

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL



EXECUTIVE SERVICES

Chief Executive
Damian Roberts

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NB - This agenda contains proposals, recommendations and options. These do not represent Council policy or decisions until they have received proper consideration through the full decision making process.

Contact: Democratic Services
committee.services@tmbc.gov.uk

22 August 2024

To: MEMBERS OF THE TONBRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM
(Copies to all Members of the Council)

Dear Sir/Madam

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the Tonbridge Community Forum to be held **online via MS Teams** on Monday, 2nd September, 2024 commencing at 7.30 pm.

Information on how on to observe the meeting will be available on our website.

Yours faithfully

DAMIAN ROBERTS

Chief Executive

A G E N D A

1. Guidance on the Conduct of Meetings 5 - 6
2. Appointment of Chair

To confirm the appointment of Councillor Lee Athwal as Chairman of the Tonbridge Community Forum.
3. Apologies for absence

4. Notification of Substitute Members 7 - 8
5. Minutes 9 - 12

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of Tonbridge Community Forum held on 20 May 2024.

6. Update on any action identified in the last Minutes

Matters raised in Advance of the meeting

Details of the matter to be raised should be provided in writing or by email to committee.services@tmbc.gov.uk at least 10 working days before the meeting. This is so that a response can be provided on the evening of the meeting. Only one question may be submitted by an organisation due to the time limitations.

7. Access to Cash

To receive an update from the Chairman on Access to Cash in Tonbridge.

8. Promotion of Upcoming Events

Members are provided the opportunity to advise of future events in and around Tonbridge.

9. Any Other Business

To consider any other issues raised at the meeting. Any answers, actions and/or outcomes may be provided at the next meeting of the Tonbridge Community Forum.

- Update on Local Plan

DISTRIBUTION

Borough Council Representatives:

Cllr L Athwal (Chair)
Cllr D W King (Vice-Chair)
Cllr K Barton
Cllr G C Bridge
Cllr J Clokey
Cllr A Cope
Cllr F A Hoskins
Cllr A Mehmet
Cllr R W G Oliver
Cllr B A Parry
Cllr S Pilgrim
Cllr M R Rhodes
Cllr K S Tunstall

Members of the Forum:

Mr M Hood (County Councillor)
Mr P Stepto (County Councillor)

Friends of Mill Stream (Vice-Chair)
Angel Indoor Bowls Club
EMBER Community Interest Group
Feast
Rotary Club of Tonbridge
Tonbridge and Malling Seniors
Tonbridge Bicycle Users Group
Tonbridge Civic Society
Tonbridge Dementia Friendly Community
Tonbridge District Scout Council
Tonbridge Historical Society
Tonbridge Line Commuters
Tonbridge Lions Club
Tonbridge Parish Church
Tonbridge Sports Association
Tonbridge Town Team
Tonbridge U3A

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GUIDANCE ON HOW MEETINGS WILL BE CONDUCTED

- (1) Most of the Borough Council meetings are livestreamed, unless there is exempt or confidential business being discussed, giving residents the opportunity to see decision making in action. These can be watched via our YouTube channel. When it is not possible to livestream meetings they are recorded and uploaded as soon as possible:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPp-IJISNgoF-ugSzxjAPfw/featured>

- (2) There are no fire drills planned during the time a meeting is being held. For the benefit of those in the meeting room, the fire alarm is a long continuous bell and the exits are via the doors used to enter the room. An officer on site will lead any evacuation.
- (3) Should you need this agenda or any of the reports in a different format, or have any other queries concerning the meeting, please contact Democratic Services on committee.services@tmbc.gov.uk in the first instance.

Attendance:

- Meetings of the Forum will alternate between 'in person' or online meetings. Please check the agenda as this will set out the meeting venue.
- Members of the Forum should attend in person wherever possible those meetings that are to be held in person.
- Those Members of the Forum who cannot attend in person have the opportunity to participate online.
- Other Members of the Council are encouraged to participate online.
- Officers can participate in person or online.

Before formal proceedings start there will be a sound check of Members/Officers in the room. This is to ensure that those participating online can hear those in the meeting room and confirms attendance.

Ground Rules:

The meeting will operate under the following ground rules:

- Members in the room should indicate to speak in the usual way and use the microphone passed to them.
- If there any technical issues the meeting will be adjourned to try and rectify them. If this is not possible there are a number of options that can be taken to enable the meeting to continue. These will be explained if it becomes necessary.

