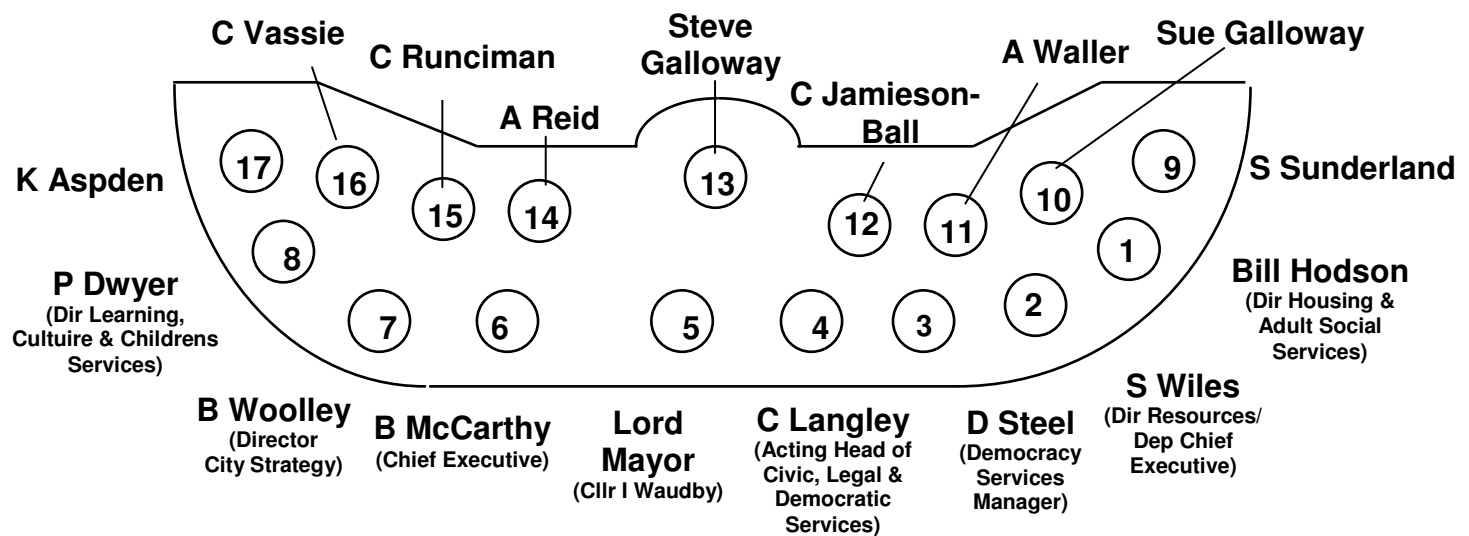
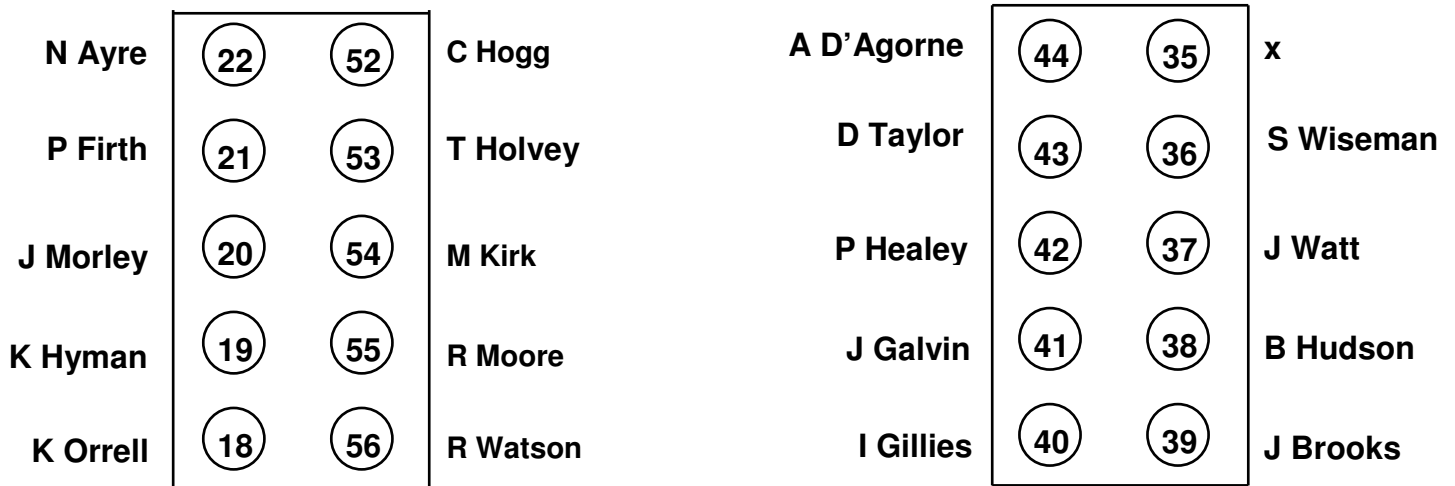
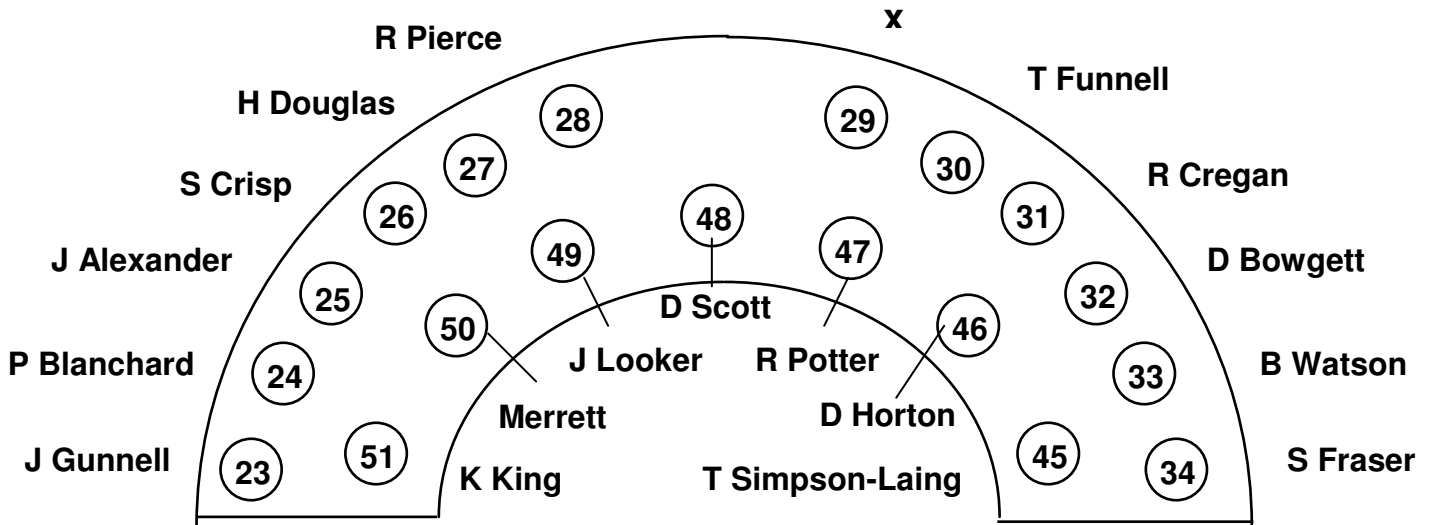


