



# WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Annual Meeting of the **COUNCIL** will be held in the Council Chamber - Civic Offices on **THURSDAY 24 MAY 2018 AT 7.30 PM**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Manjeet Gill', is centered on a light grey rectangular background.

Manjeet Gill  
Interim Chief Executive  
Published on 16 May 2018

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.
1.		<p><b>ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR 2018/19</b> To elect a Mayor for the 2018/19 Municipal Year.</p> <p>The outgoing Mayor will address the Council for up to 5 minutes to include any presentations that the Mayor may wish to make.</p> <p>The outgoing Mayor will then call for nominations for the Office of Mayor for 2018/19.</p> <p>The outgoing Mayor will ask the Council to vote on the nomination(s).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The incoming Mayor will take the chair and make the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as required by Section 83(3) of the Local Government Act 1972.</p> <p>The Mayor to address the Council for up to 5 minutes.</p> <p>The Mayor to present the Past Mayor's Badge to the outgoing Mayor.</p>	
2.		<p><b>APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2018/19</b> To appoint a Deputy Mayor for the 2018/19 Municipal Year.</p> <p>The Mayor will call for nominations for the Office of Deputy Mayor for 2018/19.</p> <p>The Mayor will ask the Council to vote on the nomination(s).</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor will make the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as required by Section 83(3) of the Local Government Act, 1972.</p> <p>The Mayor will 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.</p>	

3. **APOLOGIES**  
To receive any apologies for absence.

4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**  
To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 March 2018.

11 - 42

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](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/publicquestions)

6.1 Bulmershe and Whitegates Peter Dennis has asked the Executive Member for Environment the following question:

**Question:**

At the junction of the Kennet and Avon canal and the river Thames there are a lot of moored boats, and plenty of tents. The residents of said boats are having fires, dumping plenty of rubbish and indeed appear to be stripping wiring - leaving the plastic shielding on the ground. In turn this presents a health hazard for the wild life, a hazard for pedestrians and cyclists using the pavement. What do the council plan to do to address this situation?

6.2 Shinfield South James Reid has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

**Question:**

The planning consent for houses in Three Mile Cross and Spencers Wood requires that the speed limit on Basingstoke Road be reduced to 30MPH. Could you confirm why the Council took the decision to delay the introduction of this speed reduction by increasing the trigger point from the occupation of the 150th home to the 350th home without any public consultation and

which member of the Executive approved this?

6.3 None Specific

Manuj Bahl has asked the Executive Member for Business and Economic Development and Regeneration the following question:

**Question**

I have been told that the Virgin Media rollout has been stopped in the area, due to some issues between the Council and the company. Is this true and if so, what are the plans to bring high speed internet to the area?

6.4 None Specific

Clive Chafer has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

**Question**

David Lee was acting as chair to the Traffic Advisory Group, which Council fully supported at an earlier meeting, and which had begun to address some vital issues concerning future traffic arrangements in the Borough. With Mr Lee no longer on the Council, how will the Leader ensure the continuity of this project so as to ensure its momentum is not lost?

6.5 None Specific

Jenny Lissaman has asked the Executive Member for Planning and Enforcement the following question:

**Question**

This Council adopted the Borough Design Guide in May 2012, its purpose being "To enhance the quality of development and make sure proposals are of the highest quality of design". One of the 9 key objectives, for example, is 'To respect and be sympathetic to the character of the area in which the development is situated'. Another is "To take full account of the mass and height of development in relation to adjacent development and surrounding spaces'. I am concerned that some applications approved by this Council no longer appear to comply with the requirements of the Design Guide and wonder if this could be due to the current government's relaxation of permitted development rights or perhaps the high turnover of contracted planning officers who are neither familiar with the character of different areas of Wokingham or the Borough Design Guide?

7. None Specific **REPORT OF RETURNING OFFICER - BOROUGH AND TOWN COUNCIL ELECTIONS 3 MAY 2018** 43 - 46  
 The Council's Assistant Director, Governance, as Returning Officer, to report on the elections held on 3 May 2018.
- RECOMMENDATION:** That the Council notes the report of the Returning Officer.
8. **PETITIONS**  
 To receive any petitions which Members or members of the public wish to present.
9. **MAYOR'S OR HEAD OF PAID SERVICE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
 To receive any announcements from the Mayor or Head of Paid Service.
10. **STATEMENTS FROM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL/EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**  
 To receive notification from the Leader of her Deputy and the remainder of the Members appointed to the Executive; 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.
11. **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.
- 11.1 Winnersh  
 Rachelle Shepherd-Dubey has asked the Executive Member for Strategic Highways and Planning the following question:
- Question:**  
 If and when it is approved, how soon after would you be able to deliver the Winnersh Relief Rd part 2: since you own the land, have the money from the LEP, have the design because it hasn't materially changed, you have the contractor agreed for construction, it is less than 450 metres long and has no bridges, nor needs no network rail approval and

most of the roundabout work can be done off road?

