

To Members of the Council

Cllr. Nick Chapman (Chairman)
Cllr. Janet Forey (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr. Shabbir Aslam
Cllr. Royston Bayliss
Cllr. Lee Breckon JP
Cllr. Nick Brown
Cllr. Adrian Clifford
Cllr. Cheryl Cashmore
Cllr. Stuart Coar
Cllr. Luke Cousin
Cllr. Tony Deakin
Cllr. Roy Denney
Cllr. Alex DeWinter
Cllr. Susan Findlay

Cllr. Helen Gambardella
Cllr. Hannah Gill
Cllr. Nigel Grundy
Cllr. Paul Hartshorn
Cllr. Richard Holdridge
Cllr. Mark Jackson
Cllr. Becca Lunn
Cllr. Antony Moseley
Cllr. Les Phillimore
Cllr. Terry Richardson
Cllr. Ande Savage
Cllr. Tracey Shepherd

Cllr. Dillan Shikotra
Cllr. Mike Shirley
Cllr. Roger Stead
Cllr. Ben Taylor
Cllr. Matt Tomeo
Cllr. Bob Waterton
Cllr. Bev Welsh
Cllr. Jane Wolfe
Cllr. Maggie Wright
Cllr. Neil Wright

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of the **COUNCIL** will be held in the Council Chamber - Council Offices, Narborough on **TUESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2025** at **5.30 p.m.** for the transaction of the following business and your attendance is requested.

Yours faithfully



Gemma Dennis
Corporate Services Group Manager and Monitoring Officer

AGENDA

SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTION

To receive apologies for absence, disclosures of interest from Councillors, and Minutes of the previous Council meeting.

1. Apologies for absence
2. Disclosures of Interests from Members

To receive disclosures of interests from Members (i.e. the existence and the nature of those interests in respect of items on this agenda).

3. Minutes (Pages 7 - 16)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2025 (enclosed).

SECTION 2 - STANDARD COUNCIL BUSINESS

To receive announcements from the Chairman and the statement of the Leader of the Council.

Any reports for consideration listed under this section will be moved in one block without discussion, unless any Member present requests otherwise.

4. Chairman's Announcements
5. Leader's Statement (To Follow)

SECTION 3 - PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL

To consider any presentations from Council Officer's or an external body/partner agency.

6. Presentation: Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution

Members will receive a presentation from the Chief Executive and Cllr. Terry Richardson, Leader of the Council.

SECTION 4 - QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC & PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

To receive questions to Councillors submitted by members of the public and to receive any petitions submitted in accordance with the Council's petitions scheme.

7. Public Speaking Protocol

Requests received by the Protocol deadline to be reported by the Monitoring Officer with details of the Agenda Item to which they relate. (Such persons entitled to use

the Protocol attend for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the business of the meeting and the time allocated to each person is a maximum of three minutes unless extended at the discretion of the Chairman).

SECTION 5 - MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

To receive any questions submitted by Councillors.

8. Questions from Members

Any Members wishing to submit questions must do so to the Monitoring Officer no later than 5 working days before the meeting.

The Monitoring Officer will report if any questions have been submitted.

9. Question under Council Rules of Procedure

Cllr. Paul Hartshorn to raise the following question to Cllr. Ben Taylor – Planning, Transformation and ICT Portfolio Holder:

“Can a update be provided on the ongoing issues with the councillor email system? Many councillors have reported being unable to access emails from residents, which is preventing them from effectively carrying out their duties.

What steps are being taken to resolve this issue, and when can we expect a full resolution?”

10. Question under Council rules of Procedure

Cllr. Paul Hartshorn to raise the following question to Cllr. Terry Richardson – Leader of the Council:

"What steps are the Executive taking to ensure it is delivering Best Value for residents based on the new May 24 framework. How is Best Value measured and reported at Blaby District Council?"

SECTION 6 - REPORTS FOR DECISIONS

To consider any reports submitted for consideration by Council.

11. Gender Pay Gap 2024 (Pages 17 - 20)

To consider the report of the HR Services Manager (enclosed).

