

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL



**SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA NO. 1
REPLACEMENT PETITION REPORT (Item 5a)
QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL (Items 7b – 7e)**

Thursday, 24th April, 2014

7.00 pm

**Council Chamber
Thanet District Council
Margate**

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

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Date: 17 April 2014
Ask For: Anona Somasundaram
Direct Dial: (01843) 577046
Email: anona.somasundaram@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, 24 April 2014 at 7.00 pm for the purpose of transacting the business mentioned below.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Bach".

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.

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA NO. 1

Item
No

Subject

5a **PETITION NO. 1 - MARGATE PORT** (Pages 1 - 4)

Replacement report, with completed financial implications section, attached

7. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

To receive questions from Members of the Council in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.

7b **QUESTION NO. 2 - MANSTON AIRPORT** (Pages 5 - 6)

7c **QUESTION NO. 3 - PEER REVIEW REPORT** (Pages 7 - 8)

7d **QUESTION NO. 4 - RESTRUCTURE OF THE COUNCIL** (Pages 9 - 10)

7e **QUESTION NO. 5 - PARKING PERMITS** (Pages 11 - 12)

PETITION TO COUNCIL – MARGATE PORT

To: **Council – 24 April 2014**

By: **Director of Operational Services**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Wards: **Margate Central Wards**

Summary: **A Petition to the Council has been received in relation to the smell of Margate Harbour.**

For decision

1.0 Introduction and background information

1.1 Under the terms of the Council's petitions scheme, members of the public may present petitions at ordinary meetings of Council; and if a petition has over 25, but less than 650, signatories, it will be referred to Cabinet or an appropriate committee without debate for report to Council within three ordinary meetings.

1.2 The petitions scheme also states that the total time devoted to the consideration of petitions at any single Council meeting will not exceed 30 minutes.

2.0 Current situation

2.1 A petition containing 207 valid signatures has been received from Mr Arthur Martin. Unfortunately, 103 further entries had to be disallowed on the basis that they did not contain all three of the name, address and signature of the petitioners. The petitions scheme requires that an entry on a petition must include, "the name and address and signature of any person supporting the petition".

2.2 The petition states:

"It is about our Margate Cinque Port Harbour that has for many years been allowed to build up with rotting, decaying mud rubbish, sediments and seaweed. This is creating a methane sewage emitting smell, that smells similar to urine and the stench is airborne because of the build-up of sediments over on-going years. It is putting people off from coming to our Heritage Cinque Port Harbour. The Council are advertising Our Town as a unique port and that Cinque Ports are to look after sailors when coming into Margate.

As the Council are in charge of maintaining our beaches which is included in people's rates, the smell that the harbour emits is putting people off coming to our town. The main problem seems to have started when the sluice arched part got bricked up on the outer side of the harbour wall which allowed water to pass through and clear the inner harbour of unwanted sediments, mud and seaweed. This would take it out to the sea. We the petitioners are disgusted that this has been allowed to happen over many years which would not bring prosperity to our town. The problems are easy to resolve, i.e re-open the sluice with a big gated gate to allow water pass through clearing the harbour of decaying debris. There was once a time when the harbour was full of vessels of all types, including yachts and cargo boats. Now only smaller crafts can enter our harbour as its been allowed

to clog up with debris of all kinds. This is putting off our holiday makers and people who visit our Turner Centre and some wouldn't want to come again. We the petitioners feel that businesses are suffering in the area. It is a disgrace for our Heritage Town. The Council have recently spent millions of pounds on steps and an Art Gallery. It is a small amount of money to re-open the sluice gate and would solve the problems for good. Under Maritime Law and Cinque Port Laws which the Council advertise this build up should never of happened as sailors cannot get boats in any more, as the sand has built up over the years. How is this neglect helping sailors and our ports? That is why Cinque Ports were made, many years ago to look after sailors mainly.

We hope that our petition will sort this problem out for Margate. We hope our Port will be a better attraction for all in the future once this sluice gate is re-opened."

- 2.3 Mr Martin, as petition originator, has confirmed that he will present the petition at this meeting; he will, under the petitions scheme, have up to three minutes in which to speak.

3.0 Corporate Implications

3.1 Financial

- 3.1.1 The cost of reopening the sluice has been estimated to be in the region of £17k. Further works to install a lift gate (as existed when the sluice was last open) may be required costing approximately £55k. The likely annual cost of maintenance would be £10k. No budget provision exists for this expenditure and so funds would need to be identified should Members wish to consider this.

