

**EXTRAORDINARY
MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL**



Thursday, 21st May, 2015

**To commence upon the rising
of Annual Council**

**Council Chamber
Thanet District Council
Margate**

**www.thanet.gov.uk
01843 577000**

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Date: 13 May 2015
Ask For: James Clapson
Direct Dial: (01843) 577200
Email: james.clapson@thanet.gov.uk



You are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of the Thanet District Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent on Thursday, 21 May 2015 at Time Not Specified for the purpose of transacting the business mentioned below.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Bach", with a horizontal line underneath.

Democratic Services & Scrutiny Manager

To: The Members of Thanet District Council

FIRE ALARM PROCEDURES: If the fire alarm is activated, please vacate the offices via the stairs either through the security door to the left of the Chairman or opposite the lifts in the foyer. Please do not use the lifts. Please assemble in Hawley Square on the green. Officers will assist you and advise when it is deemed safe to return to the Chamber.

AGENDA

Item
No

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
3. **MANSTON AIRPORT** (Pages 1 - 2)

Declaration of Interests Form

MANSTON AIRPORT

To: **Extraordinary Council – 21 May 2015**

By: **Monitoring Officer at the request of Cllr Wells (Leader of the UKIP group)**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **All**

Summary: For Council to recommend that Cabinet review its position on Manston Airport, taking into account any relevant changes in circumstances since 2014.

For Decision

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 Manston Airport closed on 15th May 2014 following which the Council commissioned an independent report considering the viability of Manston Airport which was published in July. On 10th July, a petition was presented to Thanet District Council calling for it to compulsory purchase the privately-owned site. The council has been clear that a decision to compulsory purchase (CPO) the airport would depend on identifying a suitable indemnity partner and evidence of the economic viability of the airport.
- 1.2 On the 17th July an Extraordinary meeting of Cabinet took place. The meeting discussed the process and conditions for selecting a third party to underwrite the council should TDC apply for a CPO. Cabinet further resolved on 31st July 2014 to carry out a soft-market testing exercise to identify a suitable CPO indemnity partner.
- 1.3 The Council was informed in September 2014 that the Manston site had been bought by regeneration specialists **who are** part of the Discovery Park consortium responsible for developing the Pfizer site in Sandwich and the Wynyard Business Park in the North East England.
- 1.4 Following a progress report to Cabinet on 16th October 2014 a final outcome report on the soft market testing exercise was considered by Cabinet on 11th December 2014.
- 1.5 Cabinet decided:
 1. That no further action be taken at the present time on a CPO of Manston Airport, on the basis that the Council has not identified any suitable expressions of interest that fulfil the requirements of the Council for a CPO indemnity partner and that it does not have the financial resources to pursue a CPO in its own right;
 2. That subject to obtaining written consent from Party A; relevant information is sent to the Minister of State for Transport for consideration.

2.0 Current position

- 2.1 Following the election in May 2015, a new Council has been elected, and an extraordinary meeting of the Council has been called to recommend to the new Cabinet that it should

review the position concerning Manston Airport, taking account of all the options available.

3.0 Corporate Implications

3.1 Financial and VAT

3.1.1 Any decisions taken regarding Manston Airport by Members will need to take account of any financial implications for the Council.

3.2 Legal

3.2.1 Any discussions and proposals must not appear to fetter the Council's discretion or impartiality in considering any future planning application in relation to the site.

3.3 Corporate

3.3.1 The site at Manston Airport represents a significant land holding that will have an impact on future economic development in Thanet. Corporate plan priorities will be fully considered as part of this on-going process.

3.4 Equity and Equalities

3.4.1 There is no specific issue arising from this report and recommendations which adversely affects any specific category of Equality group.

4.0 Recommendation(s)

4.1 Council recommends to Cabinet that it reviews its position in relation to the Manston Airport site, taking account of all the surrounding circumstances relating to an indemnity partner for a possible Compulsory Purchase Order.