CITY OF YORK COUNCIL SUMMONS

All Councillors, relevant Council Officers and other interested parties and residents are formally invited to attend a meeting of the **City of York Council** at the **Guildhall, York**, to consider the business contained in this agenda on the following date and time

Thursday, 4 October 2007 at 6.30 pm

COUNCIL CHAMBER PLAN



A G E N D A

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point Members are asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in the business on this agenda.

2. Minutes (Pages 1 - 26)

To approve and sign the minutes of the special and ordinary Council meetings held on 28 June 2007.

3. Civic Announcements

To consider any announcements made by the Lord Mayor in respect of Civic business.

4. Public Participation

It is at this point in the meeting that members of the public who have registered their wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda or an issue within the remit of Council may do so. Anyone who wishes to register, or requires further information, is requested to contact the Democracy Officer for this meeting. Contact details are listed at the foot of this agenda. The deadline for registering is **5:00pm on Wednesday 3 October 2007**.

5. Petitions

To consider any petitions received from Members in accordance with Standing Order No.7. To date, notice has been received of petitions to be presented by:

- i) Cllr Potter, on behalf of the Save Yearsley Bridge Group, regarding the proposed closure of Yearsley Bridge Day Centre;
- ii) Cllr Potter, on behalf of residents in Penyghent Avenue, requesting speed humps and traffic calming on the avenue.

