

**HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH
BOROUGH COUNCIL**



**Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council**

**AGENDA FOR THE
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

TO BE HELD ON

TUESDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2024

AT 6.30 PM

Fire Evacuation Procedures

- On hearing the fire alarm, leave the building **at once** quickly and calmly by the nearest escape route (indicated by green signs).
- *There are two escape routes from the Council Chamber – at the side and rear. Leave via the door closest to you.*
- Proceed to **Willowbank Road car park**, accessed from Rugby Road then Willowbank Road.
- **Do not** use the lifts.
- **Do not** stop to collect belongings.

Recording of meetings

At HBBC we are open and transparent about how we make decisions. We allow recording, filming and photography at all public meetings including Council, the Executive and Planning Committee as long as doing so does not disturb or disrupt the proceedings. There may occasionally be some reports that are discussed in private session where legislation requires this to happen, but this is infrequent.

We also allow the use of social media during meetings, which helps to bring the issues discussed to a wider audience.

Members of the public, members of the press and councillors are hereby informed that, in attending the meeting, you may be captured on film. If you have a particular problem with this, please contact us so we can discuss how we may accommodate you at the meeting.

Use of mobile phones

To minimise disturbance to others attending the meeting, please switch off your phone or other mobile device or turn it onto silent or vibrate mode.

Thank you



Date: 18 November 2024

Dear Member

I hereby summon you to attend a meeting of the Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council in the Council Chamber at these offices on **TUESDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2024 at 6.30 pm**

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RK Owen'.

Miss RK Owen
Democratic Services Manager

A G E N D A

1. **Apologies**
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting (Pages 1 - 6)**
To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2024.
3. **Additional urgent business by reason of special circumstances**
To be advised of any additional items of business which the Mayor decides by reason of special circumstances shall be taken as matters of urgency at this meeting. Items will be considered at the end of the agenda.
4. **Declarations of interest**
To receive verbally from Members any disclosures which they are required to make in accordance with the Council's code of conduct or in pursuance of Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. This is in addition to the need for such disclosure to be also given when the relevant matter is reached on the Agenda.

5. **Mayor's Communications**

To receive such communications as the Mayor may decide to lay before the Council.

6. **Questions**

To deal with questions under Council Procedure Rule number 14.

7. **Petitions**

To deal with petitions submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.

8. **Leader of the Council's Position Statement**

To receive the Leader of the Council's Position Statement.

9. **Gambling Act 2005 - statement of principles (Pages 7 - 42)**

To recommend re-adoption of the statement of principles as required by the Gambling Act 2005

10. **Renewal of lease for rear of Castle Street car park, Hinckley (Pages 43 - 48)**

To seek approval for the renewal of the lease for the rear of Castle Street car park, Hinckley.

11. **Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report (Pages 49 - 60)**

To seek approval of the overview & scrutiny annual report.

12. **Recommendations of the Ethical Governance & Personnel Committee (Pages 61 - 66)**

To refer recommendations of the Ethical Governance & Personnel Committee to Council.

13. **Motions received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17**

Motion proposed by Councillor R Allen, seconded by Councillor C Allen:

Hinckley and Bosworth is a rural borough, with many family owned and operated farming businesses.

The announcements in the recent Labour budget pose an existential threat to the continuance of these family businesses that have historically passed from generation to generation.

This motion proposes Council notes that:

The recent 2024 autumn budget change to inheritance tax relief announced by the Labour Government will introduce a family farm tax, which will have a devastating impact on family farms and farmers' ability to pass on their farms to the next generation of farmers.

A study by the Farm Safety Foundation found that 95% of farmers under the age of 40 rank poor mental health as the biggest hidden problem they face

today, with farmers working in an industry recognised as having high rates of suicide.

Council believes that:

- The Labour Government has committed a shameful betrayal and let down farmers by breaking its promise to not introduce a family farm tax. Only last year, Secretary of State Steve Reed said: “We have no intention of changing APR (Agricultural Property Relief)”.
- At last year’s NFU conference, Sir Keir Starmer stated that “losing a farm is not like losing any other business, it can’t come back”. He was absolutely right, it can’t. And neither can its ability to produce food for the nation.
- The family farm tax will damage the ability of farmers to pass on their farms to the next generation.
- Labour’s family farm tax will threaten food security by forcing the sale of family farms.
- Numerous rural and farming organisations such as the National Farmers Union and Country Land and Business Association have warned that countless farms will be harmed, threatening food security, progress on measures to tackle climate change, and the rural way of life.
- The comments made by Secretary of State Steve Reed that already struggling farmers will have to “do more with less” are deplorable.
- At a time when many farmers in Hinckley & Bosworth are struggling with soaring costs and energy prices, this sudden tax rise will endanger the future of their farms.

Council resolves:

1. To request that the Chief Executive of HBBC writes to the Secretary of State for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to outline the Council’s dismay at this decision and calls on the Government to reverse its decision to impose family farm tax.
2. That this Council engages with local farmers and community representatives to assess what measures and actions Council can take to support them.
3. That a list must be published by Government of affected farms in Hinckley & Bosworth, Leicestershire and nationally so that the extent of the impact of these proposals can be fully demonstrated and appreciated.

14. Matters from which the public may be excluded

To consider the passing of a resolution under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 excluding the public from the undermentioned item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 and 10 of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Act.

15. Council Depot update (Pages 67 - 78)

To seek approval of a lease to provide depot accommodation for the Street Scene and Housing Repairs services.