Future Meeting if applicable: N/A	Date: N/A
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Contact Officer:	Madeline Homer Acting Chief Executive.
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Annex List

None	N/A
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Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	N/A

Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	Nicola Walker – Head of Financial Services
Legal	Steven Boyle – Legal Services Manager & Monitoring Officer

THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL DECLARATION OF INTEREST FORM

Do I have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and if so what action should I take?

Your Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) are those interests that are, or should be, listed on your Register of Interest Form.

If you are at a meeting and the subject relating to one of your DPIs is to be discussed, in so far as you are aware of the DPI, you **must** declare the existence **and** explain the nature of the DPI during the declarations of interest agenda item, at the commencement of the item under discussion, or when the interest has become apparent

Once you have declared that you have a DPI (unless you have been granted a dispensation by the Standards Committee or the Monitoring Officer, for which you will have applied to the Monitoring Officer prior to the meeting) you **must:-**

1. Not speak or vote on the matter;
2. Withdraw from the meeting room during the consideration of the matter;
3. Not seek to improperly influence the decision on the matter.

Do I have a significant interest and if so what action should I take?

A significant interest is an interest (other than a DPI or an interest in an Authority Function) which:

1. Affects the financial position of yourself and/or an associated person; or Relates to the determination of your application for any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration made by, or on your behalf of, you and/or an associated person;
2. And which, in either case, a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as being so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgment of the public interest.

An associated person is defined as:

- A family member or any other person with whom you have a close association, including your spouse, civil partner, or somebody with whom you are living as a husband or wife, or as if you are civil partners; or
- Any person or body who employs or has appointed such persons, any firm in which they are a partner, or any company of which they are directors; or
- Any person or body in whom such persons have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000;
- Any body of which you are in a position of general control or management and to which you are appointed or nominated by the Authority; or
- any body in respect of which you are in a position of general control or management and which:
 - exercises functions of a public nature; or
 - is directed to charitable purposes; or
 - has as its principal purpose or one of its principal purposes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union)

An Authority Function is defined as: -

- Housing - where you are a tenant of the Council provided that those functions do not relate particularly to your tenancy or lease; or
- Any allowance, payment or indemnity given to members of the Council;
- Any ceremonial honour given to members of the Council
- Setting the Council Tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992

If you are at a meeting and you think that you have a significant interest then you **must** declare the existence **and** nature of the significant interest at the commencement of the

matter, or when the interest has become apparent, or the declarations of interest agenda item.

Once you have declared that you have a significant interest (unless you have been granted a dispensation by the Standards Committee or the Monitoring Officer, for which you will have applied to the Monitoring Officer prior to the meeting) you **must**:-

1. Not speak or vote (unless the public have speaking rights, or you are present to make representations, answer questions or to give evidence relating to the business being discussed in which case you can speak only)
2. Withdraw from the meeting during consideration of the matter or immediately after speaking.
3. Not seek to improperly influence the decision.

Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality

Councillors must declare at meetings any gift, benefit or hospitality with an estimated value (or cumulative value if a series of gifts etc.) of £100 or more. You **must**, at the commencement of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, disclose the existence and nature of the gift, benefit or hospitality, the identity of the donor and how the business under consideration relates to that person or body. However you can stay in the meeting unless it constitutes a significant interest, in which case it should be declared as outlined above.

What if I am unsure?

If you are in any doubt, Members are strongly advised to seek advice from the Monitoring Officer or the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager well in advance of the meeting.

DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, SIGNIFICANT INTERESTS AND GIFTS, BENEFITS AND HOSPITALITY

MEETING

DATE..... **AGENDA ITEM**

DISCRETIONARY PECUNIARY INTEREST

SIGNIFICANT INTEREST

GIFTS, BENEFITS AND HOSPITALITY

THE NATURE OF THE INTEREST, GIFT, BENEFITS OR HOSPITALITY:

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.....
.....

NAME (PRINT):

SIGNATURE:

Please detach and hand this form to the Democratic Services Officer when you are asked to declare any interests.