

Committee: Ordinary Council	Date: 16 th September 2020
Subject: Notices of Motion	Wards Affected: All
Report of: Jean Sharp – Governance and Members Support Officer	Public
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Summary

Eight Notices of Motion have been submitted in accordance with Rule 3 in Part 4.1 of the Constitution - Council Procedure Rules and are listed in order of the date received.

Motion 1 deferred from 22 January 2020 Ordinary Council meeting.

Received: January 5 01 20 @ 21:26

Proposer Cllr Chilvers, Seconder Cllr Davies

'Fireworks cause considerable distress to our pets, wildlife and livestock. In addition, they cause distress to the sick, vulnerable and those with mental health issues. There are also concerns over their environmental impact.

There are alternatives such as silent fireworks and drone light shows. With Brentwood residents contacting us regularly with their concerns and major supermarket chains halting their sale, it is surely time to review the use of traditional, outdated fireworks and look for a new way to celebrate in 2020.

Unfortunately, councils' powers are limited. Stopping their sale has no impact as people can buy elsewhere and restricting them by licensing powers covers barely any fireworks events as most are private. Licensing officers advised that major reform can only be made at parliamentary level. Therefore, Brentwood Council resolves to write to Alex Burghart MP to request that he formally engages with the RSPCA (the organisation campaigning to change fireworks legislation) and report back within six months.'

Motion 2 Received: 17 08 20 @ 15:41

Proposer Cllr Kendall, Seconder Cllr Aspinell

This Council resolves to admonish the Conservative administration for bringing the Report regarding ASLEA proposals to an Extraordinary Council meeting on the 22 July 2020, rather than to an Ordinary Council meeting.

An Ordinary Council meeting would have enabled alternative motions, amendments and a vote to take place.

This report had potentially huge and far reaching implications for this Council and the people of Brentwood.

The Chamber believes the conduct of the administration on this matter is an affront to the democratic rights of the elected members of this Council, the residents of this Borough and a flagrant disregard for the democratic process.

Motion 3 Received 17 08 20 @ 15:41

Proposer Cllr Aspinell, Seconder Cllr Lewis

This Council resolves to direct the Leader of the Council, as our representative on the ASELA Group to inform the associated membership of ASELA that Brentwood Borough Council does not wish to be involved in any physical formation of a larger combined authority that constitutes ASELA. Moreover, Brentwood Borough Council does not recognise ASELA's right to speak on behalf of Brentwood, or its residents, on the formation of such an authority.

Motion 4 Received 18 08 20 @ 13:13

Proposer Cllr Hossack, Seconder Cllr Parker

This council recognises the significant Local Government Reform agenda and acknowledges that membership of ASELA has brought benefits to Brentwood. Further, acknowledges the Government's own identification of South Essex as a place of "huge potential" and the ability "of the Estuary area more widely to drive growth locally and nationally. It is a unique place with unique potential"

Brentwood's geographic location is unique, bordered to the north by Epping and Chelmsford and to the south by Basildon and Thurrock.

This council recognises at some point Brentwood will likely sit under a Unitary Authority, with an overarching Combined Authority.

Presently it is unclear how the boundaries for any new authorities will be drawn and how much influence the Districts and Boroughs will have.

If Brentwood can influence the alignment process, Council Members should keep options open to see what possibilities emerge as the best deal for Brentwood and its residents, based on hard facts and available evidence.

The Council therefore notes that the Leader has been in dialogue with fellow Leaders in ALL surrounding authorities and notes also the Leader's intention to commission reports that will provide an options analysis and evidence base to support any future decisions by this Council

Motion 5 Received 18 08 20 @ 13:13
Proposer Cllr Nolan, Seconder Cllr Tanner.

In order to further drive transparency, this council moves to make it much clearer on our website, how individual members of this council are remunerated, this information will include:

- Basic Allowances
- Special responsibility allowances
- Expenses (where claimed)
- Other Allowances (for example carers allowance)
- Payment for services (where members with business interests have provided services to this council)

This information should be back dated for 5 years.

This transparency improvement should also form part of an overall project to improve the data source reports on the Council's website.

Motion 6 Received 21 08 20 @ 14:16
Proposer Cllr Lewis Seconder Cllr Aspinell

In February 2020 the National Audit Office said "Local authorities face potential investment risks from buying commercial property, such as in the event of an economic recession or a downturn in a particular economic sector, particularly where authorities are dependent on their rental income to keep up with debt repayments or fund local services".

In the light of the National Audit Office concerns and the United Kingdom now being in severe economic recession, this Council resolves in order to understand the impact of the Council purchasing commercial property may have on the Council's finances moving forward that members of the Council call upon the officers to undertake a full review into the risks, rewards and relationship between Brentwood Borough Council and its wholly-owned subsidiary company SAIL. A full report must be submitted to the Policy Resources and Economic Development Committee within three months of today's date.

Motion 7 Received 26 08 20 @14:47
Proposer Cllr Davies Seconder Cllr Aspinell

The Council is aware that there is an increasing problem regarding complaints regarding both to drug taking and drug dealing that is widespread throughout the Borough. This behaviour causes suffering and distress to neighbours and neighbourhoods in general.

This Council resolves to request that officers look at how best to address this issue. That those tenants who are found guilty of drug related offences know that the Council will not tolerate such anti-social behaviour.

Motion 8 agreed wording 26 08 20 @ 14.48
Proposer Cllr Mynott, Seconder Cllr Aspinell

As a non-partisan national organisation with the best interests of local government at heart, the Local Government Association recently joined with fifteen other organisations imploring the government to keep the Planning system in England local. As reported in First magazine, 'In an open letter to the Telegraph, the LGA and partners warned that taking Planning powers away from communities and councils will only deprive them of the ability to define the area they live in and know best, and risks giving developers the freedom to "ride roughshod" over local areas'. Conservative Cllr James Jamieson, LGA chair, said 'Planning powers must remain at local level, to enable councils to deliver resilient, prosperous places that meet the needs of their communities'.

This Council resolves to ask that an official representation to central government, agreeing wholeheartedly with the LGA position, and expressing deep concern at (hence opposition to), threatened current moves to strip local authorities of their Planning powers be made by the appropriate officer(s) in consultation with the appropriate Councillors and Leader of this Council.