



Agenda

Meeting: **Folkestone & Hythe District and Parish Councils' Joint Committee**
Date: **14 March 2024**
Time: **6.00 pm**
Place: **Remote Meeting**

To: **All members of the Folkestone & Hythe District and Parish Councils Joint Committee**

The committee will consider the matters listed below at the date, time shown above. The meeting is open to the press and public and will be streamed live at bit.ly/YouTubeMeetings

Members of the committee who wish to have information on any matter arising on the agenda which is not fully covered in these papers are requested to give notice prior to the meeting to the Chairman or appropriate officer.

1. **Appointment of Chair**

The Chair alternates between a District Councillor and a Parish/Town Councillor every meeting. The Committee must appoint a Parish/Town Councillor as the Chair of this meeting.

2. **Apologies for absence**

3. **Declarations of interest (Pages 3 - 4)**

Members of the Council should declare any interests which fall under the following categories:

- a) discloseable pecuniary interests (DPI)
- b) other significant interests (OSI)
- c) voluntary announcements of other interests

Queries about the agenda? Need a different format?

Contact Jake Hamilton – Tel:
Email: committee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk or download from our
website
www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

4. **Minutes (Pages 5 - 6)**

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2024.

5. **Election Act Changes**

Paul Butler, Democratic Services & Elections Manager will be providing the committee with a presentation in relation to the changes brought about by the Elections Act 2022.

6. **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

This item outlines the background to the Community Infrastructure Levy, which came into effect in August 2016, and provides details on the total sums that have been transferred to Town and Parish Councils to date. It also provides high-level guidance on the spend of the Neighbourhood allocation by Town and Parish Councils.

James Hammond, Strategy & Policy Senior Specialist will provide members with a presentation.

Declarations of Interest

Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI)

Where a Member has a new or registered DPI in a matter under consideration they must disclose that they have an interest and, unless the Monitoring Officer has agreed in advance that the DPI is a 'Sensitive Interest', explain the nature of that interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a DPI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation permitting them to do so. If during the consideration of any item a Member becomes aware that they have a DPI in the matter they should declare the interest immediately and, subject to any dispensations, withdraw from the meeting.

Other Significant Interest (OSI)

Where a Member is declaring an OSI they must also disclose the interest and explain the nature of the interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a OSI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation to do so or the meeting is one at which members of the public are permitted to speak for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter. In the latter case, the Member may only participate on the same basis as a member of the public and cannot participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter and must withdraw from the meeting in accordance with the Council's procedure rules.

Voluntary Announcement of Other Interests (VAOI)

Where a Member does not have either a DPI or OSI but is of the opinion that for transparency reasons alone s/he should make an announcement in respect of a matter under consideration, they can make a VAOI. A Member declaring a VAOI may still remain at the meeting and vote on the matter under consideration.

Note to the Code:

Situations in which a Member may wish to make a VAOI include membership of outside bodies that have made representations on agenda items; where a Member knows a person involved, but does not have a close association with that person; or where an item would affect the well-being of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc. but not his/her financial position. It should be emphasised that an effect on the financial position of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc OR an application made by a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc would both probably constitute either an OSI or in some cases a DPI.

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Minutes

Folkestone & Hythe District and Parish Councils' Joint Committee

Held at:	Remote Meeting
Date	Thursday, 18 January 2024
Present	Councillors Graham Allison, Anne Beales, Mike Blakemore, Anthony Burgess, Frank Hobbs, Roger Joyce (minute 18), Tim Prater (minute 18), Kirsten Terry and Paul Thomas.
Apologies for Absence	Councillors Jane Darling.
Officers Present:	Jake Hamilton (Committee Services Officer).
Others Present:	Councillor Jim Martin.

15. **Appointment of Chair**

Proposed by Councillor Paul Thomas,
Seconded by Councillor Tim Prater; and

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Mike Blakemore be appointed as Chair for the meeting.

(The resolution was agreed by affirmation of the meeting).

16. **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

17. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2023, were submitted, and approved, by the Chair.

18. **Update from the Leader**

Councillor Jim Martin, Leader and Cabinet Member for Otterpool Park and Planning Policy provided members with several updates, including discussions with Stagecoach and Southern Water, the Kent Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (KCWIP), Otterpool Park and the district councils budget setting process.

Following Councillor Jim Martin's update, members raised several points, including:

- Issues across the district in relation to poor quality of bathing water,
- the rationale behind bus routes being cut, KCC subsidies, the need for local intelligence, plus alternative schemes to support communities and to complement Stagecoach such as Flexi-bus and Dial-a-ride. Members also raised awareness of the extension to the Bus Fare CAP Grant (£2.00 Fare Cap Scheme for single journeys).
- Human waste disposal - it was mentioned that several areas throughout the district are seeing a rise in human waste being discarded.
- Heavy HGV traffic in New Romney due to sewage disposal.
- Nominations within Parish and Towns for affordable housing.
- Otterpool Park - the importance for the project to link up with health organisations. And the green infrastructure.

Councillor Jim Martin responded to comments raised and advised members that he is more than happy to receive emails from members in relation to the above topics should they have any further feedback or ideas.