12. Pay Policy 2024/25 (Pages 21 - 36)

To consider the report of the Executive Director (Section 151 Officer) (enclosed).

13. Local Development Scheme (Pages 37 - 62)

To consider the report of the Development Strategy Manager (enclosed).

14. Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025 - 2030 (Pages 63 - 124)
To consider the report of the Housing Strategy Team Leader (enclosed).
15. Recommendations of the Cabinet Executive: Quarter 3 Capital Programme Review 2024/25 (Pages 125 - 134)
To consider the report of the Accountancy Services Manager (enclosed).
16. Recommendations of the Cabinet Executive: 5 Year Capital Programme 2025/26 to 2029/30 (Pages 135 - 166)
To consider the report of the Finance Group Manager (enclosed).
17. Recommendations of the Cabinet Executive: Prudential Indicator & Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26 (Pages 167 - 218)
To consider the report of the Finance Group Manager (enclosed).
18. Recommendations of the Cabinet Executive: Council Tax 2025/26 (Pages 219 - 230)
To consider the report of the Finance Group Manager (enclosed).
19. Recommendations of the Cabinet Executive: General Fund Budget Proposals 2025/26 (Pages 231 - 254)
To consider the report of the Executive Director (Section 151 Officer) (enclosed).

SECTION 7 - MOTIONS/ DEBATES/CONSULTATIONS & MEMBERS' FEEDBACK

To consider Motions submitted by Councillors, take part in a debate or receive Member feedback from attendance at national briefings, key training initiatives or work on any Outside Bodies.

20. Motion under Council Rules of Procedure

Cllr. Hannah Gill to move the following motion, seconded by Cllr. Paul Hartshorn:

Protection of Community Assets from Future Residential Development

Whereas:

1. Community assets, including parks, recreation areas, heritage sites, and green spaces, are vital for promoting health, well-being, and a sense of identity among residents.
2. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) emphasizes the need to safeguard open spaces and cultural heritage sites, recognizing their importance for biodiversity, recreation, and community cohesion.
3. Increasing pressures from residential development threatens the preservation of these spaces, risking the loss of irreplaceable assets that enhance the quality of

life for residents.

4. Local communities have expressed significant concern regarding the loss of green spaces and community assets, with petitions and consultations highlighting widespread public opposition to development on these sites.
5. The council has a duty to balance housing needs with environmental sustainability and the protection of community resources for future generations.

Be It Resolved That:

1. **The Council declares its commitment to protecting community assets** from inappropriate residential development and affirms their value as essential resources for recreation, heritage, and biodiversity.
2. **The Council directs planning officers to:**
 - a) Identify and catalogue all community assets within the district, including green spaces, cultural heritage sites, and recreational facilities.
 - b) Designate additional protections for high-priority community assets, such as Green Wedge or Local Green Space status, where appropriate.
 - c) Incorporate policies into the updated Local Plan that explicitly restrict residential development on community assets unless exceptional circumstances are demonstrated.
3. **The Council pauses any activities related to the sale of any community assets** until the activities in action point 2 have been fully implemented.
4. **The Council will adopt a precautionary approach to development proposals**, requiring rigorous assessments of environmental, social, and cultural impacts, including cumulative effects on the community, infrastructure, and biodiversity.
5. **The Council will enhance community engagement in the planning process by:**
 - a) Committing to early and transparent consultation on development proposals affecting community assets.
 - b) Empowering local residents and organizations to contribute to decisions regarding the future use and management of these spaces.
6. **The Council advocates for long-term sustainability** by supporting alternative solutions to housing needs, including brownfield redevelopment and innovative housing models, to reduce pressure on community assets

Rationale:

Community assets are integral to the well-being of residents and the character of the district. By proactively protecting these spaces, the council ensures that they remain available for recreation, biodiversity, and cultural enrichment while balancing the need for sustainable housing solutions.

SECTION 8 - EXEMPT REPORTS

There are no reports for consideration under this Section.