6. Notices of Motion (Pages 27 - 34)

To consider the following Notices of Motion under Standing Order 11:

A – Motions previously referred to the Executive for consideration in accordance with Standing Order 11(a)(ii)
(copies of the relevant report to the Executive and an extract from the Executive minutes are attached)

(i) From Councillor Blanchard

“Council notes that:

- To produce foie gras, at just 12 weeks old ducks and geese are restrained and grain is forced down the throat through a tube or pipe, a process that often results in physical injury;
- They are forcibly fed the equivalent to an adult human eating 1-28 lbs (7-13 kg) of spaghetti a day; and, after two or three weeks, when they are ready for slaughter, their livers will have swollen to about ten times normal size. The swollen liver expands the abdomen and can make movement and breathing difficult, as well as causing other health problems;
- Most ducks are kept in wire cages so small they have no room to turn around or stretch their wings, and their feet are often injured by the wire floor;
- Many die before the force feeding cycle ends, and the mortality rate for ducks raised on foie gras farms is overwhelmingly the highest in the industry;
- The force-feeding of geese is already outlawed in Poland, Denmark, Germany, Norway and Israel.

Council believes that:

- This intolerably cruel and painful practice is unnecessary and should end;
- The city of Chicago, USA, has shown tremendous compassionate leadership in its brave decision to ban foie gras in its shops and restaurants;
- The torture of small innocent animals should not be a matter of personal dietary choice.

Council resolves to:

- Instruct the Chief Executive to write to Ben Bradshaw MP, Minister of State responsible for Animal Welfare, informing him of this motion and asking for the production

and sale of foie gras to be banned in the UK;

- Do as much as reasonably possible to discourage or prohibit the sale of foie gras within the authority area, whether in shops or restaurants.”

B – Motions submitted for consideration directly by Council, in accordance with Standing Orders 11(a)(ii)

(ii) From Councillor Steve Galloway

"Council places on record its support for the Chief Constable of North Yorkshire in his efforts to ensure that adequate government grant is provided to his force to ensure that, at least, as many Police Officers and PCSOs are available, to enforce the law on the streets of York, as are currently allocated".

(iii) From Councillor Kirk

"Council notes with concern the flooding caused around York this summer as a result of drainage systems being unable to cope with the level of rainfall.

Council calls for the government to introduce a statutory duty on the private water companies to review and upgrade drainage in line with the increased needs due to climate change, as well as to maintain drainage systems properly and make pumping stations proof against flooding."

(iv) From Councillor Potter

"City of York Council calls upon North Yorkshire Police Authority to set a budget that adequately reflects the policing needs of York. Central area including York has 47% of the total crime in the area covered by NYP yet only received 33% of the total budget. This does not reflect the need for a higher level of policing in the York area due to the higher crime rate and is therefore not adequate. A redistribution of funding would ensure more Police on the streets of York to reduce crime and increase detection rates in the City."

(v) From Councillor Fraser

"Council is concerned that, whilst businesses in the inner core of the City are thriving, some of the peripheral streets,

such as Goodramgate, Micklegate and, to a lesser extent Fossgate, are not benefiting from this prosperity, and are, in some cases, taking on a somewhat “run down” look.

Further, Council notes that a review of the City’s footstreet scheme is currently underway, and determines that regard should be had to this issue, in the conduct of that review.

Finally, Council resolves to allocate adequate resources, including Officer time, to research this problem, and to develop an Action Plan, to include an economic regeneration strategy, to address this issue and to encourage a culture of vibrancy and prosperity, in these streets.”

(vi) From Councillor Gillies

"We call upon The City of York Council to petition the Secretary of State for Transport, with immediate effect, to provide funding for the dualling of the York Northern Ring Road at the earliest opportunity."

7. Report of Executive Leader and Executive Recommendations (Pages 35 - 42)

To receive and consider a written report from the Leader on the work of the Executive and the Executive recommendations for approval, as set out below:

| Meeting | Date | Recommendations |
|-----------|-------------------|---|
| Executive | 25 September 2007 | Minute 64 – Setting out the long-term direction for the Council: Corporate Strategy 2007-2011 |

8. Report of Executive Member (Pages 43 - 46)

To receive a written report from the Executive Member for City Strategy, and to question the Executive Member thereon, provided any such questions are registered in accordance with the timescales and procedures set out in Standing Order 8(2)(a).

9. Executive Key Decisions taken under Formal Urgency Procedures (Pages 47 - 50)

To receive details of key decisions which have been taken by the Executive and Executive Members between 1 April 2007 and 30 September 2007 under formal urgency procedures, in accordance with Section 5 of the Council's Access to Information Protocol.

