

# Lunchtime Lowdown

## The Annual Meeting of the Council

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23 April 2024



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# Today's Focus

- What the Annual Meeting of the Council is (and isn't!).
- Busting myths and misconceptions.
- Navigating common difficulties.
- There's business to be done.
- Your secrets of success.
- Q&A.

## Some Basic Facts

- Every council **must** have an annual meeting (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12, paragraph 7)
- It **must** be held in May.
- In 2024 it can be on any day in May.
- In 2025, the year of ordinary elections, it **must** be held within 14 days of the day on which councillors come into office (advice will be given!)

## Some Basic Facts

- The first item of business **must** be to elect a chair/mayor (Local Government Act 1972, Section 15(2)).
- The chair is elected as chair of the council (not of the meeting).
- The chair **must** sign a declaration of acceptance of office at the meeting (or if absent at or before the next meeting).

# Meet Cllr Jean Smith



Chair of Watling Parish Council

- Standing for re-election -

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# Meet Cllr John Brown



## Chair of Nene Valley Parish Council

- Retiring as chair and resigning from the council at the end of the annual meeting -

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# Hors d'Oeuvres of Business

- The first item of business **must** be to elect a chair (Local Government Act 1972, Section 15(2)).
- The council **may** elect a vice chairman – and usually does.
- The meeting may conduct ordinary business.
- The meeting may review documents and policies.

# Your Secrets of Success



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# Q&A



Questions and (hopefully!) answers.

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