



Agenda

Meeting: **Council**
Date: **29 March 2023**
Time: **7.00 pm**
Place: **Council Chamber - Civic Centre Folkestone**

To: **All Members of the Council**

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to attend a meeting of the Council on the date and at the time shown above.

Anyone who wishes to have information on any matter arising on the Agenda which is not fully covered in these papers is requested to give notice prior to the meeting to the Chairman or appropriate officer.

This meeting will be webcast live to the council's website at <https://folkestone-hythe.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>.

Please note there will be 37 seats available for members of the public, which will be reserved for those speaking or participating at the meeting. The remaining available seats will be given on a first come, first served basis.

Dr Susan Priest
Chief Executive

7. Questions from Councillors (Pages 3 - 6)

(Questions can be found on www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk from noon 2

Queries about the agenda? Need a different format?

Contact Jemma West – Tel: 01303 853369
Email: committee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk or download from our
website
www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

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days before the meeting, on Modern.gov, under the agenda for this meeting).

Up to 45 minutes is allowed for questions from councillors.

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Councillor Questions:

1. From Councillor Gane to Councillor Collier, Cabinet Member for Property Management and Grounds maintenance

Would FHDC consider putting in some form of extra lighting in Broomfield Car Park? The park is well used and the council a few years ago sold off some land. The result is a Nursery School. The single light is not enough therefore lighting would help not just car users but also residents.

2. From Councillor J Martin to Councillor Monk, Leader of the Council

Can the Leader give us an update on the secretive offer from the mystery prospective buyer of Prince's Parade?

3. From Councillor Davison to Councillor Mrs Hollingsbee, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communities

What conversations have taken place between Kent County Council and Folkestone and Hythe District Council about the future of Folkestone Central library?

4. From Councillor McConville to Councillor Wimble, Cabinet Member for the District Economy

Saga is withdrawing from Enbrook Park, how will local businesses be able to recover the losses that those staff members make to the local economy on a daily basis?

5. From Councillor McConville to Councillor Monk, Leader of the Council

How much money does this council spend on in-house postage for officers and councillors? This includes posting correspondence sent to the civic centre onto councillors and officers home addresses.

6. From Councillor McConville to Councillor Prater, Cabinet Member for Revenues, Benefits, Anti-Fraud and Corruption

Please provide the council with the number of households who have applied for the Household Support fund and the total funds released to date?

7. From Councillor McConville to Councillor Prater, Cabinet Member for Revenues, Benefits, Anti-Fraud and Corruption

Please provide the council with the number of households who have applied for the home essential fund and the total funds released to date?

8. **From Councillor McConville to Councillor Godfrey, Cabinet Member for Housing and Special Projects**

At Cabinet last week it was decided to proceed with the local authority housing fund. As full council still need to approve the match funding required to purchase the 10 properties required, does the cabinet member think it is realistic that this can be achieved by November?

9. **From Councillor Meade to Councillor Monk, Leader of the Council**

With confirmation of leveling up funding for the town, does the council yet have a timeline to take works forward and does it include further public consultation?

10. **From Councillor Meade to Councillor Peall, Cabinet Member for Enforcement, Regulatory Services, Waste & Building control**

With the holiday season and summer fast approaching, can the cabinet member please advise whether there will be an increase in public rubbish bin collections along the whole of our seafront in Folkestone i.e. from the Leas through the Stade down to Sunny Sands, to ensure we do not have the continued overflowing litter that we have experienced over the last few years?

11. **From Councillor Davison to Councillor Collier, Cabinet Member for Property Management and Grounds Maintenance**

In the past fortnight we have seen leisure centre pools close and go into administration in Sevenoaks and Edenbridge. Can we be given assurances about the financial security of our own district swimming pools in Folkestone and Hythe?

12. **From Councillor Davison to Councillor Monk, Leader of the Council**

An Electoral Commission survey carried out in February 2022, found that 4% of people in Britain (equivalent to around 1.9m voters) did not have any of the pre-existing forms of photo ID now required to vote in this May's forthcoming local elections. What percentage and number of the district's electorate have applied for the alternative Voter ID certificate by this point?

13. **From Councillor Keen to Councillor Collier, Cabinet Member for Property Management and Grounds Maintenance**

The Leas Cliff Hall is a wonderful community resource and one that brings a lot of visitors to Folkestone to see shows and attend events that are put on at the there. My concern after a visit last week is how shabby and run down the building looks and is. The fact that there are large area of damp on walls around the venue and also the windows that are on the sea side of the window are mouldy and rusty and parts of the building smell of damp. Could we please be advised as to what maintenance the lease hold of the building is responsibility for and what is the responsibility of FHDC?

14. **From Councillor Keen to Councillor Collier, Cabinet Member for Property Management and Grounds Maintenance**

I have had a number of messages over the last few weeks about the security of the beach huts. With the huge cost of beach huts what security are we offering lease holders? Not only are the huts being damaged during the break in`s but our lease holders possessions are being stolen. All have to have insurance but I would assume that we have to repair the damage that is caused and this will have a cost. My question is what security can we offer our lease holders and what to date has been the cost of repairing the damaged huts?

15. **From Councillor Keen to Councillor Monk, Leader of the Council**

Recently I read on page 4 of the latest set of Oportunitas accounts year end 31st March 2022 Quote . Directors of Oportunitas and the staff who support the company are the employees of the parent organisation FHDC. It is my understanding that no employee of FHDC maybe elected or hold office as a member of the local authority by which they are employed. So, the question has to be asked, as the Directors are employees of the council how they can also be Councillors?

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