10. Questions to the Executive Leader and Executive Members received under Standing Order 10(c)

To deal with the following questions to the Executive Leader and / or other Executive Members, in accordance with Standing Order 10(a):

- (i) To the Executive Leader, from Cllr D'Agorne:
"In view of the possibility of an October General Election, what action is being taken to ensure that students are not dis-enfranchised by the inconvenient timing and what budgetary contingencies are being made for the administrative costs of a General Election?"
- (ii) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Simpson-Laing:
"Would the Executive Member for City Strategy explain whether she is satisfied that the highways drainage system is adequate in capacity and maintenance terms to prevent flooding in the light of the predicted higher rainfalls expected with global warming?"
- (iii) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Brian Watson:
"Will the Executive Member for City Strategy confirm what will be the actual floor space, at ground level, for the community space in Hungate?"
- (iv) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Simpson-Laing:
"Can the Executive Member for City Strategy explain to Council how she is planning to improve the staffing levels in City Strategy, which are at a low point, so that staff job satisfaction levels do not dip below 50% again, a result of the huge pressure currently being placed on staff due to

the current workloads?”

- (v) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr D’Agorne:
“What would the cost of 'dualling the outer ring road' be, what would that represent in terms of council tax increase per household and what would be the merits or otherwise of prioritising such expenditure over more sustainable transport measures for the whole city?”
- (vi) To the Executive Member for Corporate Services, from Cllr Looker:
“The public are becoming concerned at the continuing increase in the costs of the new 'Town Hall'. Can the Executive Member for Corporate Services assure the Council that the arrangements for project and cost control are sufficiently robust to ensure that sufficient, suitable offices will be provided on time and within the latest approved costs?”
- (vii) To the Executive Member for Corporate Services, from Cllr D’Agorne:
“In view of the £65m funding from the government towards the waste PFI, is the Executive Member now convinced that the 'affordability gap' on top of the other short term budgetary pressures can be bridged, without increasing council tax beyond the capping limit in any one year?”
- (viii) To the Executive Member for Youth & Social Inclusion, from Cllr Fraser:
“Would the Executive Member for Youth & Social Inclusion outline one ambition for his coming year in office?”
- (ix) To the Executive Member for Youth & Social Inclusion, from Cllr Holvey:
“Could the Executive Member report on progress, especially internet based progress, for the Youth Offer?”
- (x) To the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, from Cllr Firth:
“How much Landfill Tax has been collected from York, and

how much has been returned as grants for recycling to date?"

- (xi) To the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, from Cllr Taylor:

"Several residents of Fishergate and other city centre Wards have mentioned to me that the City of York Council is still failing to provide a full recycling service to all residents. The Council automatically provides waste collection services to all new flats but not the collection of recyclables. Would the Executive Member act swiftly to redress this issue, particularly in respect of new blocks of flats which could easily accommodate communal recycling facilities?"

11. Scrutiny - Report of the Chair of the Scrutiny Management Committee (Pages 51 - 52)

To receive a report from Councillor Galvin, the Chair of the Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) on the work of the SMC.

12. Activities of Outside Bodies

Minutes of the following meetings of outside bodies, received since the last meeting of Council, have been made available for Members to view via the Council's website at

<http://sql003.york.gov.uk/mgListOutsideBodies.asp?bcr=1>

Copies may also be obtained by contacting Democracy Support Group at the Guildhall, York (tel. 01904 551088)

- Yorkshire and the Humber Strategic Health Authority – meetings on 1 May 2007, 5 June 2007 and 3 July 2007;
- Pension Fund Committee – meeting on 17 May 2007;
- North Yorkshire Police Authority – meeting on 25 June 2007;
- Association of North Yorkshire Councils – meeting on 14 March 2007;
- North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority – meetings on 26 March 2007 and 18 June 2007;
- Regional Transport Board – meetings on 20 April 2007 and 15 June 2007;
- Local Government Yorkshire and Humber – meeting on 29 June 2007;
- Safer York Partnership/Drug Action Team Partnership Board –

meetings on 11 April 2007 and 30 July 2007.

Members are invited to put any questions to the Council's representatives on the above bodies, in accordance with Standing Order 10(b).

13. Appointments and Changes to Membership (Pages 53 - 62)

- a) To consider approving a variation to the proportionality on Planning Committee and Gambling & Licensing Acts Committee, whilst maintaining the overall proportionality and political balance of the Council, and to consider the list of appointments and changes to membership of committees and outside bodies. *(report attached)*

- b) To consider an amendment to the policy on the appointment of Honorary Aldermen. *(report attached)*

14. Urgent Business

Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

Democracy Officer for this meeting:

Name: Simon Copley

Contact details:

- Telephone – (01904) 551078
- E-mail – simon.copley@york.gov.uk

For more information about any of the following please contact the Democracy Officer responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports

Contact details are set out above.