

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 12 JUNE 2014 FROM 7.30PM TO 8.20PM**

Present:- UllaKarin Clark, (Mayor), Chris Singleton, (Deputy Mayor) Mark Ashwell, Alistair Auty, Keith Baker, Parry Batth, Chris Bowring, Prue Bray, Gary Cowan, Lindsay Ferris, Michael Firmager, Kay Gilder, Guy Grandison, Kate Haines, Mike Haines, John Halsall, Lesley Hayward, Pauline Helliard-Symons, Tim Holton, Philip Houldsworth, Nicky Jerrome, Norman Jorgensen, Pauline Jorgensen, John Kaiser, Dianne King, David Lee, Abdul Loyes, Ken Miall, Philip Mirfin, Stuart Munro, Barrie Patman, Ian Pittock, Malcolm Richards, Angus Ross, Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey, Chris Singleton, David Sleight, Bill Soane, Chris Smith, Rob Stanton, Paul Swaddle, Dee Tomlin, Simon Weeks, Bob Wyatt and Shahid Younis.

1. ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR 2014/2015

Ullakarin Clark, the current Mayor made a speech to the Council during which she welcomed and introduced the four newly elected Members. The Mayor explained that it had been a fun year which had gone very quickly. She referred to the many projects she had opened, including the new Wokingham Railway Station, the new Medical Centre and the new Sports pavilion. The Mayor stated that she was proud to have been able to bring together local charities and businesses. The Mayor also thanked Chris Singleton, Deputy Mayor, Andy Couldrick the Chief Executive, and all of the Council Officers who had supported her during the year.

The Mayor called for nominations for the office of Mayor for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

It was proposed by Rob Stanton and seconded by Angus Ross that UllaKarin Clark be elected as Mayor for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

It was unanimously agreed that UllaKarin Clark should be elected as Mayor for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED: That UllaKarin Clark be elected as Mayor for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

UllaKarin Clark made the statutory acceptance of office pursuant to Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972.

UllaKarin Clark thanked the Council for re-electing her as Mayor for a second year. She stated that she had learned a lot during her first year and intended to use that knowledge in her second year. As a Council, there was much work to be done, such as the regeneration of Wokingham Town Centre, however, the Mayor stressed that she would do all that she could to promote all of the Council's work and ensure that the favourable profile of Wokingham Borough remained at its present high level.

2. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2013/2014

The Mayor called for nominations for the officer of Deputy Mayor for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

It was proposed by UllaKarin Clark and seconded by John Halsall that Parry Batth be appointed as Deputy Mayor for the 2014/15 municipal year.

RESOLVED: That Parry Batth be elected as Deputy Mayor for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

Parry Batth made the statutory acceptance of office pursuant to Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Parry Batth thanked the Council for appointing him and commented that he would endeavour to serve with pride and humbleness. He was looking forward to having dinner with the Bishop of Reading and promoting the Council's vision of being a great place to live, and an even better place to do business. The Deputy Mayor looked forward to serving the residents of the Borough during the next twelve months and in supporting the Mayor in her role.

The Mayor thanked Ann-marie Bonwick for her hard work and support throughout the year and presented her with a gift of recognition.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20 March 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

4. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors David Chopping, Charlotte Haitham Taylor, Tom McCann, Julian McGhee-Sumner, Nick Ray, Beth Rowland, and Wayne Smith.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In accordance with the agreed procedure the Mayor invited members of the public to submit questions to the appropriate Members.

6.01 Question

Paul Townsend had asked the Executive Member for Strategic Planning and Highways the following question and due to their absence at the meeting, a written answer was provided as set out below:

Following the recent elections and in view of the forthcoming change of Council leadership, will the Executive Member for Strategic Planning and Highways reaffirm his, and the Council's commitment to building the Arborfield Relief Road in accordance with the Council's previously stated intentions: i.e. on the route of consultation Option B, and with a target date of 2017 for the start of construction?

Answer

As the person who made that commitment as the Executive Member for Strategic Planning and Highways I am not going to change my mind now that I am Leader. So the answer is yes.

6.02 Question

Gill Purchase had asked the Executive Member for Strategic Planning and Highways the following question and due to their absence at the meeting, a written answer was provided as set out below:

In your interview on Radio Berks on Friday 30 May 2014, in your capacity as the new Leader of the Council, you clearly stated 'it would be foolish to 'guarantee a school' for September 2016', whilst at the same time admitting it needed one.

The South of Wokingham Parents Action Group, who now represent over 500 parents living in the area, has to express its extreme disappointment that as the next Leader of the Council, you seem to think it may now not be possible to deliver the school, as guaranteed by Charlotte Haitham Taylor on a BBC TV South Today interview and the election manifesto's of Cllrs Cowen, Stanton, and Gore which were distributed to several thousand residents prior to the election, as well as your predecessor - Cllr David Lee - who made the commitment several times in a pre-election interview on BBC Radio Berks in May.

Therefore, we ask that you give a full and comprehensive statement why you have gone against the numerous public pledges made by your conservative colleagues and why the public have been misled '*by the guarantee of a school*' in this way? As newly elected Leader of the Council will you give a categorical re-assurance that you will resign if this school is not delivered as stated by your conservative colleagues in September 2016?

Answer

It is unfortunate that you have chosen not to include the full context of what I said in the interview in your multiple press statements and petition. Had you done so you would have known that I was supporting you totally. Furthermore your supporters would have had the full picture rather than an edited and highly misleading extract.

That interview was given less than 12 hours of being elected the Leader of the Conservative Group. In it I said I could not give such a guarantee at that time but it was one of my highest priorities even at this early stage and I would do everything in my power to make sure it happened. To give a guarantee after 12 hours is like buying a house without ever seeing it – a very unwise move.

I communicated this to you by email on the 31st May. On the 2nd June I sent a further email stating that I was getting the project plan and that "nothing had changed on the project and work was continuing at exactly the same pace as before". On the 3rd June a further email to you stated that things were looking good to give you that guarantee but there were a couple of questions I needed answers for me to give it. On the 6th June I emailed you to say that I was comfortable with the project plan and I gave you the guarantee that the school will be built by September 2016.

