



# **WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL**

A Meeting of the **COUNCIL** will be held at the Civic Offices,  
Shute End, Wokingham, RG40 1BN on  
**THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2015 AT 7.30 PM**

Andy Couldrick  
Chief Executive  
Published on 11 November 2015

This meeting will be filmed for inclusion on the Council's website.

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## **Our Vision**

***A great place to live, an even better place to do business***

### ***Our Priorities***

**Improve educational attainment and focus on every child achieving their potential**

**Invest in regenerating towns and villages, support social and economic prosperity, whilst encouraging business growth**

**Ensure strong sustainable communities that are vibrant and supported by well designed development**

**Tackle traffic congestion in specific areas of the Borough**

**Improve the customer experience when accessing Council services**

### ***The Underpinning Principles***

**Offer excellent value for your Council Tax**

**Provide affordable homes**

**Look after the vulnerable**

**Improve health, wellbeing and quality of life**

**Maintain and improve the waste collection, recycling and fuel efficiency**

**Deliver quality in all that we do**

To: The Members of Wokingham Borough Council

ITEM NO.	WARD	SUBJECT	PAGE NO.
44.		<b>APOLOGIES</b> To receive any apologies for absence	
45.		<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b> To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 September 2015.	13 - 34
46.		<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> To receive any declarations of interest	
47.		<b>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</b> 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 Council  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 <a href="http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/publicquestions">www.wokingham.gov.uk/publicquestions</a>	
48.		<b>PETITIONS</b> To receive any petitions which Members or members of the public wish to present.	
49.		<b>MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b> To receive any announcements by the Mayor.	
50.	None Specific	<b>LOCALISM ACT PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2015/16</b> To consider a proposed Pay Policy Statement for 2015/16 in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.  <b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> That Council approve the Policy Pay Statement for 2015/16 for publication on the Council's website in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.	35 - 46

51. None Specific **GAMBLING ACT 2005 STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES** 47 - 80  
 To consider a revised Gambling Act Statement of Principles.  
  
**RECOMMENDATION:** That under the Gambling Act 2005, the Council adopts the Statement of Principles as set out in the Appendix to the report.
52. None Specific **CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION** 81 - 190  
 To consider proposed changes to the Constitution as put forward by the Constitution Review Working Group.  
  
**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council approves the following changes to the Council's Constitution, as put forward by the Constitution Review Working Group:
- 1) Revised versions of the:
    - (a) Scheme of Delegation to Officers – Chapters 11.1, 11.2 and 11.3, as set out in Appendix A to the report;
    - (b) Financial Regulations – Chapter 12.1, as set out in Appendix B to the report; and
    - (c) Procurement and Contract Rules of Procedure – Chapter 13.1 as set out in Appendix C to the report.
  - 2) the following wording to be added to Rule 4.4.3.1a) Audit Activity – Monitoring the Council's Operations:
 

*“In addition to approve any significant additional consulting services engaged upon during the year, since the submission of the annual internal audit plan.”*
53. None Specific **APPOINTMENT OF STATUTORY SCRUTINY OFFICER** 191 - 194  
 To consider the appointment of a Statutory Scrutiny Officer.  
  
**RECOMMENDATION:** That
- 1) Neil Carr, Principal Democratic Services Officer, be designated as the Council's Statutory Scrutiny Officer; and
  - 2) Section 6.3.37 of the Council's Constitution be amended as set out in the report.

54. None Specific

**UPDATE FROM FIRE AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES**

195 - 196

To receive an update from the Council's representatives on the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service.

**RECOMMENDATION:** To note the update from the Council's representatives on the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service.

55.

**STATEMENTS BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, EXECUTIVE MEMBERS, AND DEPUTY EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

To receive any statements by the Leader of the Council, Executive Members, and Deputy Executive Members.

In accordance with Procedure Rule 4.2.23 the total time allocated to this item shall not exceed 20 minutes, and no Member shall speak for more than 5 minutes

56.

**STATEMENT FROM COUNCIL OWNED COMPANIES**

To receive any statements from Directors of Council Owned Companies.

In accordance with Procedure Rule 4.2.24 the total time allocated to this item shall not exceed 10 minutes, and no Director, except with the consent of Council, shall speak for more than 3 minutes.

57.

**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

57.1 Emmbrook

UllaKarin Clark has asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:

**Question**

The Emmbrook Secondary School plays a vital role in the education of children in the area. Can the Member inform me of the investments made by this Council in the school over the last four years, and whether any new investments are planned and when?

57.2 None Specific Alison Swaddle has asked the Executive Member for Planning and Highways the following question:

**Question**

Following Council's approval of the move to Civil Parking Enforcement in Wokingham Borough, can the Member explain what impact CPE will have on tackling parking on grass verges and footpaths?

57.3 None Specific Pauline Helliard-Symons has asked the Executive Member for Planning and Highways the following question:

**Question**

Can the Member explain the impact of the consultation from the beginning of this year on the Council's proposed Local Planning Enforcement Plan (LPEP)?

57.4 None Specific Guy Grandison has asked the Executive Member for Planning and Highways the following question:

**Question**

In June, Birmingham County Court granted an injunction to two business owners in Bromsgrove that means that any traveller incursions onto their land could lead to those individuals placing a caravan on that site being fined, or even jailed. Does the Member welcome this landmark ruling by the Court?

