



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the **COUNCIL** will be held in Council Chamber
- Civic Offices on **THURSDAY 22 MARCH 2018 AT**
7.30 PM

Manjeet Gill
Interim Chief Executive
Published on 14 March 2018

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.
77.		APOLOGIES To receive any apologies for absence.	
78.		MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 February 2018.	15 - 26
79.		DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To receive any declarations of interest.	
80.		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	
80.1	Wescott	Helen Power has asked the Executive Member for Business, Economic Development and Regeneration the following question: Question: With Wokingham town centre suffering complete chaos from the regeneration shambles, why not wait until the Peach Place and Town Centre works are complete and all the retail units successfully let before continuing to destroy Elms Field?	
80.2	None Specific	Peter Humphreys has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question: Question: By way of background I first raised this question via email with the Regeneration team on 8/2/18 who passed it to the so-called Highways Improvements team. When they failed to respond I also contacted	

the Executive Member for Highways & Transport and also the Leader of the Council. Despite several reminders none of these parties bothered to respond and as well as not being able to answer the question can't name a single individual within the apparently faceless Highways Improvement team who I could chase-up in person. A visit to Shute End proved to be equally fruitless as not a single employee could be found who was working on the Market Place project; well it was a Friday.

Anyway in early February I observed that the hole caused by road works at the entrance to Peach Plaza in Rose Street had been filled in yet part of the highway was still fenced off and the temporary traffic lights with one-way working still in use. The hoardings have moved since then but at that point in time the road could have been re-opened to two-way traffic. But wasn't. By way of an update the hoardings at the Broad Street junction have been moved forward but if the project had been properly managed the road works at this point would have been done first to free up the junction.

Clearly if the works in the square had been logically sequenced the temporary traffic lights in Rose Street could have been removed weeks ago and with this alternative westbound route opened through the town centre congestion would also have been relieved on Denmark Street, Finchampstead & Wellington Roads. Why was this not done?

80.3 None Specific

Keith Malvern has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

Question:

Budget consultation: Can the Leader of the Council explain to me and the nearly 700 other people who made comments on the Budget consultation, why the report on the consultation was not available before the council meeting in February when the Budget was decided?

80.4 Wescott

Jacqueline Wilson has asked the Executive Member for Business, Economic Development and Regeneration the following question:

Question:

Can someone please explain to me why the decision to start work on Elms Field (a very unpopular project to most residents) was taken when our lovely old town is already in such total chaos?

- 80.5 Hawkedon David Hare has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:
- Question:**
Residents have complained recently about localised speeding. Would it be possible to have VAS (vehicle activated signs) in Cutbush Lane/Chatteris Way, Meldreth Way and Carshalton Way?
- 80.6 Maiden Erlegh Tahir Maher has asked the Executive Member for Environment the following question:
- Question:**
Many residents in Maiden Erlegh have signed my petition to try to save the Maiden Erlegh Public Library. What has the Council done to try to save the Library?
- 80.7 Hillside Sue Smith has asked the Executive Member for Strategic Highways and Planning the following question:
- Question:**
Can you give me an update on any proposed development of Area DD at Chalfont Park; is the Council still looking at a housing development on this space?
- 80.8 Wescott David Knee has asked the Executive Member for Business, Economic Development and Regeneration the following question:
- Question:**
There is considerable evidence that there is over-provision of restaurants, eating houses etc. throughout UK. With the imminent closure of Prezzo in Wokingham and Woodley and the future of the Café Rouge chain in doubt, how confident are WBC that new eating establishments will open in Wokingham Town centre, notably, Peach Place, and thrive?
- 80.9 Wescott Michael Smith has asked the Executive Member for Environment the following question:
- Question**
With the forthcoming development of Elms field as both residential and commercial properties, what plans are in place to mitigate the significantly increased environmental impact of the removal of the mature trees that previously would have absorbed the

increased air bourn pollution from the additional traffic, particularly as the current traffic loads constantly cause long stationary queues of polluting traffic on the nearby roads?

80.10 Emmbrook;
Ewendons;
Norreys;
Wescott

Caroline Smith has asked the Executive Member for Environment the following question:

Question

Over the years, benefactors have donated several parcels of land for the pleasure and enjoyment of the residents of Wokingham Town. What green legacy are YOU (the current Council) leaving for the future generations of residents of Wokingham Town?

80.11 Emmbrook

Rachel Bishop Firth has asked the Executive Member for Adults' Services the following question:

Question

Some of the council owned garages on Ormonde Road are in a very poor condition. Repairs have now started (and thank you for this) - however a number of them are still damp and dilapidated. The cost of renting a garage is currently £48 / month. Will the council be offering a rebate to those who are renting a garage which has not been maintained?