For those Members participating online:

- please request to speak using the 'chat or hand raised function';
- please turn off cameras and microphones when not speaking;
- please do not use the 'chat function' for other matters as comments can be seen by all;
- Members may wish to blur the background on their camera using the facility on Microsoft teams.
- Please avoid distractions and general chat if not addressing the meeting
- Please remember to turn off or silence mobile phones

Tonbridge Community Forum

	Conservative	Liberal Democratic	Green	Ind. Kent Alliance	Labour
1	Matt Boughton				
2	Martin Coffin				
3	Robin Betts				
4	Des Keers				
5	Kim Tanner				

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TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TONBRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

Monday, 20th May, 2024

Present: Cllr G B Hines (Chair), Friends of Mill Stream (Vice-Chair), Cllr K Barton, Cllr G C Bridge, Cllr J Clokey, Cllr A Cope, Cllr F A Hoskins, Cllr A Mehmet, Cllr R W G Oliver, Cllr B A Parry, Cllr M R Rhodes, Cllr K S Tunstall and County Cllr P Stepto

Together with representatives from:

- Rotary Club of Tonbridge
- Tonbridge Bicycle Users Group
- Tonbridge Lions Club
- Tonbridge Sports Association
- Tonbridge Town Team
- Tonbridge U3A

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D W King (Vice-Chair), L Athwal, County Cllr M Hood, Feast and Tonbridge Parish Church.

TCF 24/14 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIRS

The appointments of Borough Councillors were confirmed. A nomination for the appointment of Vice Chair from community representatives was received for Mark Ansell. As there were no further nominations received, the community representatives agreed that Mark Ansell be duly appointed as the second Vice Chair of the Tonbridge Community Forum.

TCF 24/15 NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

There were no substitute Members nominated for this meeting.

TCF 24/16 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

TCF 24/17 UPDATE ON ANY ACTION IDENTIFIED IN THE LAST MINUTES

Minute Number TCF 24/6 (meeting held on 26 February 2024) - Review of the Tonbridge Community Forum

Members were advised that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee would be asked to consider a scoping report on the changes to the

format of the Tonbridge Community Forum at their meeting on the 27 June 2024.

Minute Number TCF 24/9 (meeting held on 26 February 2024) - Request for Membership

Members were informed that following a request for Barden Residents Group and West Kent British Asian Association to be appointed to the Tonbridge Community Forum, representatives from each had been invited to attend a future meeting of the Forum to provide a presentation on their respective organisation.

TCF 24/18 KENT POLICE UPDATE

Members received a verbal update from Kent Police on neighbouring policing and recent initiatives and operations. Good progress continued to be made in recruitment and the plan was for the full quota to be reached by September 2024.

In response to concerns raised regarding cyclists on pavements, Kent Police would try to educate cyclists and penalise if necessary. Concern was also raised regarding the yellow box markings on the junction of Waterloo Road and the B2260 and noted that Kent Police would raise Members concerns regarding the road layout with Kent County Council.

In response to an increase in road traffic accidents, details of raising awareness of road safety would be provided at a future meeting.

TCF 24/19 BUS TO BLUEWATER

A request was made to Kent County Council for an arrangement to be made with the new bus operator to continue the bus service from Tonbridge to Bluewater on the same commercial basis as previously operated under in order to meet the needs of residents. County Councillor Stepto offered to provide a response at the next meeting of the Forum.

TCF 24/20 REPLACEMENT BUS SHELTER IN TONBRIDGE HIGH STREET

An update on the replacement bus shelter in Tonbridge High Street was sought and noted that the shelter had been replaced on 14 March 2024.

TCF 24/21 TONBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL PETITION

Members received a presentation on the Campaign for a Tonbridge Town Council by Councillor Anna Cope, a copy of which would be circulated to Members following the meeting.

TCF 24/22 TOWN CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT

Members were requested to discuss whether to have Town Centre Redevelopment as a standing item on future agendas. During discussion, the request was supported as it was recognised that the majority of community organisations represented on the Forum would be key stakeholders and therefore it was important that they receive regular updates so that the wider community could be kept informed.

TCF 24/23 PROMOTION OF UPCOMING EVENTS**(1) Tonbridge Lions Annual Dragon Boat Race**

Members were informed that the annual boat race would be held on 1 September 2024, 9am – 4pm. The event would be held on the River Medway at the Watergate (Big Bridge) Tonbridge High Street. The event would be an action packed day and all proceeds from the event would be donated to local charities and good causes.

(2) Tonbridge Pride

Members were informed that Tonbridge Pride would be held on 29 June 2024 and were invited to join the town's vibrant LGBTQ+ community for a fun filled day of celebration and acceptance.

(3) Tonbridge Repair Café

Members noted that the Repair Café would be at St Stephens Church on 8 June and 13 July 2024.

TCF 24/24 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting ended at 8.17 pm.

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