3.2 Legal

- 3.2.1 This petition relates to an executive function. As such, and because of the number of signatories, it must be referred to Cabinet.

3.3 Corporate

- 3.3.1 In accordance with the Council's petition scheme if a petition has over 25, but less than 650, signatories, it will be referred to Cabinet or an appropriate committee without debate for report to Council within three ordinary meetings

3.4 Equity and Equalities

- 3.4.1 There are no specific equity and equalities issues arising from this report.

4.0 Recommendation

- 4.1 That the petition is referred to Cabinet without debate for report back to Council within three ordinary meetings.

5.0 Decision Making Process

- 5.1 Under the Council's petitions scheme, Council is required to refer the petition to Cabinet or appropriate committee for report back to Council.

Contact Officer:	Mark Seed, Director of Operations, ext 7742
Reporting to:	Dr Sue McGonigal, Chief Executive and S. 151 Officer, ext 7002

Annex List

None	
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Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	Matthew Sanham – Finance Manager
Legal	Steve Boyle – Interim Legal Services Manager

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QUESTION NO. 2 FROM A MEMBER – MANSTON AIRPORT

To: **Council – 24 April 2014**

By: **Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **All Wards**

Summary: **The Leader of Council and Cabinet Member for Strategic Economic Development Services to receive a question from a Member of Council in relation to the proposed closure of Manston Airport.**

For Decision

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The following question, addressed to Councillor C Hart, has been received from Councillor King in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 14.

Would Councillor Hart tell Council precisely what action he has taken as Leader of the Council to address the proposed closure of Manston Airport?
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- 1.2 Council Procedure Rule 14.2 states that a Member of the Council may ask

- a Member of the Cabinet; or
- the Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee

a question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the district.

- 1.3 Council Procedure Rule 14.6 states that an answer may take the form of:

- a) a direct oral answer;
- b) where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, a reference to that publication; or
- c) where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated within three working days to the questioner.

- 1.4 A Member may, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.7, ask one supplementary question without notice to the Member to whom the first question was asked. The supplemental question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply.

- 1.5 The questioner shall have two minutes for the initial question and one minute for the supplementary question and the respondent shall have five minutes for the initial reply and two minutes for the supplementary reply. (Council Procedure Rule 14.8 refers)

2.0 Corporate Implications

2.1 Financial

2.1.1 None arising at this stage

2.2 Legal

2.2.1 None arising at this stage

2.3 Corporate

2.3.1 Council Procedure Rule 14 enables Members of Council to ask a Member of the Cabinet or the Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee questions on matters in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affect the district. No Member, however, can submit more than one question to one meeting.

2.4 Equity and Equalities

2.4.1 None arising at this stage

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 This report is for information only.

4.0 Decision Making Process

4.1 This report is for information only.

Contact Officer:	Glenn Back, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager
Reporting to:	Harvey Patterson, Corporate & Regulatory Services Manager and Monitoring Officer

Annex List

None	
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Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	

Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	n/a
Legal	n/a

QUESTION NO. 3 FROM A MEMBER – PEER REVIEW REPORT

To: **Council – 24 April 2014**

By: **Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **N/A**

Summary: **The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Strategic Economic Development Services to receive a question from a Member of Council in relation to the draft Peer Review Report**

For Decision

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1. The following question, addressed to Councillor C Hart, has been received from Councillor Driver in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 14.

I understand that the Council has been in possession of the draft Peer Review report for almost 3 weeks. Could you tell me when this report will be made available to all Councillors?

- 1.2 Council Procedure Rule 14.2 states that a Member of the Council may ask

- a Member of the Cabinet; or
- the Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee

a question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the district.

- 1.3 Council Procedure Rule 14.6 states that an answer may take the form of:

- a) a direct oral answer;
- b) where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, a reference to that publication; or
- c) where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated within three working days to the questioner.

- 1.4 A Member may, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.7, ask one supplementary question without notice to the Member to whom the first question was asked. The supplemental question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply.

- 1.5 The questioner shall have two minutes for the initial question and one minute for the supplementary question and the respondent shall have five minutes for the initial reply and two minutes for the supplementary reply. (Council Procedure Rule 14.8 refers)

2.0 Corporate Implications

2.1 Financial

2.1.1 None arising at this stage

2.2 Legal

2.2.1 None arising at this stage

2.3 Corporate

2.3.1 Council Procedure Rule 14 enables Members of Council to ask a Member of the Cabinet or the Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee questions on matters in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affect the district. No Member, however, can submit more than one question to one meeting.