80.12 None Specific

Morgan Rise has asked the Executive Member for Strategic Highways and Planning the following question:

Question

You have been responsible for, or heavily involved in the planning of the many thousands of houses that Wokingham is currently in the position of having built in our area. You are now leading the latest local plan where even more houses could be coming, but the infrastructure to support these numbers of houses has not been delivered. When are we going to see plans to ensure our borough has the infrastructure it needs to support its current and new residents?

80.13 Maiden Erlegh

Guy Grandison has asked the Executive Member for Environment the following question:

Question

Give the disappointing decision of the school to ask the Library at Maiden Erlegh to leave the site can the executive member confirm what is being done to ensure that Maiden Erlegh residents have access to sufficient library service?

- 80.14 Finchampstead South David Cornish has asked the Executive Member for Environment the following question:
- Question**
California Country Park has been fine as it with just maintenance required for well-used features like the playground and the boardwalk. You've spent money clearing trees for a massive, unneeded and unfinished car park extension, but let the boardwalk fall into ruins - Why are you doing this?
81. **PETITIONS**
To receive any petitions which Members or members of the public wish to present.
82. **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
To receive any announcements by the Mayor.
83. None Specific **COUNCIL PLAN** **27 - 56**
To receive a report setting out a review of the Council Plan.
- RECOMMENDATION** That Council:
- 1) endorse and approve the publication and communication of the 2014-17 Council Plan achievements as attached in Appendix 1 to the report.
 - 2) request that a Borough Plan for 2019-22 produced in partnership is presented to Council in February 2019.
84. None Specific **CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION** **57 - 124**
To consider a report containing revisions regarding petitions presented to Council, speaking by Members other than [Planning Committee] members, Ethics and Corporate Governance and the Procurement and Contract Rules and Procedures.
- RECOMMENDATION:** That Council agree the following changes to the Constitution as recommended by the Constitution Review Working Group:
- 1) Chapter 4 The Council Meeting
that Rule 4.2.19.2 be amended as follows:
4.2.19.2 Petitions presented to Council
*'...Members will be entitled to speak for no more than **three** minutes in support of a*

*petition. A member of the public may present a petition at any meeting of the Council and will be entitled to speak for no more than **three** minutes in support of the petition...'*

2) Chapter 8 Regulatory and Other Committees

that Rule 8.2.7 be amended as follows:

8.2.7 Speaking by Members other than [Planning] Committee Members

*'...if the Member who wishes to speak is not the relevant Ward Member they will need to provide evidence that ~~he/she~~ (or their residents) are directly affected by the proposed development. **Ward Members directly affected by the proposed development should register to speak as either a supporter or objector as appropriate. In cases of applications situated in a single member ward and the Ward Member is directly affected by the proposed development, a Ward Member from an adjoining ward may be requested to speak on others' behalf.**'*

3) that Section 9 Ethics and Corporate Governance be amended as set out in Appendix 1 to the report;

4) revisions to the Procurement and Contract Rules and Procedures as highlighted in Appendix 2 to the report.

85.	None Specific	<p>ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES 2017/18</p> <p>To receive a report from the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on the work undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Committees over the previous year.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION: That the report from the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee be noted.</p>	125 - 150
86.	None Specific	<p>AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18</p> <p>To receive a report from the Chairman of the Audit Committee on the work undertaken over the past year.</p>	151 - 154

RECOMMENDATION: That the report from the Chairman of the Audit Committee be noted.

87. None Specific **STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18** 155 - 160

To receive a report from the Chairman of the Standards Committee on the work undertaken over the past year.

RECOMMENDATION: That the report from the Chairman of the Standards Committee be noted.

88. None Specific **REPORTS FROM MEMBERS APPOINTED TO OUTSIDE BODIES** 161 - 210

To note those reports from Members on Outside Bodies as circulated in the agenda.

RECOMMENDATION: That the reports from Members appointed to Outside Bodies be noted.

89. **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.

90. **STATEMENTS 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.

