>Can you please advise how many of our young people leaving care benefited from a Council Tax reduced bill in the last 12 months?</p>
<p>Question (8) by Councillor Howgate to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Steve Darling)</p>	<p>People engaged in the fishing industry locally have expressed concerns about the impact of the Brexit deal on their businesses. Will the Council communicate these concerns to the appropriate Government departments for fisheries, trade and business support? Would you agree with me that it is inaccurate to describe this problem as simply teething issues, and that even if one Cabinet member believes our fish are happier our fishing community is certainly far from satisfied?</p>
<p>Question (9) by Councillor Long to the Devon County Council Investment and Pension Fund Committee Member (Councillor O'Dwyer)</p>	<p>Has the Devon Local government pension scheme ceased investing in tobacco?</p>
<p>Question (10) by Councillor Foster to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)</p>	<p>I am disappointed that Babbacombe Downs will not be part of a trial for 'dual' waste bins to encourage more recycling in Torbay. There is a projected underspend in Torbay's Council Budget for this financial year, can I ask Cllr Morey to reconsider and spend some of this underspend on providing 'Dual' waste bins on our sea fronts including Babbacombe Downs to improve recycling rates for Torbay?</p>

Second Round

Question (11) by Councillor Chris Lewis to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing (Councillor Long)	The deadline for Tenders for the Toilet Block on Preston North Seafront closed some months ago. Can the Portfolio Holder please provide the Council with an update and agree to keep the local Ward Councillors informed at every stage?
Question (12) by Councillor Atiya-Alla to the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Community Services (Councillor Carter)	What challenges do pupils having to study at home face if they are unable to connect digitally?
Question (13) by Councillor Pentney to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services (Councillor Law)	In my view, it is shambolic that the secretary of state did not have a clear plan B ready to trigger when he decided to cancel GCSEs and A Levels. What response did Torbay give to the recent consultation on this matter?
Question (14) by Councillor Mandy Darling to the Cabinet Member for Adults and Public Health (Councillor Stockman)	I was delighted to hear about "Ask for ANI" that was launched to assist those suffering from domestic abuse who ask for help by using the "Ask for ANI" code word at participating chemists. Can you please advise how many pharmacies participate in this new initiative in Torbay?
Question (15) by Councillor Dudley to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)	A number of residents in the Willows have contacted me suggesting that a bridge across the Riviera way to Browns Bridge would help when the new Edginswell rail station opens. Can you please advise how the case for such a development could be progressed?

Question (17) by Councillor Dart to the Cabinet Member for Finance (Councillor Cowell)	What is the cumulative impact of Government cuts to Torbay Council's budget since 2009?
Question (18) by Councillor Howgate to the Cabinet Member for Finance (Councillor Cowell)	Has an assessment been made of the number of eligible businesses for Government support administered through the Council that have not applied for assistance during the international pandemic?

Third Round

Question (19) by Councillor Atiya-Alla to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)	I understand that the MHCLG wrote a letter (30 December) to Local Planning Authorities regarding making amendments to the Town and Country Planning Order 2015. The amendment to the GPDO has the effect of introducing an additional matter for prior approval to two permitted development rights which allow extra storeys to be added to existing buildings without the need for any further planning permission. This came into force 30 December. What powers does Torbay have to resist additional storeys where consensus locally is that they should not be added?
Question (20) by Councillor Pentney to the Cabinet Member for Adults and Public Health (Councillor Stockman)	Can you please update the Council on the activities undertaken by the recently appointed COVID wardens in Torbay?
Question (21) by Councillor Mandy Darling to the Cabinet Member for Adults and Public Health (Councillor Stockman)	Can you please advise me when the COVID 19 vaccinations of front-line social care workers will be complete in Torbay?
Question (22) by Councillor Dudley to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)	Can you please advise me of the timeline for the development of the new Edginswell rail station?

<p>Question (23) by Councillor Howgate to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Steve Darling)</p>	<p>I understand the Government has emerging legislation around gypsies and travellers. Can you advise me how this is likely to impact on Torbay?</p>
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