



# WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the **EXECUTIVE** will be held virtually on  
**THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 7.00 PM**

Susan Parsonage  
Chief Executive  
Published on 16 September 2020

**Note:** The Council has made arrangements under the Coronavirus Act 2020 to hold this meeting virtually via Microsoft Teams. The meeting can be watched live using the following link: <https://youtu.be/lwiYG3c6nyY>

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, learn, work and grow and a great place to do business*

### Enriching Lives

- Champion outstanding education and enable our children and young people to achieve their full potential, regardless of their background.
- Support our residents to lead happy, healthy lives and provide access to good leisure facilities to complement an active lifestyle.
- Engage and involve our communities through arts and culture and create a sense of identity which people feel part of.
- Support growth in our local economy and help to build business.

### Safe, Strong, Communities

- Protect and safeguard our children, young and vulnerable people.
- Offer quality care and support, at the right time, to prevent the need for long term care.
- Nurture communities and help them to thrive.
- Ensure our borough and communities remain safe for all.

### A Clean and Green Borough

- Do all we can to become carbon neutral and sustainable for the future.
- Protect our borough, keep it clean and enhance our green areas.
- Reduce our waste, improve biodiversity and increase recycling.
- Connect our parks and open spaces with green cycleways.

### Right Homes, Right Places

- Offer quality, affordable, sustainable homes fit for the future.
- Build our fair share of housing with the right infrastructure to support and enable our borough to grow.
- Protect our unique places and preserve our natural environment.
- Help with your housing needs and support people to live independently in their own homes.

### Keeping the Borough Moving

- Maintain and improve our roads, footpaths and cycleways.
- Tackle traffic congestion, minimise delays and disruptions.
- Enable safe and sustainable travel around the borough with good transport infrastructure.
- Promote healthy alternative travel options and support our partners to offer affordable, accessible public transport with good network links.

### Changing the Way We Work for You

- Be relentlessly customer focussed.
- Work with our partners to provide efficient, effective, joined up services which are focussed around you.
- Communicate better with you, owning issues, updating on progress and responding appropriately as well as promoting what is happening in our Borough.
- Drive innovative digital ways of working that will connect our communities, businesses and customers to our services in a way that suits their needs.

## MEMBERSHIP OF THE EXECUTIVE

John Halsall	Leader of the Council
John Kaiser	Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Finance and Housing
Parry Bath	Environment and Leisure
UllaKarin Clark	Children's Services
Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Regeneration
Pauline Jorgensen	Highways and Transport
Charles Margetts	Health, Wellbeing and Adult Services
Stuart Munro	Business and Economic Development
Gregor Murray	Resident Services, Communications and Emissions
Wayne Smith	Planning and Enforcement

ITEM NO.	WARD	SUBJECT	PAGE NO.
19.		<b>APOLOGIES</b> To receive any apologies for absence	
20.		<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS</b> To confirm the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 30 July 2020 and the Extraordinary Executive Meeting held on 11 September 2020.	7 - 42
21.		<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</b> To receive any declarations of interest	
22.		<b>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</b> 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 Executive  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>	
22.1		Jennifer Lissaman has asked the Executive Member for Environment and Leisure the following question:  <b>Question</b> I am asking this question on behalf of the Wokingham Waterside Centre (WWC) Board of which I am a member.	

Since April this year there has been tremendous use of the beautiful open space between WWC and Thames Valley Park Nature Reserve, the majority of people spending the whole day there and sometimes overnight as well. Soon, the Park and Ride, to the rear of WWC will be open.

As agreed with this Council earlier this year WWC has one toilet on the outside of the building for use only with a RADAR key. The outcome of this is, unfortunately, that people are using land adjacent to the campsite at WWC, and possibly the Nature Reserve, to relieve themselves. WWC trustees/board members find this unacceptable and ask that you find a way to provide properly working public toilets in a location appropriate to this sensitive location by the River Thames National Path.

22.2 None Specific

Arya Babollah has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

**Question**

Knowing what you have said about Black Lives Matter, what were you thinking when you tried to commandeer a Black Lives Matter banner for your photo ops at the BLM protest against for what you said and stand for in Elms Field in August?

22.3 None Specific

Tracey Stone has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

**Question**

You have made statements on national television and made postings on your Facebook page which could appear racist and has spread fear, alarm and distress to many people of all ethnicities, but particularly black residents, living in Wokingham and Districts. As the leader of a public body, why did you do this?

23.

**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

23.1 None Specific

Gary Cowan has asked the Executive Member for Planning and Enforcement the following question:

**Question**

The Government has introduced new Regulations some of which came into force on 22 July. One in particular gives CIL charging authorities a discretion for a limited time to defer CIL payments, to dis-apply late payment interest and surcharge payments; and to credit interest already charged to developers.

What impact will this have on existing planning applications along with the Councils ability to deliver on infrastructure and climate emergency programs?

23.2 None Specific

Andrew Mickleburgh has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

**Question**

Individuals and families living in poverty are not identified as one of the nine protected characteristics under the Equalities Act of 2010. However, Council decisions and actions often impact on individuals and families – frequently offering vital practical support, but sometimes in ways that could potentially cause harms and unintended consequences. Is there a process, perhaps something similar to the our Borough Equalities Impact Assessments, that WBC can apply to ensure that impacts of WBC policy proposals and actions on the poorest in our community will be explicitly considered, documented and given a significant weighting in the policy making process?

23.3 None Specific

Prue Bray has asked the Executive Member for Finance and Housing the following question:

**Question**

The ban on private landlords evicting tenants facing financial hardship because of the pandemic is likely to come to an end soon. Has WBC done any modelling of what the impact would be in terms of numbers of people the Borough would need to re-home in order to fulfil our statutory requirements to the homeless?

23.4 None Specific

Lindsay Ferris has asked the Executive Member for Finance and Housing the following question:

**Question**

Can you advise what the Reserves of the Council are at this time (i.e. week commencing 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020)?

23.5 None Specific Sarah Kerr has asked the Executive Member for Finance and Housing the following question:

**Question**

There still appears to be a lack of clarity and commitment from the Government to long-term funding for Council Covid-related expenditures. Some of these vital activities that the Council has funded from its own resources are particularly important for less economically well-off members of our Borough. Does the Council share this concern and if so, what practical actions can be taken to address this issue and particularly to avoid cuts that could disproportionately harm the poorest, forced upon the Council by insufficient Government support?

**Matters for Consideration**

24.	None Specific	<b>SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICE</b>	<b>43 - 52</b>
25.	Winnersh	<b>WOKINGHAM SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS SCHOOL</b>	<b>53 - 72</b>
26.	None Specific	<b>PROCUREMENT OF COMMERCIAL PROPERTY OWNER'S INSURANCE COVER</b>	<b>73 - 80</b>
27.	None Specific	<b>HELP TO HEAT AND ECO SCHEME</b>	<b>81 - 92</b>

A decision sheet will be available for inspection at the Council's offices (in Democratic Services and the General Office) and on the web site no later than two working days after the meeting.

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