2.4 Equity and Equalities

2.4.1 None arising at this stage

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 This report is for information only.

4.0 Decision Making Process

4.1 This report is for information only.

Contact Officer:	Glenn Back, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager
Reporting to:	Harvey Patterson, Corporate & Regulatory Services Manager and Monitoring Officer

Annex List

None	
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Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	

Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	n/a
Legal	n/a

QUESTION NO. 4 FROM A MEMBER – RESTRUCTURE OF THE COUNCIL

To: **Council – 24 April 2014**

By: **Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **N/A**

Summary: **The Cabinet Member for Business, Corporate and Regulatory Services to receive a question from a Member of Council in relation to the restructure of the Council**

For Decision

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The following question, addressed to the Cabinet Member for Business, Corporate and Regulatory Services has been received from Councillor Wells in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 14.

Could the Cabinet Member for Business, Corporate and Regulatory Services please advise why it was deemed appropriate for the Chief Executive not to report their proposals for restructure of this council to the authority as appears to be required by section 4 of The Local Government and Housing Act 1989?

- 1.3 Council Procedure Rule 14.2 states that a Member of the Council may ask

- a Member of the Cabinet; or
- the Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee

a question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the district.

- 1.4 Council Procedure Rule 14.6 states that an answer may take the form of:

- a) a direct oral answer;
- b) where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, a reference to that publication; or
- c) where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated within three working days to the questioner.

- 1.5 A Member may, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.7, ask one supplementary question without notice to the Member to whom the first question was asked. The supplemental question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply.

- 1.6 The questioner shall have two minutes for the initial question and one minute for the supplementary question and the respondent shall have five minutes for the initial reply and two minutes for the supplementary reply. (Council Procedure Rule 14.8 refers)

2.0 Corporate Implications

2.1 Financial

2.1.1 None arising at this stage

2.2 Legal

2.2.1 None arising at this stage

2.3 Corporate

2.3.1 Council Procedure Rule 14 enables Members of Council to ask a Member of the Cabinet or the Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee questions on matters in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affect the district. No Member, however, can submit more than one question to one meeting.

2.4 Equity and Equalities

2.4.1 None arising at this stage

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 This report is for information only.

4.0 Decision Making Process

4.1 This report is for information only.

Contact Officer:	Glenn Back, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager
Reporting to:	Harvey Patterson, Corporate & Regulatory Services Manager and Monitoring Officer

Annex List

None	
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Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	

Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	n/a
Legal	n/a

QUESTION NO. 5 FROM A MEMBER – PARKING PERMITS

To: **Council – 24 April 2014**

By: **Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **All Wards**

Summary: **The Cabinet Member for Operational Services to receive a question from a Member of Council in relation to parking permits**

For Decision

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The following question, addressed to the Cabinet Member for Operational Services has been received from Councillor Duncan in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 14.

How many annual subscribers to both the short-term parking permits and the long-term parking permits did not pay to renew them this April?

- 1.2 Council Procedure Rule 14.2 states that a Member of the Council may ask

- a Member of the Cabinet; or
- the Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee

a question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the district.

- 1.3 Council Procedure Rule 14.6 states that an answer may take the form of:

- a) a direct oral answer;
- b) where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, a reference to that publication; or
- c) where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated within three working days to the questioner.

- 1.4 A Member may, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.7, ask one supplementary question without notice to the Member to whom the first question was asked. The supplemental question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply.

- 1.5 The questioner shall have two minutes for the initial question and one minute for the supplementary question and the respondent shall have five minutes for the initial reply and two minutes for the supplementary reply. (Council Procedure Rule 14.8 refers)

2.0 Corporate Implications

2.1 Financial

2.1.1 None arising at this stage

2.2 Legal

2.2.1 None arising at this stage

2.3 Corporate

2.3.1 Council Procedure Rule 14 enables Members of Council to ask a Member of the Cabinet or the Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee questions on matters in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affect the district. No Member, however, can submit more than one question to one meeting.

2.4 Equity and Equalities

2.4.1 None arising at this stage

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 This report is for information only.

4.0 Decision Making Process

4.1 This report is for information only.

Contact Officer:	Glenn Back, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager
Reporting to:	Harvey Patterson, Corporate & Regulatory Services Manager and Monitoring Officer

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None	

Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	n/a
Legal	n/a