



EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**THE GRANGE, NUTHOLT LANE,
ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB7 4EE
Telephone: 01353 665555**

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Meeting of the **EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL** will be held on **THURSDAY 20 OCTOBER 2022** in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER** at **THE GRANGE, NUTHOLT LANE, ELY, CB7 4EE**, commencing at **6.00pm** with up to 15 minutes of Public Question Time, immediately followed by the formal business, and you are summoned to attend for the transaction of the following business.

Following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the subsequent proclamation of His Majesty King Charles III, the Chairman will read a tribute which will be followed by a one minute silence

AGENDA

- 1. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** **[oral]**
The meeting will commence with up to 15 minutes Public Question Time
- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** **[oral]**
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** **[oral]**
To receive declarations of interest from Members for any items on the Agenda in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct
- 4. MINUTES – 14 JULY 2022**
To confirm as a correct record
- 5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS** **[oral]**
- 6. PARKING ENFORCEMENT**
Update by Superintendent James Sutherland, Cambridgeshire Police **[oral]**
- 7. TO RECEIVE PETITION(S)** **[oral]**

8. NOTICE OF MOTIONS UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 10 [oral]

(i) Cost of Living

East Cambridgeshire District Council is determined to ensure the protection of the residents of East Cambridgeshire from the cost of living challenge driven by Covid and Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine, the combined effects of which have led to rising energy prices and residents facing significant cost of living pressures.

This Council is thankful for the significant work by the Government to support the residents of East Cambridgeshire. It notes the benefit of the two-year energy price guarantee and the certainty it will give to residents across the district as well as the enormous help that the £400 energy bill discount will provide to every household.

It further notes the additional support of the £650 cost of living payment for those in receipt of means-tested benefits, £300 for pensioner households and £150 for recipients of disability benefits in East Cambridgeshire and thanks the Government for providing equivalent support for those not on the mains energy grid. It also notes the protection of jobs in East Cambridgeshire that the six-month protection for businesses will provide.

East Cambridgeshire District Council welcomes the plans by Government to secure long term energy independence for the country by maximising domestic energy production through North Sea oil and gas, as well as nuclear and renewables.

This Council is also doing its part to protect our residents from the cost of living challenge, specifically, it:

- Continues to invest in our Housing and Community Advice Service fully utilising our Housing and Community Advice Bus, Community Hubs and advisors at The Grange;
- Supports the provision of warm hubs in the District;
- Works with partners in Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT) to help residents with energy bills and obtain EPC reports;
- Provides advice to residents through our Energy Advice Officers to access grant funding to undertake energy efficiency measures;

Council notes:

- This Council has frozen its share of Council Tax bills for the last 9 years, the only district, unitary, or county council in the country to have done so;
- This Council has a long track record of having a balanced budget for 2 financial years at a time;
- This Council has no external borrowing;
- This Council has a prudent level of reserves in the General Fund equivalent to 10% of our operating budget.

Therefore, this Council resolves to freeze its share of Council Tax for 2023/24 for a tenth consecutive year.

Proposer: Cllr Anna Bailey
Secunder: Cllr Julia Huffer

(ii) **Cost of Living Emergency**

This Council notes that:

- Annual price inflation is at a level not seen for 40 years.
- On 1 April 2022, Ofgem increased the energy price cap by 54%.
- On 1 October 2022, energy prices increased by a further 27%.
- Over a period of just over six months the average standard tariff has increased by £1,222 to £2,500 for the average household.
- The Government suspended the pensions ‘triple lock’ for 2022/3, meaning East Cambridgeshire’s 18,000 pensioners have seen a rise of 3.1% this year (instead of 8.3% under the triple lock formula). This will cost pensioners in East Cambridgeshire hundreds of pounds.
- In 2021/22 Foodbanks in East Cambridgeshire distributed 2,981 food parcels (Trussell Trust, 2022).

In addition, people living in rural areas such as East Cambridgeshire are disproportionately affected by fuel price increases because of poor public transport and longer distances to reach work, education and health services.

