

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 15
2 MARCH 2022	PUBLIC REPORT

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

The following notice of motion has been received in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders:

1. Motion from Councillor Sandford

"Council:

1. Expresses concern about the situation in Ukraine which faces an ongoing threat of invasion by armed forces of the Russian Federation.
2. Supports the actions of the UK Government in trying to resolve the situation through diplomacy, maintaining the threat of strong economic sanctions to deter any threatened invasion and pledging support for the collective security provided by the NATO alliance and in particular towards the Baltic states and other NATO member countries in Eastern Europe.
3. Notes the presence in Peterborough of many thousands of people originating from Lithuania, Poland and other eastern European countries and the important role they play in making Peterborough a dynamic and diverse city.
4. Notes that Peterborough was twinned with Vinnytsia in 1991, making it our city's most recent twinning partnership. With a population of 370,000, Vinnytsia is located in west-central Ukraine and has been an important location for trade and politics since the 14th century.
5. Asks the Executive Director for Place and Communities to investigate ways of strengthening and developing our twinning partnership with Vinnytsia and of supporting the people of the city and the rest of Ukraine in the current stressful and dangerous situation.
6. Specifically asks the director to proactively follow-up with the administration in Vinnytsia following the letter recently sent to the Mayor of the town which offered our support to residents, to investigate ways of offering practical help through the twinning partnership and to look at ways of raising awareness with our own Peterborough residents of the ongoing challenges that the community in Vinnytsia is facing."

2. Motion from Councillor Hogg

"Council notes that:

- Due to the ongoing COVID pandemic, Council meetings have not been held in the Council Chamber since 4 March 2020.
- Several alternatives were used including online zoom meetings, Peterborough Cathedral, and the East of England Arena, before settling on a more regular venue of Sand Martin House.
- Whilst this venue has its advantages, e.g. better ventilation, and lighting, it is still only an ad hoc arrangement with voting having to be done manually.

- By making some logistical changes to the setup of Sand Martin House, we could use this as a more permanent venue for Council meetings, which would then free up the Council Chamber for other uses.

Council resolves to:

Instruct the Chief Executive to investigate the costs of making Sand Martin House a more permanent home for Full Council meetings, to include the installation of the electronic voting system and any other changes deemed necessary, reporting back initially to the Constitution & Ethics Committee.”