



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Annual Meeting of the **COUNCIL** will be held at the Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham, RG40 1BN on **THURSDAY 18 MAY 2017 AT 7.30 PM**

Andy Couldrick
Chief Executive
Published on 10 May 2017

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.
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1.

ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR 2017/18

To elect a Mayor for the 2017/18 Municipal Year.

The outgoing Mayor will address the Council for up to 5 minutes to include any presentations that the Mayor may wish to make.

The outgoing Mayor will then call for nominations for the Office of Mayor for 2017/18.

The outgoing Mayor will ask the Council to vote on the nomination(s).

At this point in the proceedings the outgoing Mayor and the incoming Mayor will adjourn to the Mayor's Parlour to place the Cloak and Chain of Office on the incoming Mayor.

The incoming Mayor to take the chair and make the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as required by Section 83(3) of the Local Government Act 1972.

The Mayor to address the Council for up to 5 minutes.

The Mayor to present the Past Mayor's Badge to the outgoing Mayor.

2.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2017/18

To appoint a Deputy Mayor for the 2017/18 Municipal Year.

The Mayor will call for nominations for the Office of Deputy Mayor for 2017/18.

The Mayor will ask the Council to vote on the nomination(s).

The Deputy Mayor to make the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as required by Section 83(3) of the Local Government Act, 1972.

The Mayor to present the Deputy Mayor's badge of Office to the Deputy Mayor and the Deputy Mayor to address the Council for up to 3 minutes.

3. **APOLOGIES**
To receive any apologies for absence
4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** 11 - 50
To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23 March 2017.
5. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To receive any declarations of interest
6. **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
- 6.1 None Specific Gill Purchase has asked Councillor Keith Baker the following question:
- Question**
I read with interest a remark in the Wokingham Paper (dated the 9th of March 2017) made by Councillor Keith Baker in which it was reported that Councillor Baker did not mince his words about his former colleague Councillor Gary Cowan when he stated and I quote from this - "most of what he says are out and out lies-he's lying through his teeth and I am quite happy to put that in the paper" - end of quote.
- Could you explain your rationale behind these remarks - as you are no doubt aware of the adage 'there is no smoke without fire'!
- 6.2 Hillside Guy Grandison has asked the Executive Member for Resident Services the following question:
- Question**
I went into Lower Earley Library last weekend and was impressed by the new facilities that had been installed, could you tell me if this has increased usage at Lower Earley Library and our other Borough

libraries?

- 6.3 None Specific Susan Tyldesley has asked the Executive Member for Planning and Regeneration the following question:

Question:

Under what circumstances can Wokingham Borough Council officers agree at the pre-planning stage to a planning application for a quarry and cement factory to proceed in advance of the new Central & Eastern Berkshire Joint Minerals & Waste Plan that is currently being considered?

I ask the question because one of the stated aims of the new Minerals and Waste Plan is that... 'all the sites will be considered holistically across the whole Plan area to ensure the best strategy can be achieved.'... I am unclear as to how this could actually be achieved if agreement has already been given in principle to an individual planning application that should evidently be part of the bigger regional consideration.

7.

PETITIONS

To receive any petitions which Members or members of the public wish to present.

8.

MAYOR'S OR HEAD OF PAID SERVICE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive any announcements by the Mayor or Head of Paid Service.

9.

None Specific

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 will call 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 expires).

The Mayor will then ask the Council to vote on the nomination(s).

The Leader of Council will notify Council of the name of his/her Deputy and the remainder of the Members appointed to the Executive, outlining the scope of their respective portfolios, the terms of delegation to them and Officers if applicable. **(To be tabled)**

The Leader of Council/Executive Members will be allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes in total. The

Leader of the Opposition will be allowed to speak for up to 5 minutes.

10.

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

10.1

None Specific

Shahid Younis has asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:

Question

Could the Executive Member update the Council on her work to secure fairer funding for the Borough's schools?

10.2

Wescott

Charles Margetts has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

Question

Could the Executive Member provide an update on the start of the Northern Distributor Road at Coppid Beech?

10.3

None Specific

UllaKarin Clark has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

Question

Could the Executive Member tell me what is being done to produce a parking strategy for Wokingham Borough?

10.4

None Specific

Tim Holton has asked the Executive Member for Finance and Economic Development the following question:

Question

What steps is the Executive Member taking to ensure that the Borough's businesses are not unduly affected by the proposed changes to business rates?

10.5

Winnersh

Philip Mirfin has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

Question:

Could the Executive Member provide an update on the development of the Winnersh Relief Road and its junction with the Northern Distributor Road at

Reading Road?