6.03 Question

Tim Rook had asked the Executive Member for Strategic Planning and Highways the following question and due to their absence at the meeting, a written answer was provided as set out below:

Is it your intention as the new Leader of Wokingham Borough Council to make statements that ride roughshod over manifesto promises made by your conservative colleagues and is the statement that you made on the Radio Berks interview an example of how you, as the soon to be formally elected Group leader, will carry out and conduct Council business by making decisions that will be made on the hoof without any consultation with residents and fellow councillors?

Answer

I refer you to my previous answer to Mrs Purchase which provided more details of the interview. I would like to point out that the allegations made by Mrs Purchase in numerous press articles that I said the school would not be built are totally false.

After less than 12 hours from being elected Leader of the Conservative Group I was saying that it was one of my highest priorities and I would do everything in my power to make sure it was built in time hardly suggests making decisions on the hoof.

By also saying on 2nd June, a few days later that nothing had changed with the project and it was still continuing at exactly the same pace as before is further evidence that your basic premise is incorrect.

Over the 7 day period from the 31st May to 6th June I carried out the due diligence residents would expect me to do to make sure everything was in place to deliver this school. On the 6th June I emailed Mrs Purchase to give the guarantee that you were all asking for that the school will be built by September 2016.

So I do not agree with your suggesting of "making decisions on the hoof". In fact the exact reverse is true; I wanted to see the project plan and documentation to make sure I was not making decisions without doing the "homework".

6.04 Question

Helen Church had asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question and due to their absence at the meeting, a written answer was provided as set out below:

The Lead for Children's Services has publicly stated that plans for a secondary school have always been in place to open in September 2016.

Yet examination of the Council's Secondary School Strategy, published in 2012 (11.1) shows that work to secure a provider for the school should already be under way and the design work for school should be in progress and commenced in 2013 – therefore the project plan set out in the strategy is already running one year behind the schedule agreed by the committee this report went to.

Could Cllr Charlotte Haitham Taylor give an explanation as to why work on the secondary school is already one year late and can she give a categorical re-assurance she will resign if this school is not delivered to local children, as per the pledge she made on BBC South Today interview on 15th May 2015 to deliver a school by September 2016?

Answer

The programme to establish a strategic site at Arborfield was set back by the developer withdrawing their planning application. The need for the new school arises from the new homes being established through the development of the strategic housing site. The school will be required at a pace which fits with facilitating the needs of the new development as it comes forward. The process involves acquiring the site from the landowner and drawing up the plans in consultation with the community and the developer as would be the case with any other site. The commitment to work with all parties to deliver the school when it is required remains; in this context the programme indicates that this will be by September 2016 and I am committed to ensuring that the community in Arborfield and the surrounding area receives the education offer which it requires at the appropriate time.

We have a strong track record of delivery on time to date as shown by the building and delivery of the three new primary schools and many other expansion and improvement projects throughout the borough. I know that Cllr. Haitham Taylor has no plans to let the community down.

6.05 Question

Vikki Hellewell had asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question and due to their absence at the meeting, a written answer was provided as set out below:

The SOW Parent's Action Group wrote to you on the 27th April 2014 asking that you carry out a real-time feasibility study on the journey to and from the southern parishes to Bulmershe School, or give a categorical re-assurance that no child will be diverted to the school from the south of Wokingham – from, including and any time after 2015.

This letter has not been replied to.

In the absence of a reply to the SOW letter could Charlotte Haitham Taylor answer the following question relating to this?

Why was the SOW letter ignored?

Answer

"Firstly, to answer your last question: I have replied to the letter and in it I apologised for the delay in getting back to SOW.

As you know the letter asked a number of complex and technical questions, which required officer support in order to deliver an accurate and accountable response. The letter was not ignored as you have suggested. Furthermore, in the response, Charlotte stated that the letter had been forwarded to Brian Grady, Head of Strategic Commissioning in order that he can provide SOW a further update on the work planned to be undertaken in the project regarding transport and accessibility when he returns from leave.

In relation to the first part of your question, we have well developed work already completed which assures us that the travel time between Arborfield and Bulmershe is within DfE guidance times.

Further work would be redundant until such time as we are certain transport is required, for how many children, and from which locations. Should transport arrangements be required they will be devised to ensure that all children can reach school within the reasonable travel time, which is defined by the Department of Education (1 hour 15 minutes for secondary age pupils)

I can confirm that from our figures to date there is no child from Arborfield, Barkham, Finchampstead or Swallowfield currently being bussed to Bulmershe Secondary School.

As set out in our Secondary School Strategy we know that pupil numbers are expected to rise and we are currently reviewing resources, anticipated demand and place availability throughout the Borough.

Regrettably the Council can never give the guarantee as requested in your question, but will make every effort to ensure that children and young people are provided with school places closer to their homes.”

6.06 Question

Jeff Bufton had asked the Executive Member for Children’s Services the following question and due to their absence at the meeting, a written answer was provided as set out below:

Will the Councillor exercise a duty of care and instruct officers to carry out a real-time feasibility study into the logistics of the journey to and from the southern parishes to Bulmershe School that will indicate the earliest and latest pick-up times for children, as well as what contingency plans to get children from this school at times when the roads are either grid-locked or flooded, the approximate cost of transport for children and how they would be expected to get to this school on public transport if they missed the bus.

Answer

We have well developed work already completed which assures us that the travel time is within DfE guidance times.

As stated before, further work would be redundant until such time as we are certain transport is required and for how many children, from which locations. These issues all have a direct bearing on the cost and travel time so no reliable response can be made to the specific questions raised. The minimum cost per pupil (based on costs for coach and bus transport) would be around £750 per year per child. Costs would rise with smaller or partially occupied vehicles, and would also be dependent on the route, number of stops and tender rates at the time.

Should transport arrangements be required they will be devised to ensure that all children can reach school within the reasonable travel time. Should specific issues arise on the route (such as flooding or protracted roadworks) then our contractors and Corporate Transport Unit will make any necessary changes to arrangements to ensure (as far as is practical) children arrive at school on time.

In accordance with long standing arrangements parents are required to ensure that their children are at bus stops on time. If the bus is missed the obligation to ensure that a child reaches a school on time falls to the parent. Public transport is an option – but as the journey is likely to be around 1 ½ hours (information from the Traveline website) this would not be recommended, as the child would be likely to be late for school.

