



Walsall Council

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Walsall to be held on **MONDAY the SIXTEENTH day of JANUARY, 2006, at 6.00 p.m.** at the Council House, Walsall.

Dated this 6th day of January, 2006.

Yours sincerely,

Chief Executive.

The business to be transacted is as follows:-

1. Apologies.
2. To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 7th November, 2005.
3. Declarations of interest.
4. Mayor's announcements.
5. To receive any petitions.
6. To answer any questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rules:-
 - (a) From the public.
 - (b) From members of the Council.

7. Mayoralty 2006/2007. Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 2(vi) to nominate the Mayor-Elect and Deputy Mayor-Elect for 2006/2007 in accordance with the powers contained in Sections 3 and 5 of the Local Government Act, 1972.

8. Membership of School Organisation Committee. Report reproduced in the reports booklet for this meeting. Council is asked to agree the recommendation set out in the report.

9. To consider the following motion, notice of which has been duly given by Councillors Robinson, Wilkes, Chambers, Coughlan and Anson:-

This Council currently understands that meeting our 2005/06 environmental targets for recycling may be doubtful. In view of this and the possible impact of increased landfill tax on the level of Council tax and the countless petitions that come before Council, we believe that the pre budget costs announced to the Regeneration, Environment, Housing and Community Safety Scrutiny and Performance Panel to provide every resident in the borough with a brown bin would be money wisely spent.

Council therefore supports the principle that every residential property in the borough that wants a brown bin be given this.

10. To consider the following motion, notice of which has been duly given by Councillors I. Shires and D.A. Shires:-

This Council notes the recent announcement by David Milliband MP (Minister for Communities and Local Government) that the Government has decided to delay the long awaited revaluation of the Council tax base in England.

This Council expresses concern:

- A total of £50m has to date been wasted on the scrapped revaluation exercise. This is not an effective use of public money.
- At the delay in the revaluation of the Council tax base in England which means that the poorest residents in Walsall continue to pay a disproportionately high amount of their income in Council tax.
- That the unfairness of the Council tax is particularly felt in low wage areas and the Government are urged to take seriously the issue of fairness and to at least undertake the revaluation process as a matter of urgency.
- At the inherent unfairness of the Council tax.

This Council calls for the abolition of Council tax and its replacement with a local income tax based upon income and ability to pay.

11. To consider the following motion, notice of which has been duly given by Councillors I. Shires and D.A. Shires:-

This Council notes:

- The launch of the Zero Waste Charter at Westminster on 18th June 2002 by many environmental groups in order to tackle the long-term problem of waste, landfill and incineration.
- That many Council have since adopted a Zero Waste policy for their long term waste strategies.

This Council adopts the following based on the Zero Waste Charter:

- Setting a target of Zero Waste for all municipal waste in the UK by 2020 (60% recycling by 2010, 75% by 2015).
- Promoting the doorstep collection of dry recyclables to every home in Walsall.
- Supplementing home composting with doorstep collection of organic waste, subject to appropriate safeguards against contamination, and establishing a network of local closed vessel compost plants.
- Developing civic amenity sites into re-use and recycling centres to give a greater emphasis to recycling and composting.
- Banning as soon as possible the landfilling of organic waste that has not been treated and neutralised, thereby reducing the production of methane.
- Opening up waste planning to greater public participation and ending the commercial confidentiality of waste contracts to ensure greater openness and accountability.



Walsall Council

R E P O R T S

To be presented to the Council at the meeting
to be held on **MONDAY 16TH JANUARY 2006**

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School Organisation Committee

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ANNIE SHEPPERD,

Chief Executive,
Walsall.