This Council therefore declares a ‘Cost of Living Emergency’ and asks the Chief Executive to write to relevant government ministers and our local MPs to ask for urgent action to relieve the cost-of-living crisis through such measures as:

- Provide immediate financial support for consumers of heating oil, bottled gas, solid fuels, those reliant on generators for electricity and those on prepayment meters.
- Consider reducing VAT to 17.5% putting money back into the pockets of average families, boosting the economy and helping to support local retailers
- Deliver a real and immediate increase in investment in UK renewables and an energy plan for the UK which reduces costs for the end user and leads to the decarbonisation of the UK energy network in the long term.

Council also resolves to ask the Chief Executive to develop proposals to:

- Expand the East Cambridgeshire Council Tax Reduction Scheme to reduce the tax burden for lower income households
- To protect and expand funding for partnership grants delivering advice services to residents in next year’s budget and future years
- Work with partners to improve access to affordable food across East Cambridgeshire

Finally, Council calls for an East Cambridgeshire Cost-of-Living Emergency Summit, with stakeholders, including all tiers of local government, Citizens Advice, Food Banks, Local Trades Unions, and Chambers of Commerce along with local Members of Parliament.

Proposer: Cllr Mark Inskip

Seconder: Cllr Charlotte Cane

9. TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

[oral]

10. SCHEDULE OF ITEMS RECOMMENDED FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEMBER BODIES:

- a. Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS) Review 2023/24**
- b. Council Tax on Long-Term Empty Properties**

**c. Compulsory Purchase Order of Land at Lode Road,
Bottisham**

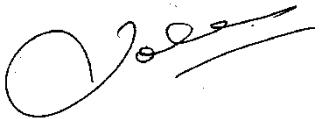
**11. THE MAKING (ADOPTION) OF THE HADDENHAM AND ALDRETH
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Due to the size of the document, the Haddenham and Aldreth Neighbourhood Plan, Appendix 1 of the report, has been circulated separately to Councillors. Copies are available on the Council's website www.eastcambs.gov.uk or from Democratic Services

**12. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW – BURROUGH GREEN /
WESTLEY WATERLESS PARISH BOUNDARY**

**13. CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED
AUTHORITY UPDATE REPORT**

**14. ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ON THE GROUNDS
OF URGENCY**



**J Hill
Chief Executive**

To: All Members of the Council

NOTES:

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting. Admittance is on a "first come, first served" basis and public access will be from 30 minutes before the start time of the meeting. Due to room capacity restrictions, members of the public are asked, where possible, to notify Democratic Services (democratic.services@eastcambs.gov.uk or 01353 665555) of their intention to attend a meeting.

The meeting will be webcast and a live stream of the meeting will be available. Further details can be found at www.eastcambs.gov.uk/meetings/council-20102022. Please be aware that all attendees, including those in the public gallery, will be visible on the livestream.

Public Questions/Statements are welcomed on any topic related to the Council's functions as long as there is no suspicion that it is improper (e.g. offensive, slanderous or might lead to disclosures of Exempt or Confidential information). Up to 15 minutes is allocated for this at the start of the meeting. Further details about the Public Question Time scheme are available at: <https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/committees/public-question-time-scheme>

The Council has adopted a 'Purge on Plastics' strategy and is working towards the removal of all consumer single-use plastics in our workplace. Therefore, we do not provide disposable cups at our meetings and would ask members of the public to bring their own drink to the meeting, if required.

Fire instructions for meeting: The instructions in the event of a fire at the venue will be announced at the commencement of the meeting.

Reports are attached for each agenda item unless marked "oral".

If required, all items on the agenda can be provided in different formats (e.g. large type, Braille or audio tape, or translated into other languages), on request, by calling Main Reception on (01353) 665555 or e-mail: translate@eastcambs.gov.uk

If the Committee wishes to exclude the public and press from the meeting, a resolution in the following terms will need to be passed:

"That the press and public be excluded during the consideration of the remaining item no(s). X because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the item(s) there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of Category X of Part I Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)."