6.07 Question

Simon Jones had asked the Executive Member for Strategic Planning and Highways the following question and due to their absence at the meeting, a written answer was provided as set out below:

At the Secondary School Parents Forum in March 2014, Cllr Rob Stanton made the ‘guarantee’ that a secondary school would be open in September 2016. As a result of this statement, the Parent Led Free School bid became untenable because it would have been impossible to persuade parents on the need to provide the same school at the same time and no doubt in the same place, albeit through a different route. It cleared the way for WBC to proceed with its plans unhindered. The SOW Parents Action Group, formerly Free School Group, now know the DfE will be having no further funding rounds after October

2014 - the time the SOW bid would have been presented to the DfE for consideration to open a school as early as 2015.

Because of the recent statement made on Radio Berks by Cllr Keith Baker it now means there is a strong possibility that NO school will be provided until at least 2018 – WBC's original opening date.

Will Keith Baker please explain why he has now put the future of any school opening in the South into such serious jeopardy and his justification for causing parents so much stress and anxiety over the secondary school place crisis issue?

Answer

During my conversation with Andrew Peach on 30th May 2014, I made it very clear that all our efforts and best endeavours are being channelled into the delivery of a new school by September 2016. My remarks about not guaranteeing delivery are simply a reflection of the reality that the project is dependent on a number of factors that are not in our direct control. These include the availability of a suitable site and the appointment process for the Academy Trust that will run the school. The site is dependent on the continued progress of the Arborfield Garrison development scheme. The Academy Trust appointment is made directly by the Secretary of State for Education. Although the Council fully expects that these issues will not delay the scheme they are not fully within our control, so we cannot offer an unconditional guarantee that the school will open in September 2016.

6.08 Question

Clive Jones had asked the Executive Member for Strategic Planning and Highways the following question:

Recently on BBC Radio Berkshire the then Leader of the Council guaranteed that there would be a new Secondary School opened in the Arborfield area by September 2016.

Will Keith Baker confirm that when he is elected Leader it will still be the Council's policy to open a new Secondary School in Arborfield by September 2016 and that he supports the guarantee given by his predecessor?

Answer

If you had been actually involved with this issue over the last 2 weeks you will know that I have already given such a guarantee. Clearly you will now know what has been going on during that period because of the questions asked and answers provided. I am only too pleased to provide the guarantee that the school will be built by September 2016.

6.09 Question

Richard Peat had asked the Executive Member for Strategic Planning and Highways the following question:

Given that the village of Arborfield has once again returned a Conservative Councillor, many in the village were rather surprised when the current Lead Member for Highways and Planning, in his first interview as potential new Leader of the Council failed to give the same assurances that Cllr Lee his predecessor had given over the opening of a much needed school in the South of the Borough in September 2016. This was a particular concern when Cllr Prue Bray the opposition leader has regularly and publicly expressed doubt over whether such a timetable was achievable, and because a commitment for a school in September 2016 was the first pledge on the Conservative manifesto for

Arborfield on which Cllr Cowan was re-elected. I'm sure Cllr Baker agrees that whilst the interview took place so soon after his election and giving him little time to get up to speed with what had been promised by his colleagues, with the sensitivity of the subject to a number of local parents it was regrettable that he appeared to step back from manifesto commitments so quickly. Having now had two weeks to bring himself up to date, would he take this opportunity to commit to the four key pledges made by his party on the manifesto for Arborfield, or alternatively if he is unable to commit to any or all of these pledges, can he explain to the people of Arborfield what has changed since the election that means these promises cannot now be delivered. For reference the four key pledges are as follows: 1. Opening a new school in the South of the Borough in September 2016. 2. Delivering a bypass for Arborfield along the public preferred route B at the earliest opportunity. 3. Bringing high-speed internet to Arborfield. 4. Returning a post office to the village following the sudden closure of the Garrison Post Office last year.

Answer

Bottom line is you are asking for confirmation over the four issues. As I said, this school is my highest priority; I have given that guarantee. The project is continuing at exactly the same pace as before. There has been no change and I have left instructions with the relevant Officers that if anything is in the way, I am to be contacted because I want to remove the road blocks.

The Arborfield relief road, as you know, I am currently still the Executive Member who made that decision. I can tell you now that I am not going to go back on my word.

On the other two, the high speed internet and post office, these are two personal commitments from Councillor Gary Cowan which have the full backing of this Council. To this end, he is working with both Officers and more importantly your MP John Redwood to make this happen.

Supplementary Question

The site for the school and the current site on the SDL, according to the phasing plan that has been issued by the developer previously, is not going to be available until after 2016. Can you give an assurance that if the school, as has been said, is going to be built and open on its permanent site in September 2016, that we are not going to have something else, for example more houses put on the site within the SDL boundary if the school is built outside that boundary?

Supplementary Answer

Clearly you are now talking about detail but obviously land has to be available in order to meet the deadline. I don't know that detail but the relevant officers will get back to you, specifically, but we have to have land because otherwise you cannot get the school

The plan has to be available to meet the deadline. We have to have land. I will get back to you in more detail.

6.10 Question

Joan Blackwood had asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question and due to their absence at the meeting a written answer was provided as set out below:

In the Council's Secondary School strategy you state

"Improve educational attainment and focus on every child achieving their potential'

Yet by not providing a secondary school in the South of Wokingham you are stopping every child entering Y7 and diverting them to Bulmershe School from doing this.

Can Cllr Charlotte Haitham Taylor please explain how sending a child on a 90 plus mile journey a week, that takes over 40 minutes each way (on a good day), to the lowest performing school in the borough will go anyway in helping my son achieve his full potential at school.?

Answer

The Council wishes to make clear that whilst it cannot give an unconditional guarantee it is making its best endeavours to ensure that a new school opens in the south of the Borough in September 2016.

On the specific question of the length of the journey to school the Department for Education has advised that up to one hour fifteen minute travel time to school for a secondary age pupil is reasonable. This leaves sufficient time for home work and other normal weekday out of school activities. Taking this into account the journey described would be reasonable and would not be expected to be detrimental to any child. This is not to say that such a journey would be desirable, of course, and the Council will work to ensure more local provision.

