

Ringwood Town Council

Ringwood Gateway, The Furlong, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 1AT
Tel: 01425 473883
www.ringwood.gov.uk

SUMMONS

Dear Member

10th December 2020

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Town Council on 16th December 2020 at 7.00pm.



Mr C Wilkins
Town Clerk

Ringwood Town Council is committed to transparency in its decision-making processes. The current crisis prevents the holding of physical meetings but insofar as it is possible and in accordance with Government Regulations, this meeting will take place in a virtual environment using the "Zoom" technology. Councillors are encouraged to join in good time ready for a start of the meeting proper at 7.00pm. In the event of difficulty joining please contact Chris Wilkins, Town Clerk on (01425) 484720 or by sending an email to chris.wilkins@ringwood.gov.uk.

Members of the press or public who would like to participate or simply observe the meeting are requested to tell us in advance by contacting Chris Wilkins, Town Clerk. You can join the meeting by following the link:-

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83574943827?pwd=U09UMEV6b0pZend5dnFSeG00TzVpdz09>
Meeting ID: 835 7494 3827 Passcode: 710470

AGENDA

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There will be an opportunity for public participation for a period of up to 15 minutes at the start of the meeting

2. To receive Apologies for Absence
3. To receive Declarations of Interest
4. To receive a report from Ringwood Police
5. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25th November 2020

6. To receive Minutes of Committees and approve recommendations contained therein:
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Staffing | DATE:- 20 th November 2020 |
| Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces | DATE :- 2 nd December 2020 |
| Planning, Town & Environment | DATE:- 4 th December 2020 |
| Policy & Finance | DATE:- 9 th December 2020 |

7. SPORTS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AT LONG LANE

To receive a report from Cllr Loose (the Council's representative on the Steering Group) or Cllr Briers (deputy) on project developments.

8. MEMBERS ALLOWANCES 2020/21

To consider the RFO's report on Members' allowances (*Report A*)

9. To receive such communications as the Town Mayor may desire to lay before the Council (Councillors are reminded that no decision taking may take place as a result of this item)

10. To Receive Reports from Ringwood Town Councillors and Student Advisors (Councillors are reminded that no decision taking may take place as a result of this item)

11. To receive Reports from County and District Councillors (Councillors are reminded that no decision taking may take place as a result of this item)

12. Forthcoming Meetings – to note the following dates:

Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces	7.00pm	Wednesday 6 th January 2021
Planning, Town & Environment	10.00am	Friday 8 th January 2021
Policy & Finance	7.00pm	Wednesday 20 th January 2021
Full Council	7.00pm	Wednesday 27 th January 2021

If you would like further information on any of the agenda items, please contact Mr Chris Wilkins, Town Clerk, on 01425 484720 or chris.wilkins@ringwood.gov.uk

Council Members:

Chairman: Cllr Tony Ring, Town Mayor
 Vice-Chairman: Cllr Philip Day, Deputy Mayor
 Cllr Andy Briers
 Cllr Gareth DeBoos
 Cllr Hilary Edge
 Cllr Rae Frederick
 Cllr John Haywood
 Cllr Jeremy Heron
 Cllr Peter Kelleher
 Cllr Darren Loose
 Cllr Gloria O'Reilly
 Cllr Steve Rippon-Swaine
 Cllr Glenys Turner

Student Advisors:

REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL – 16th DECEMBER 2020

MEMBERS ALLOWANCES

A

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 New Forest District Council have increased their basic members allowances by 2.75 % from the 1st of April 2020 in line with the National Local Government pay award. This has an impact on the recommended basic allowance paid to members of Town and Parish Councils within the District.

2. MEMBERS ALLOWANCES – FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 For 2019/20 Ringwood Town Council paid a basic members allowance of £749.09 per annum. Currently eleven members are in receipt of the allowance.
- 2.2 The District Council have just announced that their allowance is now £6,602 per annum and the recommended allowance for this Council is 12.5% of the District Council allowance, or £825.25. This would represent an increase of 10.2%.
- 2.3 The Town Council does not have to accept the increase, and need not adhere strictly to it, but 'must have regard to' the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel when setting any allowance it has chosen to pay.
- 2.4 If the full increase is applied, spend will increase by £837.76 per annum which would exceed the original budget. The budget was based on a more modest increase in line with the predicted pay award for staff.
- 2.5 However, currently only 11 of 14 Councillors are in receipt of the allowance (Co-opted members are not eligible to claim the allowance). Should all Councillors claim, expenditure would increase by £3,315 and the annual budget would need to be increased by £2,695.
- 2.6 An increase of 2.75%, in line with the increase awarded to staff, would increase total costs by £227 per year and bring the basic allowance up to £769.60 per annum, which is within the current budget provision.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that the members allowance be increased by 2.75% per annum in line with the pay award granted to officers.

For further information please contact:

Rory Fitzgerald, Finance Manager or

Tel: 01425 484723

rorry.fitzgerald@ringwood.gov.uk

For further information please contact:

Chris Wilkins, Town Clerk

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Chris.wilkins@ringwood.gov.uk