



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the **COUNCIL** will be held at the Civic Offices,
Shute End, Wokingham, RG40 1BN on **THURSDAY 22
SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 7.30 PM**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Couldrick'.

Andy Couldrick
Chief Executive
Published on 14 September 2016

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

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WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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.
35.		APOLOGIES To receive any apologies for absence	
36.		MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 July 2016	11 - 34
37.		DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To receive any declarations of interest	
38.		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 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 www.wokingham.gov.uk/publicquestions	
38.1	None Specific	Guy Grandison has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question: Question How much overlap time was there between the end of the Loddon Viaduct works and the start of the A327 scheme?	
39.	None Specific	PRESENTATION BY THE CHIEF CONSTABLE OF THAMES VALLEY POLICE, FRANCIS HABGOOD To receive a presentation from the Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police Francis Habgood. This is expected to be approximately 20 minutes in duration after which there will be an opportunity for Member questions of no more than 15 minutes in duration.	

- 40. PETITIONS**
To receive any petitions which Members or members of the public wish to present.
- 41. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
To receive any announcements by the Mayor
- 42. None Specific** **TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16** **35 - 68**
To consider the Treasury Management Outturn Report for 2015/16; which was approved by Executive on 28 July 2016 and considered by the Audit Committee on 15 June 2016.
- RECOMMENDATION** That:
- 1) it be noted that the report was presented to the Audit Committee on 15 June 2016 and Executive on 28 July 2016;
 - 2) the following be approved:
 - a) the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2015/2016; and
 - b) the actual 2015/2016 prudential indicators within the report.
- 43. None Specific** **CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION** **69 - 76**
To consider a report containing a revised Filming and Recording Protocol and a change to the Scheme of Delegation to Officers as agreed by members of the Constitution Review Working Group.
- RECOMMENDATION:** That the following changes to the Constitution, as recommended by the Constitution Review Working Group, be agreed:
- 1) a revised Chapter 3.6 – Filming and Recording Protocol as set out in Appendix A to the report;
 - 2) designation of the Head of Governance and Improvement Services as the Officer responsible for the discharge of functions of Counting Officer at a Neighbourhood Plan Referendum.
- 44. 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

45. 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.

46. 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

46.1 None Specific

Gary Cowan has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

Question:

In an email to me in June you stated that "we have recently published our Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) Strategic Housing Market Assessment which gives us our (OAN) objectively assessed need up to 2036 of 856 homes to be built per annum.

Can you please let me know when this was agreed by the Council as Officers have advised me that "this has been agreed by Council Members and Officers who were part of the SHMA Member Reference Group" as I cannot remember this ever being discussed at Council or Executive.

46.2 None Specific

Lindsay Ferris has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

Question

With the introduction of Civil Parking Enforcement on the horizon will the Executive member for Highways agree to start working with local members to draw up a schedule and plans for where new parking arrangements will be required across the Borough?

46.3 None Specific

Clive Jones has asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:

Question

There have been suggestions in the press that the new Education Secretary Justine Greening is in favour of opening more grammar schools. Does the Conservative administration in Wokingham wish to see a return to grammar schools in the Borough?

46.4 None Specific

Beth Rowland has asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:

Question:

The Liberal Democrats welcome the setting up of the new autism unit at St Crispin's, which will not only benefit students but also potentially provide better value for money than placing young people further away. Will you set up a cross-party working group to look at the opportunities for collaboration with other councils on placements for children with special needs to realise economies of scale and better control over quality and cost?

46.5 None Specific

Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey has asked the Executive Member for Planning and Regeneration the following question:

Question

In the past two years the Council has bought a number of properties in connection with the regeneration of Wokingham town centre. If the Council were to sell those properties today, how much would they fetch compared to how much the Council paid for them?

46.6 None Specific

Prue Bray has asked the Executive Member for Economic Development and Finance the following question:

Question

Now that we have had three months since the EU Referendum vote (at the time of the Council meeting), can the Executive member for Finance advise whether there has been any impact on WBC as a result of the vote?

