



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the **EXECUTIVE** will be held in David Hicks 1 - Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham RG40 1BN on **THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 5.30 PM**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Parsonage', written in a cursive style.

Susan Parsonage
Chief Executive
Published on 14 February 2024

Note: Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting or participate in the meeting virtually, in accordance with the Council's Constitution. If you wish to participate either in person or virtually via Microsoft Teams please contact Democratic Services: Democratic.services@wokingham.gov.uk

The meeting can also be watched live using the following link:
<https://youtube.com/live/ZoH0Z27pAGU?feature=share>

This meeting will be filmed for inclusion on the Council's website. Please note that other people may film, record, tweet or blog from this meeting. The use of these images or recordings is not under the Council's control.

Our Vision

A great place to live, learn, work and grow and a great place to do business

Enriching Lives

- Champion excellent education and enable our children and young people to achieve their full potential, regardless of their background.
- Support our residents to lead happy, healthy lives and provide access to good leisure facilities to enable healthy choices for everyone.
- Engage and empower our communities through arts and culture and create a sense of identity for the Borough which people feel part of.
- Support growth in our local economy and help to build business.

Providing Safe and Strong Communities

- Protect and safeguard our children, young and vulnerable people.
- Offer quality care and support, at the right time, to reduce the need for long term care.
- Nurture our communities: enabling them to thrive and families to flourish.
- Ensure our Borough and communities remain safe for all.

Enjoying a Clean and Green Borough

- Play as full a role as possible to achieve a carbon neutral Borough, sustainable for the future.
- Protect our Borough, keep it clean and enhance our green areas for people to enjoy.
- Reduce our waste, promote re-use, increase recycling and improve biodiversity.
- Connect our parks and open spaces with green cycleways.

Delivering the Right Homes in the Right Places

- Offer quality, affordable, sustainable homes fit for the future.
- Ensure the right infrastructure is in place, early, to support and enable our Borough to grow.
- Protect our unique places and preserve our natural environment.
- Help with your housing needs and support people, where it is needed most, to live independently in their own homes.

Keeping the Borough Moving

- Maintain and improve our roads, footpaths and cycleways.
- Tackle traffic congestion and minimise delays and disruptions.
- Enable safe and sustainable travel around the Borough with good transport infrastructure.
- Promote healthy alternative travel options and support our partners in offering affordable, accessible public transport with good transport links.

Changing the Way We Work for You

- Be relentlessly customer focussed.
- Work with our partners to provide efficient, effective, joined up services which are focussed around our customers.
- Communicate better with customers, owning issues, updating on progress and responding appropriately as well as promoting what is happening in our Borough.
- Drive innovative, digital ways of working that will connect our communities, businesses and customers to our services in a way that suits their needs.

Be the Best We Can Be

- Be an organisation that values and invests in all our colleagues and is seen as an employer of choice.
- Embed a culture that supports ambition, promotes empowerment and develops new ways of working.
- Use our governance and scrutiny structures to support a learning and continuous improvement approach to the way we do business.
- Be a commercial council that is innovative, whilst being inclusive, in its approach with a clear focus on being financially resilient.
- Maximise opportunities to secure funding and investment for the Borough.
- Establish a renewed vision for the Borough with clear aspirations.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE EXECUTIVE

Stephen Conway	Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Housing
Prue Bray	Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Children's Services
Rachel Bishop-Firth	Equalities, Inclusion and Fighting Poverty
David Cornish	Business and Economic Development
Lindsay Ferris	Planning and Local Plan
Paul Fishwick	Active Travel, Transport and Highways
David Hare	Health and Wellbeing and Adult Services
Ian Shenton	Environment, Sport and Leisure
Imogen Shepherd-DuBey	Finance

ITEM NO.	WARD	SUBJECT	PAGE NO.
91.		APOLOGIES To receive any apologies for absence.	
92.		MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING To confirm the Minutes of the Executive meeting held on 25 January 2024.	7 - 18
93.		DECLARATION OF INTERESTS To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, other registrable interests and any non-registrable interests relevant to any matters to be considered at the meeting.	
94.		STATEMENT FROM THE LEADER	
95.		PUBLIC QUESTION TIME To answer any public questions. A period of 30 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions submitted under notice. The Council welcomes questions from members of the public about the work of the Executive. Subject to meeting certain timescales, questions can relate to general issues concerned with the work of the Council or an item which is on the Agenda for this meeting. For full details of the procedure for submitting questions please contact the Democratic Services Section on the numbers given below or go to www.wokingham.gov.uk/publicquestions	
95.1	Hurst	Peter Humphreys has asked the Executive Member for Active Travel, Transport and Highways the following question:	

Question:

The council is continually stating that it is in financial difficulties so one wonders why is it not capitalising on the current high price of scrap metal. Council officers and councillors can hardly fail to notice the amount of WBC owned scrap metal littering our streets. I'm referring in particular to the number of posts erected at residents' expense to which signs have **never** been attached, likewise where signs have long since fallen off or become unreadable.

This is not just a current problem - it goes back many decades. Some of you with long memories may remember when David Lee was leader of the council. At my prompting he had fifteen redundant posts removed from a short stretch of London Road. Things haven't changed and a new generation has appeared. There is a particularly large cluster of abandoned posts in the vicinity of Dying Trees roundabout at the junction of the NWDR and Warren House Road. They've been there for circa five years. Are the council planning to ask the public for suggestions of what to hang on the posts, are they going to sell them, or are they going to do nothing and let the posts rust gracefully?

96.

MEMBER QUESTION TIME

To answer any member questions.

A period of 20 minutes will be allowed for Members to ask questions submitted under Notice.

Any questions not dealt with within the allotted time will be dealt with in a written reply.

96.1 Finchampstead
South

Rebecca Margetts has asked the Executive Member for Environment, Sport and Leisure the following question:

Question:

Over the last 2 years I have been supporting residents on Longwater Lane Finchampstead who have been experiencing localised flooding and breakdown of the surface on this right of way. Despite my efforts, we are no further forward and after any heavy spell of rain this section of the lane floods again. It is currently in a very poor condition and barely passable in places.

Would the lead member commit to meet with me, residents and officers to discuss a long term solution to try and resolve this issue.

Matters for Consideration

97.	None Specific	HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET 2024/25	19 - 28
98.	None Specific	CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND STRATEGY 2024-2027	29 - 68
99.	None Specific	TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2024-2027	69 - 122
100.	None Specific	MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2024-2027 INCLUDING REVENUE BUDGET SUBMISSION 2024/25	123 - 266
101.	None Specific	HOUSING RESPONSIVE REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	267 - 278
102.	None Specific	ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT COMMITTEE - THE BERKSHIRE PROSPERITY BOARD	279 - 286

A decision sheet will be available for inspection at the Council's offices (in Democratic Services and the General Office) and on the web site no later than two working days after the meeting.

CONTACT OFFICER

Priya Patel	Head of Democratic and Electoral Services
Email	priya.patel@wokingham.gov.uk
Postal Address	Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham, RG40 1BN