Bulmershe School has been judged to be "Good" at its most recent Ofsted inspection. It is an 11 to 18 school of sufficient size to offer a wide curriculum that provides good opportunities to any child or young person requiring a mainstream education. Moreover the Council is currently investing approximately £6m there to improve the teaching environment. Classrooms have been refurbished. A new block with a school hall, sixth form centre and administrative centre is under construction. Other areas within the school will be remodelled and refurbished shortly. In my view Bulmershe is performing at least as well as other secondary schools judged to be good and is on an upwards trajectory with a strong head teacher. Parents should feel confident that this school will help any child achieve their potential."

6.11 Question

Claire Hickman had asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question and due to their absence at the meeting, a written answer was provided as set out below:

On behalf of the SOW of which I am a supporter, I would like to ask the following question

If Charlotte Haitham Taylor is unable to give a reassurance to parents that no child from Finchampstead, Barkham and Arborfield will be diverted to Bulmershe school from 2015, could she please then justify why she and senior officers at WBC feel it is acceptable to force children to undertake a 90 mile a week journey just to get to and from school, during the rush-hour on the most problematic roads in the Borough and will she accept this will have a severe impact on their educational experience?

Answer

From recent consultations I recognise that a high proportion of parents wish to send their child/children to a school that is within walking or cycling distance from home. However, I do not accept that if a child travels from the south of the Borough to Bulmershe it would

have a severe impact on their education experience. Such a divert is within national guidelines of acceptable journey times and the school which the child may be diverted to is a good school on an upward trajectory. It is likely that the journey described would take between 40 minutes and just over an hour (dependent on the route, number of passengers and number of stops) each way.

The Council continues to work hard to ensure local provision is delivered from 2016.

6.12 Question

Jennifer Lissaman had asked the Executive Member for Regeneration the following question:

How much did Reading University contribute towards purchasing the Bulmershe College of Further Education from the tax payers of Berkshire?

Answer

The Council was not party to the original transaction and has no records that can shed light on this issue. It is our understanding though that the process by which former Local Education Authority (such as Berkshire County Council) assets transferred to university and college ownership is one in which no money changed hands. Section 126 of the 1988 Education Reform Act transferred ownership of property used by a Higher Education Institution (such as Bulmershe College of Higher Education) to the institution from the Education Authority without compensation (immediate or deferred). Any subsequent change to a Higher Education Institution (such as a merger with a University) would lead to the transfer of land to the new institution. Since the original statutory transfer was unconditional the Higher Education Institution (or any successor body) is free to sell the land without any obligation to make a payment to the Local Education Authority (be this the original Council or any successor authority)."

Supplementary Question

Given that Reading University appear to have got a very good deal, why did this Council give them an even better deal by going against its own policy and give them permission to build 38 houses on a playing field on a site of urban landscape value between Earley and Woodley?

Supplementary Answer

I will have to come back to you.

7. REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER – BOROUGH, PARISH AND EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS 22 MAY 2014

The Council considered a report from the Council's Head of Governance and Improvement Services in his role as Returning Officer in respect of the Elections held on 22 May 2014, as set out on Agenda pages 18 to 22..

RESOLVED: That the Returning Officer's report on Councillors elected on 22 May 2014 be noted.

8. MAYOR OR HEAD OF PAID SERVICE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor and the Head of Paid Service indicated that they had no urgent announcements

9. ELECTION OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Following the current Leader of the Council's decision to step down from the role, and in accordance with the governance arrangements which were adopted by Council at its meeting on 18 November 2010, the Mayor called for nominations for the Office of Leader of the Council for a four year term, (or until the Leader's Term of Office as a Councillor expired).

The Mayor then called for nominations for the Office of Leader of the Council for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

It was proposed by David Lee and seconded by Anthony Pollock that Keith Baker be elected Leader of the Council for 2014/15.

There being no other nominations, the Mayor declared that Keith Baker had been elected as Leader of the Council for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED: That Keith Baker be elected Leader of the Council for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

Keith Baker, Leader of the Council made the following statement:

I'll just start off with an anecdote, picking up on something David Lee said about my wanting to understand fully about Highways and Planning and now I have got to understand it all. I had a conversation recently with a very good friend of mine, who constantly is berating me about potholes and I tried to help her and the other day she said, because she saw the news, I'm not going to be able to start having a go at you about pot holes. I said that actually, you can have a go at me about anything in the Council.

First of all I'd like to thank my colleagues for electing me as the new Leader of the Council, a Council that is highly innovative, dynamic and very cost effective. As you know, we are the lowest funded Council in the land. My many thanks go to David Lee the outgoing Leader. Over the last six years he has guided this Council through very difficult times and achieved so much. I consider myself privileged to have been alongside him during this period and he will be a hard act to follow. Whilst my style of leadership is different to David's, the core thrust of this Council will remain largely unchanged. I would also like to congratulate you Madam Mayor for being elected for a second term. For the last year you have managed this Chamber in a very fair and professional manner; stern where needed but generally with a light touch. It is easy to forget that your role is not just controlling us, but is the public face of the whole Council. I would like to thank you on behalf of us all for the excellent way you have represented the Council at countless public events throughout the year. You have even been highly innovative with the voluntary sector speed dating and I hope that many marriages come directly from this.

I would also like to thank the retiring Deputy Mayor, Chris Singleton, on his tireless support of you. This role is often underestimated because the Mayor is always in the limelight but it is an essential part of the Mayoral activities and I would like to congratulate Parry Bath on taking on this role.

After every election, we generally say goodbye to Councillors and say hello to new ones. I would like to mention just one particular person, Sam Rahmouni, who is no longer here. He was a long standing Member of this chamber and he always conducted himself with integrity and brought a degree of humour to the chamber. I wish him well for the future,

now that he has got his life back. As some leave, others come in and I would like to make a personal welcome to Nicky, Mark, Chris and Bill as newcomers to this Chamber. Welcome to a world that will be baffling at first, always difficult to understand and sometimes a bear pit. Do not get overly concerned as you will soon get into the swing of things and there is plenty of advice around you; mostly conflicting

At this stage, the Leader would normally announce his Deputy Leader, Executive and their respective roles. Due to the lateness of the local election, driven by the two week delay forced upon us by the European elections, I am not in a position to reveal my plans so until I complete my restructuring, the current Executive obviously minus David, the Deputy Leader and Deputies will continue in their current role. I will continue to look after Strategic Planning and Highways. I aim to bring to the July Council meeting the outcome of my restructuring. This will include plans to pass on my portfolio to someone else. Part of my efforts will be to reduce the total cost of the Special Responsibility Allowances, or SRAs, by 10%. I know Councillor Bray and her colleagues are passionate believers in reducing this cost so I call on her to match this 10% reduction in the SRA allocation to the opposition. Time to literally put your money where your mouth is.