11.2 None Specific

Gary Cowan has asked the Executive Member for Environment the following question:

**Question**

Is this administration content with its current policies on TPO trees where they cut them down without reference to anyone, do not keep records of the removed TPO trees and worst of all it refuses to consult with members, Parish/Town Councils and residents for that matter. Are we all an irrelevance or an irritant in the eyes of this uncaring administration?

11.3 Wescott

Rachel Burgess has asked the Executive Member for Business and Economic Development and Regeneration the following question:

**Question**

The handling of the town centre regeneration project has caused considerable distress for residents in my ward. People have told me how difficult they find it to navigate the town, especially older people, parents with prams, and those with disabilities. Many vulnerable people, such as people with learning disabilities, have lost their independence as they simply cannot find their way around the town. Traffic congestion has been utterly appalling and is turning many people away.

The project has suffered unexpected delays and some local businesses I have spoken to have seen their takings plummet as people go to Bracknell or Reading instead of subjecting themselves to the chaos of the town centre. More action needs to be taken now to ensure residents can continue to use their town successfully while the works are completed. What concrete steps will be taken to improve the town centre for residents and businesses during the remainder of these works?

11.4 None Specific

Imogen Shepherd-DuBey has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

**Question**

This Council has only 14 female councillors out of the total of 54 councillors who serve on it. I also feel we are not proportionately representing many other groups that live in the Wokingham Borough Council area. What is this Council proposing to do to ensure that we are representing our community appropriately?

11.5 Emmbrook Helen Power has asked the Executive Member for Environment the following question:

**Question**

What are you doing to resolve the Anti-Social Behaviour problems being experienced by Woosehill residents that have significantly increased this year and will increase again over the summer months?

11.6 Hillside Clive Jones has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

**Question**

Is the repair of the massive hole in the bus stop in Rushey Way near to Ryhill Way on track to be repaired before 25th May?

11.7 None Specific Ian Pittock has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

**Question**

I am assuming that the Leader of the Council supports all requirements that maintain and improve security throughout the Council. Some Members have long been allowed access to Council buildings using ID cards identifying them as belonging to an organisation called 'Wokingham District Council', which ceased to exist ten years ago. Changing these is a small cost in light of the example that Members should be setting to staff. How long does the Leader need for transition, or should that be implementation, to ensure all Member's ID cards bear the words 'Wokingham Borough Council', what price security?

11.8 Hillside Chris Smith has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

**Question**

Please can the Executive Member provide an update on highways works within Hillside ward?

12. None Specific **POLITICAL BALANCE OF THE COUNCIL AND ALLOCATION AND APPOINTMENT TO SEATS ON COUNCIL COMMITTEES/PANELS/BOARDS**

**47 - 58**

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 42 Conservative Group Members, 8 Liberal Democrat Group Members, 3 Labour Group Members 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), 68 be allocated to the Conservative Group 13 be allocated to the Liberal Democrat Group and 5 be allocated to the Labour 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 Persons 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.

<b>13.</b>	None Specific	<b>APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND BOARDS 2018/19</b> To appoint Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Council Committees and Boards in accordance with the Group's wishes as set out in Appendix 2.  Further information relating to nominations will be circulated before or at the meeting.	<b>59 - 60</b>
<b>14.</b>	None Specific	<b>APPOINTMENT OF PANELS/WORKING GROUPS/JOINT COMMITTEES AND VARIOUS BODIES 2018/19</b> 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.	<b>61 - 64</b>

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

15. None Specific

**APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2018/19**

**65 - 68**

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.

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

**CONTACT OFFICER**

**Anne Hunter**  
**Tel**  
**Email**  
**Postal Address**

Democratic & Electoral Services Lead Specialist  
0118 974 6051  
anne.hunter@wokingham.gov.uk  
Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham, RG40 1BN