46.7 Hurst

Tim Holton has asked the Executive Member for the Environment the following question:

Question

Does the Executive Member welcome the news that Dinton Pastures has been awarded a TripAdvisor

Certificate of Excellence for the third year running?

46.8 None Specific

Michael Firmager has asked the Executive Member for the Environment the following question:

Question

Would the Executive Member explain the arrangements for our residents for continuing easy access to our Household Waste Recycling Centres from 1st July?

47.

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

48.

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

48.1 None Specific

Motion 385 submitted by Ian Pittock

This Council believes in transparency and on this basis resolves it will now publish allowances Members receive from Outside Bodies and other organisations to which they are appointed by WBC. Such allowances will be shown on the same WBC web page alongside those received from this Council.

48.2 None Specific

Motion 386 submitted by Lindsay Ferris

Four years ago WBC ranked 40th in the league table of councils with regard to levels of recycling. Now in 2016 WBC has fallen to 202nd. This council's average recycling rate is only 39.4%, and it has been stalled at this level for a number of years. Meanwhile the best performing Councils currently recycle around 67% of their waste. Urgent action is required to improve WBC's recycling rates to avoid the imposition on WBC of significant fines and of additional charges for sending waste to landfill, which would be additional pressures on the budget of a council which is the lowest funded Unitary Authority in the country. It is vital

to ensure that suitable plans are put in place in sufficient time to ensure that WBC can achieve the important recycling target of 50% by 2020.

Whilst it is recognised that a Waste Working Group has been set up within WBC, it has now not met for over three months. Opposition Councillors have the following concerns:

- (i) Lack of significant progress in this area
- (ii) Restricted access to any ideas that have been discussed at the working group, in particular the ruling by the Executive member for Environment that members of the working group can only communicate its discussions to the Leaders of their respective political groups and to no other councillors. We feel this is inappropriate as any programme of action put together will have an impact on **all** Councillors on the Council and that they have a right to provide an input.

In order to inject the required urgency into the consideration of waste collection and disposal, this Council requires that the waste working group resumes regular and timely meetings and that as part of its agenda it examines

- (a) Food Waste which represents approximately 40% of the current total waste within the Blue Bags
- (b) Increasing the types and quantity of plastic to be recycled
- (c) the waste collection and disposal practices of the high performing Councils, including their kerbside recycling of glass
- (d) the implications of the RE3 contract on recycling rates and what actions can be provided whilst still enabling WBC (& its partners) to meet the needs of this long term contract.
- (e) what activities can be changed within RE3 to enable the recycling targets to be met
- (f) identify and find more ways to recycle/reuse Garden Waste
- (g) contributing to an extended countrywide programme to encourage manufacturers and suppliers to provide less packaging.

And that the progress in the deliberations of the working group are reported regularly to Community

and Corporate Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee meetings, using Part II where appropriate to safeguard confidential information.

48.3 None Specific

Motion 387 submitted by Clive Jones

This Council notes that:

- corporate tax evasion and avoidance are having a damaging impact on the world's poorest countries, to such a level that it is costing them far more than they receive in aid.
- this is costing the UK as much as £30bn a year.
- this practice also has a negative effect on small and medium-sized companies who pay more tax proportionately.

This Council further notes

- that the UK Government has taken steps to tackle the issue of tax avoidance and evasion by issuing Procurement Policy Note 03/14 (PPN 03/14). This applies to all central government contracts worth more than £5m.
- the existence of voluntary schemes promoting tax compliance such as the Fair Tax Mark, which can serve as an independent means of verification.
- the 2015 Public Contract Regulations which state (in section 4) that local government can choose to adopt Procurement Policy Note 03/14.

This Council believes that bidders for council contracts should be asked to account for their past tax record, using the higher standards in PPN 03/14 and therefore calls for procurement procedures to be amended to require all companies bidding for contracts worth more than £500,000 to self-certify that they are fully tax-compliant in line with central government practice using the standards in PPN 03/14, applying to contracts of the size specified above.

This Council asks the Executive to publicise this policy and to report on its implementation annually.

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