



# WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the **COUNCIL** will be held in Council Chamber  
- Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham RG40 1BN on  
**THURSDAY 20 JULY 2017 AT 7.30 PM**

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

Andy Couldrick  
Chief Executive  
Published on 12 July 2017

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

Please note that other people may film, record, tweet or blog from this meeting. The use of these images or recordings is not under the Council's control.



# **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.
18.		<p><b>APOLOGIES</b> To receive any apologies for absence</p>	
19.		<p><b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b> To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 May 2017.</p>	11 - 26
20.		<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> To receive any declarations of interest</p>	
21.		<p><b>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</b> To answer any public questions</p>	
		<p>A period of 30 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions submitted under notice.</p>	
		<p>The Council welcomes questions from members of the public about the work of the Council</p>	
		<p>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></p>	
21.1	Hawkedon	<p>David Hare has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:</p>	
		<p><b>Question</b></p>	
		<p>A number of residents have complained to me that very few roads in Hawkedon ward, Earley, seem to have been resurfaced recently, despite many roads needing to be done. Can you tell me how much money has been spent, and where resurfacing has occurred, in Hawkedon ward over each of the last two financial years (2015/16 &amp; 2016/17)?</p>	
21.2	Emmbrook; Ewendons; Norreys; Wescott	<p>Chris Singleton has asked the Executive Member for Strategic Planning and Highways the following question:</p>	
		<p><b>Question:</b></p>	
		<p>With the continuing house building programme, congestion seems to be worsening, affecting</p>	

residents of the Town Wards and visitors to Wokingham Town. In the period prior to completion of both Northern and Southern Distributor roads, what peak flows and delays are anticipated, in particular on London Road, Peach Street, Denmark Street, Langborough Road, Finchampstead Road and Reading Road and what steps can the Council take to mitigate the impact of development on traffic and the potential damage to the prospects of the Regeneration programme in the period up to these 2 major road improvement projects becoming effective?

21.3 None Specific

Annabel Yoxall has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

**Question:**

It is welcoming to hear that the Leader of the Council is committed to standing up for victims of domestic abuse in our community. My question is on behalf of those who have suffered historic abuse, those who are currently in abusive and controlling relationships and for the perpetrators of the abuse. For the many who have experienced abuse there will be a range of strong emotions attached to it. They may also feel isolated and that they have no voice. What will the Lead be implementing to encourage those who are afraid, who feel shame and who carry guilt, to step forward and seek the help they so desperately need?

22.

**PETITIONS**

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

23.

**MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive any announcements by the Mayor

24.

None Specific

**LOCALISM ACT PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2017/18**

27 - 36

To consider a proposed Pay Policy Statement for 2017/18 in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council approve the Policy Pay Statement for 2017/18 for publication on the Council's website in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

25.

None Specific

**COMPLAINT - LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN'S REPORT**

37 - 56

To receive a report regarding a Complaint - Local Government Ombudsman's Report.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the content of the Ombudsman's report and the learning from this complaint be given consideration by Full Council, as is required by section s31 (2) of the Local Government Act 1974.

26. None Specific

### **CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION**

57 - 62

To consider a report containing revisions regarding the Independent Remuneration Panel, the Health and Wellbeing Board terms of reference, the Planning Committee terms of reference and the process for considering Code of Conduct Complaints; 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) Chapter 2.2.3 Independent Remuneration Panel

that Rule 2.2.3 be amended as follows:

#### **2.2.3 Independent Remuneration Panel**

The Council commissions an Independent Remuneration Panel to review the Scheme of Members Allowances annually. ***Should there have been little or no change during the year, the Independent Remuneration Panel may decide not to undertake a full review or any review of the Scheme of Members Allowances. In such instances, the Panel will report their decision and the reason for it to Full Council.***

- 2) that Rule 4.4.35 Quorum be amended as follows:

"4.4.35. The quorum of the Health and Wellbeing Board shall be four. Representatives from Wokingham Borough Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group must be in attendance at each meeting.