Over this last year, Councillor Bray and colleagues made great play about the town centre regeneration and that the majority of residents opposed the development of Elms Field in particular. She promised that at the recent elections residents would make us pay for these plans. Well these elections have come and gone and the net result was totally the reverse of what she predicted. Much has been made by her of the success in the Emmbrook election but even taking this into consideration and our share of the popular vote, just in Wokingham town, stood at 42%; which was nearly double that of her party at 27%. If you exclude Emmbrook, it is even more emphatic. Across the Borough where she predicted problems due to the development of the Strategic Development Locations, a similar pattern emerged, with our share being 44% and her party 22% - exactly double. A great amount of noise was being created by the party opposite about this Administration not having legitimacy to carry out these large projects; like the SDLs and the town centre regeneration. The public have spoken through the ballot box. They knew what we stood for, they knew what Councillor Bray and her colleagues stood for and they chose our way by a factor of two to one. Clearly this does not mean that we ignore those who did not vote for us, as they also deserve a voice. To this end, we will re-double our efforts to engage and communicate with them.

Finally, I would like to turn to Councillor Bray's final comments in her speech last year. It is interesting to look back at what we all say. She used lovely sound bites like "we can work together" but unfortunately that was exactly what they were, sound bites. When late last year I asked her colleague, Councillor Shepherd DuBey to chair the Decriminalisation Working Party, her Leader contacted me after she had chaired several meetings to say, and I quote "this e-mail is to let you know that we do not feel that it is appropriate for a Liberal Democrat Councillor to be chairing a Working Group". A sound bite and I wonder what sound bites we will have tonight.

Prue Bray, the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group made the following statement:

Congratulations Madam Mayor on continuing as Mayor and welcome to Parry as Deputy Mayor. Thank you also to Chris Singleton for being Deputy Mayor last year.

I would like to welcome all of the new Councillors and I hope that they will have an enjoyable time on the Council. I regret that Sam Rahmouni is no longer here and I would like to thank him for his service.

This is a new Municipal Year, Council has a new Leader. I do not think it is a secret that the outgoing Leader, David Lee and the Liberal Democrat Group did not always see eye to eye. It may come as a surprise to some of you to hear that there was anything that David and I agreed on, but there actually was and that is the importance of decent, affordable housing, including Council housing. David is as passionate about that as we are. Indeed, I think that the one thing that I can say about David is that however much I may have disagreed with him, he cannot be criticised for lacking passion. Slightly to my own surprise, I have to confess, I do wish him well in whatever role he does now take up.

Keith has taken over from David and it is a shame, but not a surprise that he has chosen to start on a political note. With regard to the SRAs, Keith, on which you are challenging me, a number of times I have stood up in this Council Chamber and proposed a 5% cut in SRAs, which has not been voted for by the Majority Group and every time I have proposed it, I have personally taken it so if the Independent Remuneration Committee brings a report to a future Council meeting, which I expect them to do, and it proposes a 10% cut, and that is what you stand up and propose, we will join you in that, provided that your colleagues join you in that. I am the only person, apart from Planning Panel Members who receives an SRA in our Group.

It is going to take Keith a little time before he has a chance to shape his new Administration and we are prepared to engage constructively with him and his colleagues but we will also be scrutinising just as closely as we were scrutinising the activities of the previous Administration. We will hold them to account on service delivery and the spending of public money just as firmly as we have held David to account and we will continue to stand up for communities across the Borough, including on the issue of Wokingham town centre regeneration and building on Elms Field.

As I said, this is a new Municipal Year. As well as Wokingham town centre, there are many other challenges ahead for this Administration; squaring the funding circle, major new housing developments, the need for new schools, including the school in the South that you have already heard about this evening; new roads, new community facilities and the implications of the forthcoming changes to adult social care and at the same time, the need to ensure that decent quality bread and butter services like grass cutting and rubbish collection and indeed pot hole filling capacity is in the Council. Strategy, direction and governance all require attention. I think we can remember the political slogan that went "things can only get better". I feel that with what is going on nationally and with the funding situation, that we are in, in Local Government, it may be the case that things can only get worse. I wish all of us, whatever our political allegiance or our role on the Council the very best for the coming year.

10. MEMBER QUESTION TIME

No Member questions were submitted.

11. POLITICAL BALANCE OF THE COUNCIL AND ALLOCATION AND APPOINTMENT TO SEATS ON COUNCIL COMMITTEES/BOARDS

The Council considered a revised report, which was tabled at the meeting, on the political balance of the Council the appointment to the Council's Committees/Panels/Board in accordance with the wishes of the Political Groups.

The report set out a number of recommendations which the Council was asked to consider.

It was proposed by Keith Baker and seconded by Rob Stanton that the report be approved.

Councillor Paul Swaddle advised that there was a vacancy under the Group of Three for the Planning Committee listed on Appendix 1 of the report as they had refused to take up their position on this Committee. Councillor Swaddle therefore proposed an amendment which was tabled at the meeting and was seconded by Councillor Prue Bray. It was proposed that two additional recommendations be added to the report as follows:

- 3b) in accordance with the provisions of Section 17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, unanimously agrees to disapply the proportionality rules in relation to the membership of the Planning Committee for the 20-14/15 Municipal Year only, in order that the Group of Three can give up their allocated seat to the Liberal Democrat Group; and
- 3c) agrees that Councillor Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey be appointed to the vacant seat on the Planning Committee for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

Council was advised that if it agreed to the above, this would have the effect of allocating seats on the Planning Committee as follows: 7 seats to the Conservative Group and 2 seats to the Liberal Democrat Group. This amendment was unanimously agreed.

It was proposed by Keith Baker and seconded by Rob Stanton that the amended report and the additional recommendations, as set out above, be approved.