10.6 None Specific

John Jarvis has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

Question

Could the Executive Member tell me whether the Council's application for Civil Parking Enforcement has been received by the Department for Transport?

10.7 None Specific

Michael Firmager has asked the Executive Member for Economic Development and Finance the following question:

Question

Could the Executive Member explain the implications for Wokingham Borough of the Government's Industrial Strategy Green Paper?

10.8 None Specific

Chris Smith has asked the Executive Member for Economic Development and Finance the following question:

Question

Could the Executive Member for Finance explain what the negative revenue support grant is and how it is affecting this Council?

10.9 Winnersh

Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

Question

What is the reason for the delay in delivering the Winnersh Relief Road (and all of its ancillary bits (such as Lower Earley Way expansion) which is sorely needed for relief of the Reading Road and Winnersh Crossroads chaos (which seems to be almost a car park at times) and the increase in cost of the project (which seems to be not included as a separate budget lines of the MTFP)?

10.10 Evendons

Imogen Shepherd-DuBey has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

Question

At the moment, the volunteers who give up their time and skills to be School Governors are expected to attend meetings and training at Shute End and pay for parking. While they have the option to claim the parking charges off the schools, most will not as our

schools are already being starved of funding.

This seems utterly wrong to ask these volunteers to pay for the privilege of being a school governor.

Why are we charging these parking fees to these volunteers and surely it is within the Council's ability to provide 'one-off' permits for those attending these kinds of meetings or volunteer training at Shute End?

10.11 None Specific

Clive Jones has asked the Executive Member for Planning and Regeneration the following question:

Question

Can the Executive Member responsible please advise what is the current status of the WBC Grazeley Garden Village Submission for 15,000 Houses in that area?

11. None Specific

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

51 - 62

To receive a report on the political balance of the Council and to appoint to Council Committees/Panels/Boards in accordance with the Groups' wishes as set out in Appendix 1.

Further information relating to nominations will be circulated before or at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION That Council:

- 1) having reviewed the representation of the political groups on the Council, confirms that it has 45 Conservative Group Members, 7 Liberal Democrat Group Members, 1 Labour Member and 1 Independent 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 86 seats (as set out in Para 3.6), 74 be allocated to the Conservative Group and 12 be allocated to the Liberal Democrat Group;
- 4) 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;
- 5) agrees that the principles of proportionality be applied when Members are appointed to Sub Committees, Panels or Working Groups;

- 6) notes the appointment of the Independent Person to assist the work of the Standards Committee and the co-opted Parish/Town Council Representatives as set out in Appendix 1;
- 7) notes 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.	None Specific	<p>APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND BOARDS 2017/18</p> <p>To appoint Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Council Committees and Boards in accordance with the Groups' wishes as set out in Appendix 2.</p> <p>Further information relating to nominations will be circulated before or at the meeting.</p>	63 - 64
13.	None Specific	<p>APPOINTMENT TO PANELS/WORKING GROUPS/JOINT COMMITTEES AND VARIOUS BODIES 2017/18</p> <p>To consider and approve the appointment of Members to serve on Joint Committees, Various Bodies and Panels/Working Groups in accordance with the Groups' wishes as set out in Appendix 3.</p> <p>Further information relating to nominations will be circulated before or at the meeting.</p>	65 - 68
14.	None Specific	<p>APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2017/18</p> <p>To consider and approve the appointment of Members to serve on Outside Bodies in accordance with the Groups' wishes as set out in Appendix 4.</p> <p>Further information relating to nominations will be circulated before or at the meeting.</p>	69 - 72
15.	None Specific	<p>HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY</p> <p>To consider and approve the Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities as recommended by the Health and Wellbeing Board.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION: That Council agrees to endorse the priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017-20.</p>	73 - 82

16. None Specific **HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17** 83 - 88
To receive a report from the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board on the work undertaken over the past year.
RECOMMENDATION: That the report from the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board be noted.
17. None Specific **APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS UNDER THE LOCALISM ACT 2011** 89 - 92
To consider and approve the appointment of Paddy Haycocks and Nicholas Oxborough as 'Independent Persons' under Section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011.
RECOMMENDATION That:
1) Paddy Haycocks and Nicholas Oxborough be appointed as 'Independent Persons' under Section 28 (7) of the Localism Act 2011, increasing the number of the Council's Independent Persons to three including David Comben an existing Independent Person;
2) the decision made by the Council in July 2012 be reaffirmed and an allowance of £1,000 per annum be paid for the position of Independent Person.

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