



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

An Extraordinary Meeting of the **COUNCIL** will be held in the Council Chamber - Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham RG40 1BN on **FRIDAY 14 DECEMBER 2018** AT **6.00 PM****

** Please note the earlier start time

Heather Thwaites

Heather Thwaites
Interim Chief Executive
Published on 6 December 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.
70.		APOLOGIES To receive any apologies for absence	
71.		DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To receive any declarations of interest	
72.		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 items included within this agenda. Subject to meeting certain timescales, questions can only relate to items which are 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	
73.	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.	

74.	None Specific	<p>CONFIRMATION OF PERMANENT APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND HEAD OF PAID SERVICE</p> <p>To consider the recommendation of the Personnel Board and approve the permanent appointment of the Council's Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION: To be advised</p>	To Follow
75.	None Specific	<p>COUNCIL TAX BASE 2019/20</p> <p>To set the Council Tax Base for 2019/20 in respect of the whole Borough and all constituent parts so that each precepting parish can subsequently set their Council Tax budgets for the year.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION Council is asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) agree the proposed Council Tax Base, for the whole area and by Parish, as set out in the report; 2) approve the proposed allocation of £20,000 grant to the parishes in respect of council tax reduction as set out in the council tax base table; 3) agree a Premium payment of 100% (increased from 50%) on those homes that have been empty and unfurnished for a period of two years or more. 	7 - 12
76.	Charvil; Maiden Erlegh	<p>REDESIGNATION OF POLLING PLACES</p> <p>Council is asked to consider the re-designation of polling places in Maiden Erlegh and Charvil Wards for any elections held in 2019.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION That Council agree that for elections held in 2019:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Aldryngton School be designated as the Polling Place for Maiden Erlegh Ward, instead of Maiden Erlegh School; 2) Charvil Village Hall be designated as the Polling Place for the whole of the Charvil Ward. 	13 - 16
77.		<p>MOTIONS</p> <p>To consider Motion 414 as deferred by the agreement of Council at it's meeting held on 22 November 2018.</p> <p>In accordance with Procedure Rule 4.2.11.2 a</p>	

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

77.1 Emmbrook;
Ewendons;
Norreys;
Wescott

Motion 414 submitted by Prue Bray

The Constitution commits this council to ensuring that “the principles of efficiency, transparency and accountability are demonstrated throughout the decision making process and the delivery of services.”

The Wokingham town centre regeneration project has now been running for some years. It is the largest single project being undertaken by the council. No income and expenditure figures for the project as a whole have been published. Nor has any assessment of progress or variation from the original specification. This makes it extraordinarily difficult for both residents and councillors to find out how the project is going, and means that the council’s constitutional commitment to transparency and accountability is not being observed.

While ongoing spend and future commitments may be difficult to quantify, or may need to be kept confidential for commercial reasons, income and expenditure which has already happened in previous financial years must have been accounted for in the council’s accounts, which have all been properly signed off. In addition, any contracts entered into are required to be published by the Transparency Regulations. This means that all the information relating to past spend on the Wokingham town centre regeneration project should be readily identifiable and available to be pulled together into one document covering the whole project.

Therefore, in order to ensure the transparency and accountability to which it has committed itself, this council will by the end of December 2018 publish a report detailing

- The total income and expenditure from 1st April 2012 to March 31st 2018 on all works associated with the regeneration of Wokingham town centre, including the Market Place joint project with Wokingham Town Council, broken down to show separately the

figures for Peach Street phase 1, Peach Place, Elms Field, Carnival Pool, the Market Place and any other subprojects, and, for each project, broken down to the stages of the project, such as design, and construction

- The original budget and timetable for each of those elements
- An explanation of any variances between the original budget and actual income and expenditure and original timetable and actual progress
- The sources of the funding, with the amounts obtained from each separate source.

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