RESOLVED That Council:

- 1) having reviewed the representation of the political groups on the Council, confirms that it has 44 Conservative Group Members, 7 Liberal Democrat Group Members, 3 Group of Three Members (made up of 2 Independent Members and 1 Labour Member) (as set out in Para 1.1);
- 2) approves the appointment and composition of Committees and Boards as set out in Para 2.1;
- 3) approves the allocation of seats on Committees and Boards on the basis that, of the 94 seats (as set out in Para 3.5), 77 be allocated to the Conservative Group, 12 be allocated to the Liberal Democrat Group and 5 be allocated to the Group of Three;
- 4) in accordance with the provisions of Section 17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, unanimously agrees to disapply the proportionality rules in relation to the membership of the Planning Committee for the 20-14/15 Municipal Year only, in order that the Group of Three can give up their allocated seat to the Liberal Democrat Group;
- 5) agrees that Councillor Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey be appointed to the vacant seat on the Planning Committee for the 2014/15 Municipal Year;
- 6) approves the proposals submitted by the respective Group Leaders and that those Members be appointed to the Committees and Boards as set out in Appendix 1 to these minutes;

- 7) agrees that the principles of proportionality be applied when Members are appointed to Sub Committees, Panels or Working Groups;
- 8) note the appointment of the Independent Persons to assist the work of the Standards Committee as set out in Appendix 1;
- 9) note the elected Member representatives on the Health and Wellbeing Board, as set out in Appendix 1, as nominated by the Leader of Council in accordance with Section 194 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

12. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES/PANELS/BOARDS

The Council considered the appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Council Committees/Panels/Boards in accordance with the wishes of the Political Groups, as set out in Appendix 2, circulated at the meeting.

It was proposed by Keith Baker and seconded by Rob Stanton that the report be approved.

RESOLVED: That the appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Council Committees/Panels/Boards be agreed, as set out in Appendix 2 to these minutes.

13. APPOINTMENT TO PANELS/WORKING GROUPS/JOINT COMMITTEE AND VARIOUS BODIES 2014/2015

Members were asked to refer to a list of each political groups' nominations to various Panels, Working Groups, Joint Committees and Various Bodies as circulated at the meeting as Appendix 3.

Where more nominations had been received than places available, individual votes were taken.

RESOLVED: That Members be appointed to the Council's Panels/Working Groups/Joint Committee and Various Bodies as set out in Appendix 3 to these Minutes.

14. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Members were asked to refer to a list of each political groups' nomination to various Outside Bodies as circulated at the meeting at Appendix 4.

RESOLVED: That Members be appointed to the Outside Bodies as set out in Appendix 4 to these Minutes.

These are the Minutes of a meeting of the Council.

If you need help in understanding this document or if you would like a copy of it in large print please contact one of our Team Support Officers.

APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES AND BOARDS 2014/15

Audit Committee – 6 Seats	
<i>Members of the Executive or Overview and Scrutiny Committees cannot sit on the Audit Committee</i>	
Conservative Group (5)	Liberal Democrat Group (1)
1 Alistair Auty	1 Beth Rowland
2 Guy Grandison	
3 Chris Smith	
4 Rob Stanton	
5 Paul Swaddle	

Health and Wellbeing Board – 4 Seats	
<i>(Political balance rules are not applicable)</i>	
<i>(Only requires noting as elected Member Representatives are nominated by the Leader of Council)</i>	
Conservative Group	Liberal Democrat Group
1 Keith Baker	1 Prue Bray
2 Executive Member for Children's Services	
3 Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing	

Licensing and Appeals Committee – 14 Seats		
Conservative Group (11)	Liberal Democrat Group (2)	Group of Three (1)
1 Chris Bowring	1 Dee Tomlin	1 Lesley Hayward
2 Michael Firmager	2 Kay Gilder	
3 Mike Gore		
4 Mike Haines		
5 Philip Houldsworth		
6 Abdul Loyes		
7 Ken Miall		
8 Barrie Patman		
9 Malcolm Richards		
10 Chris Singleton		
11 Bill Soane		

School Transport Appeals Panel – 6 Members

(must be members of the Licensing and Appeals Committee)

Conservative Group (5)		Liberal Democrat Group (1)
1	Chris Bowring	1 Kay Gilder
2	Philip Houldsworth	
3	Abdul Loyes	
4	Barrie Patman	
5	Bill Soane	

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee – 12 Seats

- 1) *Members of the O&S Management Committee cannot sit on the Audit Committee.*
- 2) *The O&S Management Committee must include the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the four O&S Committees*

Conservative Group (10)		Liberal Democrat Group (1)	Group of Three (1)
1	Parry Batth	1 Prue Bray	1 Nicky Jerrome
2	Michael Firmager		
3	Mike Gore		
4	Kate Haines		
5	Pauline Helliar-Symons		
6	Tim Holton		
7	Norman Jorgensen		
8	Malcolm Richards		
9	David Sleight		
10	Shahid Younis		

Substitute Members

Conservative Group (2)		Liberal Democrat Group (2)	Group of Three (1)
1	Abdul Loyes	1 Dee Tomlin	1 Vacant
2	Mike Haines	2 Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey	

Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 8 Seats

- 1) *Members of this Committee cannot sit on the Audit Committee.*
- 2) *The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee must be members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee*

Conservative Group (6)		Liberal Democrat Group (1)		Group of Three (1)	
1	Mark Ashwell	1	Lindsay Ferris	1	Nicky Jerrome
2	Parry Batth				
3	Pauline Helliar-Symons				
4	Ken Miall				
5	Bill Soane				
6	Bob Wyatt				

Substitute Members

Conservative Group (2)		Liberal Democrat Group (2)		Group of Three (2)	
1	Chris Bowring	1	Kay Gilder	1	Vacant
2	Abdul Loyes	2	Dee Tomlin	2	Vacant

**Community Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee
– 8 Seats**

- 1) *Members of this Committee cannot sit on the Audit Committee.*
- 2) *The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee must be members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee*

Conservative Group (7)			Liberal Democrat Group (1)		
1	Parry Batth		1	Lindsay Ferris	
2	Michael Firmager				
3	Mike Gore				
4	Abdul Loyes				
5	David Sleight				
6	Bill Soane				
7	Shahid Younis				