57.5 Emmbrook;  
Ewendons;  
Norreys; Wescott Dianne King has asked the Executive Member for Regeneration and Communities the following question:

**Question**

Does the Member agree that it is vital that we resolve the issue of parking in Wokingham town centre in order to ensure that the multi-million pound regeneration is a success?

57.6 None Specific Ken Miall has asked the Executive Member for Resident Services the following question:

**Question**

Can the Member tell me how far has fibre-optic broadband been rolled out across the Borough?

57.7 None Specific Chris Smith has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

**Question**

Does the Leader believe the current situation where an independent panel sets the rate of allowances for councillors in Wokingham Borough is preferable?

57.8 None Specific

Mark Ashwell has asked the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing the following question:

**Question**

Can the Member explain what steps the Council is taking to tackle childhood obesity in Wokingham Borough?

57.9 None Specific

Bill Soane has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

**Question**

Along with Town and parish councils this Council signed the Armed Forces Covenant. This states that we have a moral obligation to members of the armed forces and their families, aiming to prevent those who serve, or have served, facing disadvantage in their access to services, and that injured service men and women and bereaved families receive special consideration. I ask what steps are taken by this Council to ensure that these obligations are being observed and acted upon?

57.10 Emmbrook;  
Ewendons;  
Norreys; Wescott

Philip Houldsworth has asked the Executive Member for Regeneration and Communities the following question:

**Question**

The Regeneration of the Wokingham Town Centre represents a significant investment. Does the Executive Member for Regeneration share my view that providing a safe environment for shoppers and families will be vital for its success? If so will he ensure that there will be in place a scheme for the pedestrianisation of Peach Street and the Market Place during shopping hours?

58.

**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND WARD MATTERS**

A period of 20 minutes will be allowed for Members to ask questions in relation to the latest circulated volume of Minutes of Meetings and Ward Matters

59.

**MOTIONS**

To consider any motions

In accordance with Procedure Rule 4.2.11.2 a maximum period of 30 minutes will be allowed for each Motion to be moved, seconded and debated, including dealing with any amendments. At the expiry of the 30-minute period debate will cease immediately, the

mover of the Motion or amendment will have the right of reply before the Motion or amendment is put to the vote

59.1 None Specific

Motion 373 submitted by Tim Holton

This Council welcomes the results of reports that have found that Wokingham and Earley are the two of best places to live in England and Wales. Earley was ranked fifth and one of the safest towns in the country, whilst Wokingham was ranked the best place in the country to live and raise a family. This Council will continue to support our towns and communities so that Wokingham Borough continues to be one of the best places to live and work in the UK.

59.2 None Specific

Motion 374 submitted by Gary Cowan

This Council notes with concern the findings of the Bracknell News regarding the significant levels of speeding on Barkham Road near Tavistock Mews. This Council will continue to support the police in addressing speeding in this area and across the Borough, and will take steps where necessary to tackle the problem of dangerous and reckless driving. In addition, this Council will continue to raise awareness of the potential harm to pedestrians due to accidents caused by exceeding the speed limit, and the impact on the lives of individuals and families.

59.3 None Specific

Motion 375 submitted by John Halsall

Wokingham Borough has the highest per capita vehicular density in the country. The Council recognises that issues with roads affect not just one ward but every motorist. Given the paucity of funds we have to devote to road repair and maintenance, we allocate the budget on the bases of safety, the condition of the roads and their usage. We give priority to the major trunk roads so that users can get to work, children to school and the economy continues by keeping the traffic moving.

59.4 None Specific

Motion 376 submitted by Nicky Jerome

This Council notes:

- 1 in 4 people will experience a mental health problem in any given year;
- The World Health Organisation predicts that depression will be the second most common health condition worldwide by 2020;
- Mental ill health costs some £105 billion each

- year in England alone;
- People with a severe mental illness die up to 20 years younger than their peers in the UK;
- There is often a circular relationship between mental health and issues such as housing, employment, family problems or debt.

This Council believes:

- As a local authority we have a crucial role to play in improving the mental health of everyone in our community and tackling some of the widest and most entrenched inequalities in health.;
- Mental health should be a priority across all the local authority's areas of responsibility, including housing, community safety and planning;
- All Councillors, whether members of the Executive or Scrutiny and in our community and casework roles, can play a positive role in championing mental health on an individual and strategic basis.

This Council resolves:

- To sign the Local Authorities' Mental Health Challenge run by Centre for Mental Health, Mental Health Foundation, Mental Health Providers Forum, Mind, Rethink Mental Illness, Royal College of Psychiatrists and YoungMinds;
- We commit to appoint an elected Member as 'mental health champion' across the Council;
- We will seek to identify a member of staff within the Council to act as 'lead officer' for mental health;
- The Council will also:
  1. Support positive mental health in our community, including in local schools, neighbourhoods and workplaces ;
  2. Work to reduce inequalities in mental health in our community;
  3. Work with local partners to offer effective support for people with mental health needs;
  4. Tackle discrimination on the grounds of mental health in our community;
  5. Proactively listen to people of all ages and backgrounds about what they need for better mental health.

59.5 None Specific

Motion 377 submitted by Tom McCann:

ADEPT, the Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport and RSTA the Road Surface Treatments Association recommend the maximum average service life is 15 yrs for surfacing. Therefore this Council aspires to renew all road surfaces in the Borough within a 30 year period in a rolling program of replacement.

#### **CONTACT OFFICER**

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