91. **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

- 91.1 None Specific Oliver Whittle has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:
- Question:**
The introduction of Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) has resulted in better observation of the various parking restrictions, particularly as they relate to Residents Parking. Whilst non-residents are now being identified and discouraged from parking in Residents Parking spaces, the introduction of CPE has also identified the need to accommodate care workers, doctors, builders, and visitors who need to park near their clients and relatives, and sometimes stay for more than the maximum parking time permitted. Is the Council looking at ways to overcome this problem?
- 91.2 None Specific Angus Ross has asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:
- Question:**
Could the Executive Member for Children's Services tell the Council about the Borough's competitive Primary Schools Football competitions, set up over the last four years, and their successes?
- 91.3 None Specific Ian Pittock has asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:
- Question:**
Bohunt was designed and built for an intake of 180 pupils per annum, taking into consideration all planned housing developments. Over seven years this would fill the school classrooms to capacity including allowing for two years of 6th Form. Bohunt has increased their intake to 240 pupils per annum resulting in denuding other local secondary schools of pupils and associated funding and which will fill Bohunt to capacity faster, resulting in there being no room for 6th Formers who will, therefore, have to go elsewhere. WBC did not object to the increase in the annual intake, and did not involve local Members. The result is a threat to the funding of other local secondary schools and the lack of a 6th Form at Bohunt. What is WBC going to do to solve this?
- 91.4 None Specific Philip Mirfin has asked the Executive Member for Strategic Highways and Planning the following question:

Question:

I know that there are concerns that a large number of mature trees have been felled in Elms Field. To the best of my knowledge, I know that many of those trees were unsuitable for a number of reasons and for every tree felled there, it will be replaced by 25% more semi mature trees.

So my question is, across this Borough just how many new trees are being planted to ensure that our residents will continue to believe that Wokingham is the happiest place in this country and one of the best places to live?

91.5 None Specific David Chopping has asked the Executive Member for Strategic Highways and Planning the following question:

Question:

Could the Executive Member confirm this Council's Policy on encouraging affordable housing on all new developments within the Borough and this Council's record on delivering what we promise?

91.6 None Specific Lindsay Ferris has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

Question:

I have been receiving an increasing number of complaints regarding the lack of parking facilities for businesses in areas with Residents Parking Permits. This is having an impact on both local businesses and others. Several have received parking tickets and many residents are having problems finding spaces for someone like a plumber, builder, cleaner or other to park.

I made a suggestion about a year ago where Wokingham Borough Council could provide a Business Parking Permit, one that allows a local business to park in these areas, but restricted to Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm with an appropriate annual charge.

Can the Executive Member responsible please advise what action is being taken to assist these businesses?

91.7 None Specific Michael Firmager has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

Question:

Following the upgrade of the street lighting in the

Borough can the Executive Member give me an update including savings made?

91.8 Hawkedon

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

Question:

Is the Council aware of any proposals for potential housing or other development south of the M4 near Cutbush Lane? Recently engineers have been taking soil cores in University owned fields which suggests possible development that would seriously impact my residents in Hawkedon ward.

91.9 None Specific

Imogen Shepherd-Dubey has asked the Executive Member for Strategic Highways and Planning the following question:

Question

The residents of Emmbrook have seen very little progress when it comes to the new roads that WBC are expected to build. This is creating a number of questions about WBC's commitment to building the infrastructure that we need. In particular, this relates to the Western edge of the Northern Relief Road, Winnersh Bypass and the Forest Road improvements, where there is very little progress information available to both Councillors and the public. When are we going to see practical information, such as timelines and real time progress status for these projects and ideally have something publicly available on the WBC Website?

92.

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.

93.

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.

93.1 None Specific

Motion 402 submitted by Prue Bray

This Council apologises to the residents of Wokingham for felling a large number of mature trees and destroying the green space at Elms Field over the weekend of 17th and 18th February 2018. This Council further apologises to the residents of Wokingham for deciding to appropriate this land for development from being public open space, thus ignoring both the wishes of the benefactors who originally made this land available for the enjoyment of local people, and the wishes of thousands of current residents.

This Council will set up a working group to discuss all its current regeneration plans, including its plans for Elms Field. The working group would be cross party and include a small number of residents, and Wokingham town councillors. The working group will discuss and assess all the Council's plans for the regeneration of Wokingham town and make recommendations back to the council before the end of 2018.

93.2 None Specific

Motion 403 submitted by Richard Dolinski

There is a worrying and growing trend for personalised attacks against politicians, those in the public, private and voluntary sectors in the public eye, and those seeking public office. This trend has been exacerbated by the anonymity provided by social media.

As part of drawing up a new Council Plan, this Council will be seeking to work with individuals, groups and organisations, regardless of political affiliation, both within the Borough and further afield, that will allow the Council to build 'partnerships beyond politics'.

Genuine disagreements over political issues should be dealt with through civilised debate. Therefore, this Council condemns attacks on those in public life that are not based on legitimate disagreements over policy or actions. Further, this Council calls on Members to lead by example by engaging with each other and outside organisations in a positive spirit of co-operation, healthy challenge and scrutiny.

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