Substitute Members

Conservative Group (2)			Liberal Democrat Group (2)		
1	Dianne King		1	Tom McCann	
2	Malcolm Richards		2	Dee Tomlin	

Corporate Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 8 Seats

- 1) *Members of this Committee cannot sit on the Audit Committee.*
- 2) *The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee must be members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee*

Conservative Group (7)		Liberal Democrat Group (1)	
1	Parry Batth	1	Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey
2	Chris Bowring		
3	Michael Firmager		
4	Kate Haines		
5	David Sleight		
6	Norman Jorgenson		
7	Ken Miall		

Substitute Members

Conservative Group (2)		Liberal Democrat Group (2)	
1	Tim Holton	1	Prue Bray
2	Bill Soane	2	Dee Tomlin

**Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
– 10 Seats**

- 1) *Members of this Committee cannot sit on the Audit Committee.*
- 2) *The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee must be members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee*

Conservative Group (8)		Liberal Democrat Group (1)		Group of Three (1)	
1	Mark Ashwell	1	Kay Gilder	1	Nick Ray
2	Kate Haines				
3	Tim Holton				
4	Philip Houldsworth				
5	Ken Miall				
6	Malcolm Richards				
7	David Sleight				
8	Wayne Smith				

Substitute Members

Conservative Group (2)		Liberal Democrat Group (2)		Group of Three (2)	
1	Abdul Loyes	1	Lindsay Ferris	1	Nicky Jerrome
2	Bill Soane	2	Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey	2	Vacant

Personnel Board – 7 Seats			
Conservative Group (6)	Liberal Democrat Group (1)		
1	Alistair Auty	1	Prue Bray
2	David Chopping		
3	Pauline Helliar-Symons		
4	Pauline Jorgensen		
5	Stuart Munro		
6	Barrie Patman		

Substitute Members			
<i>substitute for members of the Personnel Board in relation to the appointment or dismissal of or disciplinary action in respect of 1st and 2nd tier Officers)</i>			
Conservative Group (8)		Liberal Democrat Group (8)	
1	Michael Firmager	1	Lindsay Ferris
2	John Halsall	2	Kay Gilder
3	Dianne King	3	Tom McCann
4	Anthony Pollock	4	Beth Rowland
5	Chris Singleton	5	Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey
6	Rob Stanton	6	Dee Tomlin
7	Paul Swaddle		
8	Bob Wyatt		

Planning Committee – 9 Seats					
Conservative Group (7)		Liberal Democrat Group (2)		Group of Three (0)	
1	Chris Bowring	1	Lindsay Ferris		
2	Tim Holton	2.	Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey		
3	John Kaiser				
4	Bob Pitts				
5	Malcolm Richards				
6	Chris Singleton				
7	Simon Weeks				

Special Council Executive Committee – 6 Seats

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor of the Council will automatically be members of this committee. There will therefore need to be four other Members appointed and the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will count against their political party's allocation.

Conservative Group (5)		Liberal Democrat Group (1)	
1	Keith Baker	1	Prue Bray
2	Parry Batth		
3	UllaKarin Clark		
4	Anthony Pollock		
5	Angus Ross		

Substitute Members

Conservative Group (1)		Liberal Democrat Group (1)	
1	Julian McGhee-Sumner	1	Lindsay Ferris

Standards Committee – 6 Seats

Conservative Group (5)		Liberal Democrat Group (1)	
1	Chris Bowring	1	Beth Rowland
2	Pauline Helliari-Symons		
3	Ken Miall		
4	Malcolm Richards		
5	Rob Stanton		

Independent Persons

1	John Bingham
2	David Comben

**APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF
COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND BOARDS 2014/15**

Audit Committee	
Chairman	Guy Grandison
Vice-Chairman	Alistair Auty

Licensing and Appeals Committee	
Chairman	Chris Bowering
Vice-Chairman	Malcolm Richards

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee	
Chairman	Tim Holton
Vice-Chairman	Michael Firmager

Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
Chairman	Pauline Helliard-Symons
Vice-Chairman	Parry Bath

Community Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
Chairman	David Sleight
Vice-Chairman	Shahid Younis

Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
Chairman	Norman Jorgenson
Vice-Chairman	Michael Firmager

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
Chairman	Kate Haines
Vice-Chairman	Tim Holton

Personnel Board	
Chairman	Stuart Munro
Vice-Chairman	Alistair Auty

Planning Committee	
Chairman	Simon Weeks
Vice-Chairman	Tim Holton

Special Council Executive Committee	
Chairman	UllaKarin Clark
Vice-Chairman	Parry Batth

Standards Committee	
Chairman	Rob Stanton
Vice-Chairman	Pauline Helliard-Symons

**APPOINTMENT TO PANELS / WORKING GROUPS /
JOINT COMMITTEES AND VARIOUS BODIES 2014/15**

Adoption Panel – 1 Member		
Conservative Group	Liberal Democrat Group	Group of Three
1 Kate Haines		

**Berkshire Post 16 Partnership
Was renamed the Raising Participation Partnership and subsequently dissolved
on 31 March 2014**

Borough / Parish Working Group – 5 Members	
Conservative Group (4)	Liberal Democrat Group (1)
1 Michael Firmager	1 Tom McCann
2 Guy Grandison	
3 John Halsall	
4 Rob Stanton	

Constitution Review Working Group – 4 Members	
Conservative Group (3)	Liberal Democrat Group (1)
1 Pauline Helliar-Symons	1 Prue Bray
2 Pauline Jorgensen	
3 Paul Swaddle	

Corporate Parenting Board – 10 Members		
Conservative Group (8)	Liberal Democrat Group (1)	Group of Three (1)
1 Chris Bowring	1 Kay Gilder	1 Lesley Hayward
2 Guy Grandison		
3 Kate Haines		
4 Charlotte Haitham-Taylor		
5 Ian Pittock		
6 Bob Pitts		
7 Rob Stanton		
8 Shahid Younis		

Fostering Panel – 1 Member		
Conservative Group	Liberal Democrat Group	Group of Three
1 Bob Pitts		

