

Thurrock: An ambitious and collaborative community which is proud of its heritage and excited by its diverse opportunities and future

General Services Committee

The meeting will be held at **7.00 pm** on **27 January 2022**

South Essex College, High Street, Grays, RM17 6TF – Room W1.24

Membership:

Councillors Robert Gledhill (Chair), John Kent (Vice-Chair), Mark Coxshall, Shane Hebb, Victoria Holloway, Barry Johnson and Fraser Massey

Substitutes:

Councillors Jack Duffin, Deborah Huelin, Andrew Jefferies, Luke Spillman and Lynn Worrall

Agenda

Open to Public and Press

	Page
1 Apologies for Absence	
2 Minutes	5 - 6
To approve as a correct record the minutes of General Services Committee meeting held on 8 December 2021.	
3 Items of Urgent Business	
To receive additional items that the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency, in accordance with Section 100B (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972.	
4 Declarations of Interests	

Exclusion of the Public and Press

Members are asked to consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of an agenda item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 or it being confidential for the purposes of Section 100A(2) of that Act.

In each case, Members are asked to decide whether, in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption (and discussing the matter in private) outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

5 Recruitment of Assistant Directors for Regeneration & Place Delivery and Property & Facilities Management - Longlisting

Paperwork for this item will follow under separate cover.

Queries regarding this Agenda or notification of apologies:

Please contact Matthew Boulter, Democratic & Governance Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer by sending an email to Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk

Agenda published on: **19 January 2022**

Information for members of the public and councillors

Access to Information and Meetings

Advice Regarding Public Attendance at Meetings:

Following changes to government advice there is no longer a requirement for public attendees to book seats in advance of a committee meeting. All public attendees are expected to comply with the following points when physically attending a committee meeting:

1. If you are feeling ill or have tested positive for Covid and are isolating you should remain at home, the meeting will be webcast and you can attend in that way.
2. You are recommended to wear a face covering (where able) when attending the meeting and moving around the council offices to reduce any chance of infection. Removal of any face covering would be advisable when speaking publically at the meeting.
3. Hand sanitiser will also be available at the entrance for your use.

Whilst the Council encourages all who are eligible to have vaccination and this is important in reducing risks around COVID-19, around 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 do not have any symptoms. This means they could be spreading the virus without knowing it. In line with government guidance testing twice a week increases the chances of detecting COVID-19 when you are infectious but aren't displaying symptoms, helping to make sure you do not spread COVID-19. Rapid lateral flow testing is available for free to anybody. To find out more about testing please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/regular-rapid-coronavirus-tests-if-you-do-not-have-symptoms/>

Members of the public have the right to see the agenda, which will be published no later than 5 working days before the meeting, and minutes once they are published.

Recording of meetings

This meeting will be live streamed and recorded with the video recording being published via the Council's online webcast channel: www.thurrock.gov.uk/webcast

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact Democratic Services at Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk

Guidelines on filming, photography, recording and use of social media at council and committee meetings

The council welcomes the filming, photography, recording and use of social media at council and committee meetings as a means of reporting on its proceedings because it helps to make the council more transparent and accountable to its local communities.

Thurrock Council Wi-Fi

Wi-Fi is available throughout the Civic Offices. You can access Wi-Fi on your device by simply turning on the Wi-Fi on your laptop, Smartphone or tablet.

- You should connect to TBC-CIVIC
- Enter the password **Thurrock** to connect to/join the Wi-Fi network.
- A Terms & Conditions page should appear and you have to accept these before you can begin using Wi-Fi. Some devices require you to access your browser to bring up the Terms & Conditions page, which you must accept.

The ICT department can offer support for council owned devices only.

Evacuation Procedures

In the case of an emergency, you should evacuate the building using the nearest available exit and congregate at the assembly point at Kings Walk.

How to view this agenda on a tablet device



You can view the agenda on your [iPad](#), [Android Device](#) or [Blackberry Playbook](#) with the free modern.gov app.

Members of the Council should ensure that their device is sufficiently charged, although a limited number of charging points will be available in Members Services.

To view any “exempt” information that may be included on the agenda for this meeting, Councillors should:

- Access the modern.gov app
- Enter your username and password

DECLARING INTERESTS FLOWCHART – QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

Breaching those parts identified as a pecuniary interest is potentially a criminal offence

Helpful Reminders for Members

- *Is your register of interests up to date?*
- *In particular have you declared to the Monitoring Officer all disclosable pecuniary interests?*
- *Have you checked the register to ensure that they have been recorded correctly?*

When should you declare an interest *at a meeting*?

- **What matters are being discussed at the meeting?** (including Council, Cabinet, Committees, Subs, Joint Committees and Joint Subs); or
- If you are a Cabinet Member making decisions other than in Cabinet **what matter is before you for single member decision?**



Does the business to be transacted at the meeting

- relate to; or
- likely to affect

any of your registered interests and in particular any of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interests?