***If neither the Chairman nor Vice Chairman is present, a Chairman will be elected for that meeting. Substitute voting members for the Chairman and Vice Chairman, for that meeting will be identified prior to the meeting."***

- 3) that the following be added to Rule 8.1.1 Planning Committee's Terms of Reference and the Procedure for Appeals added as an appendix to the Constitution (Appendix A to the report):

***“m) Applications by any person in respect of a decision to designate/de-designate a building as a Building of Traditional Local Character. This is conditional in that the application must be made within eight weeks beginning with the day on which written confirmation of the decision was issued to the relevant parties (unless a longer period is agreed by either the Chairman of the Planning Committee or the Director Customer and Localities Services.)***

- 4) Chapter 9.1 Process for Considering Code of Conduct Complaints

Guidelines to support the Monitoring Officer's initial decision regarding a complaint to be added to Rule 9.1.13.4 Initial Decision of the Monitoring Officer (Appendix B to report).

27.

**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

28.

**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.

29.

**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

29.1 Evendons

Lindsay Ferris has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

**Question**

The Meeting TV Screen at Shute End is not working. This is causing considerable confusion and some annoyance. When will this facility become available again?

29.2 None Specific

Imogen Shepherd-DuBey has asked the Executive Member for Environment the following question:

**Question**

Given recent tragic events around the country, our thoughts have moved to what would we do in these situations. I understand that Wokingham Borough Council has an Emergency plan, but I have not seen any information on it. Isn't it time to have a Members' briefing on it?

29.3 None Specific

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

**Question:**

There are many examples where Members do not comment one way or another on planning applications and/or consultations in their own wards so what message does that send to residents and should they be encouraged to do so?

29.4 Emmbrook

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

**Question:**

Many residents have for some long time complained about the often near misses that have occurred when walking on shared pavement areas with cyclists.

Indeed, in walking myself, along only a short stretch of Smiths Walk at Woosehill with my dog, I often encounter speeding cyclists who give the impression of owning that entire walkway and who cycle at high speeds with a total disregard for any unfortunate resident, young or old that is also trying to share that space. These are mostly adult male cyclists but can also be school boys.

Usually if it is suggested that they should respect other users and slow down you simply get a profanity in reply!

Despite all I have said, I am a big supporter of shared pedestrian cycle ways and this Council has invested millions in developing a network of them across our Borough for the enjoyment of all. This is being spoilt and I would add lives are being put at risk from the rogue cycle users who bring shame on all cyclists, disrespect those walking, and cycle at high speeds to and from work or school.

Indeed, despite there being a legal requirement that bikes should be sold with a bell or horn, few seem either to have them or at the very least wish to alert pedestrians of their presence.

So, what can the Council do to slow these cyclists down, educate them and ensure the safety of young and old pedestrians?

29.5 None Specific

Laura Blumenthal has asked the Executive Member for Environment the following question:

**Question**

In light of survivors of the Grenfell tragedy saying that they did not receive enough support directly after the disaster, are we confident that our Council has a robust emergency plan to provide a significant number of residents with immediate shelter and support if needed?

29.6 Bulmershe and Whitegates; Coronation; Loddon; South Lake

Alison Swaddle has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

**Question**

The Council has been running the pilot car parking charges scheme in Woodley for nearly a year. Can the Executive Member provide an update on when the results of the comparison against the Borough-wide system will be available?

29.7 Wescott

Alistair Auty has asked the Executive Member for Business & Economic Development and Regeneration the following question:

**Question**

Can the Executive Member provide an update on the regeneration works on Peach Street?



- 29.8 None Specific Abdul Loyes has asked the Executive Member for Adults' Services the following question:
- Question**  
Does the Executive Member support the Government's proposals to ban landlords and letting agents from forcing tenants to pay letting fees as a condition of their tenancy?
- 29.9 None Specific Malcolm Richards has asked the Executive Member for Finance the following question:
- Question**  
Can the Executive Member explain what training, including use of the IT systems, will be available on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council for Members and staff?
- 29.10 None Specific Clive Jones has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:
- Question**  
What is the process used to decide which roads in the Borough are resurfaced, including how the work is scheduled, how these decisions are recorded and reported, and when this process was last updated?
- 30. 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
- 31. 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
- 31.1 None Specific **Motion 397 submitted by Lindsay Ferris:**  
This Council expresses its thanks to the Police, Ambulance and Fire Services for their professional and dedicated actions arising from the recent terrorist attacks and the terrible fire at Grenfell Tower in North Kensington.
- This Council will lobby the Government to ensure

these vital emergency services receive the necessary funding and resources to meet their increased obligations arising from such events.

### **CONTACT OFFICER**

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