Highwood Management Conference – 2 Members

1 Member from Conservative Group and 1 Member from Liberal Democrat Group

Conservative Group		Liberal Democrat Group	
1	Shahid Younis	1	Kay Gilder

Joint Waste Disposal Board – 2 Members

*Must be Executive Members
Appointed for four years to 30 June 2018*

Conservative Group	
1	Executive Member for Environment
2	Executive Member for Finance

School Admissions Forum – 2 Members

1 Member from Conservative Group and 1 Member from Liberal Democrat Group

Conservative Group		Liberal Democrat Group	
1	Ian Pittock	1	Beth Rowland

Schools Forum – 1 Member

*1 representative of the Local Education Authority. Under Regulations the Executive Member with responsibility for Education and the Mayor **are not** eligible for appointment to the forum. (Note: They may attend as non-voting observers)*

Conservative Group	Liberal Democrat Group	Group of Three
1	Ian Pittock	

Secure Accommodation Panel – 1 Member and Substitutes

Conservative Group	Liberal Democrat Group	Group of Three
1	Bob Pitts	

Substitutes

Any Member of the Corporate Parenting Panel

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education – 2 Members

1 Member from Conservative Group and 1 Member from Liberal Democrat Group

Conservative Group		Liberal Democrat Group	
1	David Lee	1	Beth Rowland

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Business, Skills and Enterprise Partnership – 1 Member		
Conservative Group	Liberal Democrat Group	Group of Three
1 Rob Stanton		

Community Safety Partnership – 2 Members		
<i>1 Member from Conservative Group and 1 Member from Liberal Democrat Group 1 Member must be the Police and Crime Representative</i>		
Conservative Group	Liberal Democrat Group	
1 Barrie Patman	1 Prue Bray	

Place and Community Partnership – 1 Member		
Conservative Group	Liberal Democrat Group	Group of Three
1 Dianne King		

Tenant and Landlord Improvement Panel – 2 Members		
<i>1 Member from Conservative Group and 1 Member from Liberal Democrat Group</i>		
Conservative Group	Liberal Democrat Group	
1 David Chopping	1 Prue Bray	

Thames Basin Heaths Joint Strategic Partnership – 1 Member		
Conservative Group	Liberal Democrat Group	Group of Three
1 Angus Ross		

Substitutes (1)		
Conservative Group	Liberal Democrat Group	Group of Three
1 Simon Weeks		

Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel – 1 Member		
Conservative Group	Liberal Democrat Group	Group of Three
1 Barrie Patman		

Wokingham Giving Partnership – 1 Member		
Conservative Group	Liberal Democrat Group	Group of Three
1 UllaKarin Clark		

Wokingham Learning Disability Partnership Board – 1 Member		
Conservative Group	Liberal Democrat Group	Group of Three
1 Bob Pitts		

REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2014/15

1 Member to be appointed on an annual basis unless otherwise stated

Organisation	Conservative Nomination	Liberal Democrat Nomination	Independent Group Nomination
Age UK Berkshire			Nicky Jerrome
Age UK Twyford and District	Mike Haines		
Atomic Weapons Research Establishment - Local Liaison Committee	Barrie Patman		
Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	Bob Pitts		
Berkshire Maestros		Dee Tomlin	
Berkshire Museum of Aviation	Bill Soane		
Berkshire Pension Fund Advisory Panel	Rob Stanton		
Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership Management Committee	Simon Weeks		
Bracknell and Wokingham College (Note: appointment is for 4 years)	For Information only: Rob Stanton appointed until May 2017		
Finchampstead Baptist Church Advisory Board <i>(Member should be a ward member from either Finchampstead North or Finchampstead South)</i>	Simon Weeks		
Keep Mobile	Chris Bowring		
Local Government Association (LGA) General Assembly (3 Members)	1.Keith Baker 2.Rob Stanton	1. Prue Bray	

Organisation	Conservative Nomination	Liberal Democrat Nomination	Independent Group Nomination
Mid & West Berks Local Countryside Access Forum (Note: appointment is for 3 years)	For information only: Ian Pittock appointed until May 2015		
Readibus Management Committee	Guy Grandison		
Royal Berkshire Fire Authority (5 Members - 4 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat)	1. Ian Pittock 2. Angus Ross 3. Alistair Auty 4. Pauline Helliar-Symons	1. Tom McCann	
Royal Berkshire Hospital Foundation Trust - Board of Governors	Bob Pitts		
Sonning & District Welfare and Educational Trust	Mike Haines		
South East Reserve Forces and Cadets Association	David Sleight		
Standing Conference on Archives	Bob Wyatt		
Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group of the Local Government Association (SASIG)	David Sleight		
Thames Valley Berkshire City Deal Joint Committee	For information only: Has to be the Member who is the Council's representative on the Thames Valley Berkshire Local Enterprise Partnership Ltd		
<i>Substitute</i>	Keith Baker		
Thames Valley Berkshire Local Enterprise Partnership Ltd	For information only: Has to be the Executive Member with responsibility for Economic Development		
<i>Substitute</i>	Keith Baker		
The Piggott Trust	John Halsall		
The Polehampton Charity	For Information only: Rosemary Pratt appointed until October 2016		

Organisation	Conservative Nomination	Liberal Democrat Nomination	Independent Group Nomination
The Poors Land Charity (appointment is for 4 years)	Mrs Hutchinson, who has been the Council's representative for a number of years		
South East Employers (SEE) Full Committee (2 Members)	1.Rob Stanton 2.Stuart Munro		
<i>Substitutes</i>	1.Alistair Auty 2.Barrie Patman		
Wokingham and District Association for the Elderly	Dianne King		
<i>Substitutes</i>	Parry Batth		
Wokingham and District Citizen's Advice Bureau	Parry Batth		
Wokingham Borough Sports Council	Michael Firmager		
Wokingham Borough Sports Sponsorship Fund	Ken Miall		
Wokingham Job Support Centre Management Committee	Angus Ross		
Wokingham Volunteer Centre	Dianne King		
Wokingham Waterside Centre	David Chopping		
Wokingham Youth Counselling & Information Service (ARC)		Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey	
Woodley Town Centre Management Initiative (2 Members, 1 Substitute)	1.Keith Baker 2.Bill Soane		
<i>Substitute</i>		Beth Rowland	
Woodley Volunteer Centre	Abdul Loyes		