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests shall include your interests or those of:

- your spouse or civil partner's
- a person you are living with as husband/ wife
- a person you are living with as if you were civil partners

where you are aware that this other person has the interest.

A detailed description of a disclosable pecuniary interest is included in the Members Code of Conduct at Chapter 7 of the Constitution. **Please seek advice from the Monitoring Officer about disclosable pecuniary interests.**

What is a Non-Pecuniary interest? – this is an interest which is not pecuniary (as defined) but is nonetheless so significant that a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard to be so significant that it would materially impact upon your judgement of the public interest.

Pecuniary

If the interest is not already in the register you must (unless the interest has been agreed by the Monitoring Officer to be sensitive) disclose the existence and nature of the interest to the meeting

If the Interest is not entered in the register and is not the subject of a pending notification you must within 28 days notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest for inclusion in the register

Unless you have received dispensation upon previous application from the Monitoring Officer, you must:

- **Not participate or participate further in any discussion of the matter at a meeting;**
- **Not participate in any vote or further vote taken at the meeting; and**
- **leave the room while the item is being considered/voted upon**

If you are a Cabinet Member you may make arrangements for the matter to be dealt with by a third person but take no further steps

Non- pecuniary

Declare the nature and extent of your interest including enough detail to allow a member of the public to understand its nature



You may participate and vote in the usual way but you should seek advice on Predetermination and Bias from the Monitoring Officer.

Our Vision and Priorities for Thurrock

An ambitious and collaborative community which is proud of its heritage and excited by its diverse opportunities and future.

1. **People** – a borough where people of all ages are proud to work and play, live and stay
 - High quality, consistent and accessible public services which are right first time
 - Build on our partnerships with statutory, community, voluntary and faith groups to work together to improve health and wellbeing
 - Communities are empowered to make choices and be safer and stronger together

2. **Place** – a heritage-rich borough which is ambitious for its future
 - Roads, houses and public spaces that connect people and places
 - Clean environments that everyone has reason to take pride in
 - Fewer public buildings with better services

3. **Prosperity** – a borough which enables everyone to achieve their aspirations
 - Attractive opportunities for businesses and investors to enhance the local economy
 - Vocational and academic education, skills and job opportunities for all
 - Commercial, entrepreneurial and connected public services

Minutes of the Meeting of the General Services Committee held on 8 December 2021 at 6.30 pm

Present: Councillors Robert Gledhill (Chair), John Kent (Vice-Chair), Mark Coxshall, Shane Hebb, Victoria Holloway, Barry Johnson and Fraser Massey

In attendance: Lyn Carpenter, Chief Executive
Jackie Hinchliffe, Director of HR, OD & Transformation
David Johnson, Acting Corporate Property Manager
Matthew Boulter, Democratic Services Manager

1. Minutes

The minutes of the General Services Committee held on 11 October and 3 November 2021 were agreed as correct records of the meetings.

2. Items of Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

3. Declarations of Interests

In relation to Item 5, 'Decision as Charity Trustees of Orsett Recreation Ground', Cllr Johnson stated he was a ward councillor for Orsett but he had not been involved in the issue in the report and maintained an open mind.

4. Decision as Charity Trustees of Orsett Recreation Ground

Following an officer introduction, Members agreed the recommendations.

AGREED: That:

- 1. The decision in principle that if this is in the best interests of the charitable trust, that a grant of a lease for 30 years of the Pavilion Orsett Recreation Ground should be granted to Orsett Cricket Club where this is the case.**
- 2. Delegates to the Assistant Director of Property authority to obtain written advice, including securing appropriate valuation and marketing advice from a qualified surveyor in line with statutory requirements of the Charities Act 2011 for the lease of the Pavilion, Orsett Recreation Ground and negotiate the terms of the lease.**

3. **The Director of Resources and Place Delivery, in consultation with the Chair of General Services Committee, agree final lease arrangements following consideration of the qualified surveyors report in line with statutory requirements of the Charities Act 2011.**
- 4 **In the event that the lease arrangements are approved the committee delegates authority to:**
 - (i) **AD Law & Governance to prepare and complete all the necessary legal documentation in accordance with the agreed terms and Charity Commission requirements to conclude the lease;**
 - (ii) **AD Law & Governance to contact the Charity Commission and take such steps and enter into such documents if required by the Charity Commission in order to give its consent to the lease; and**
 - (iii) **AD Property to give public notice in accordance with Section 121 Charities Act 2011, in the local press to notify people within the beneficial area of the charity that the Charity Trustees intend to dispose of the leasehold interest in the Orsett Recreation Ground .**

5. Employment Matter

At 6.35pm the Committee agreed to go into exempt session to consider the following report.

The meeting finished at 7.17 pm

Approved as a true and correct record

CHAIR

DATE

Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact
Democratic Services at Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk