



# WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the **EXECUTIVE** will be held virtually on  
**THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 7.00 PM**

Susan Parsonage  
Chief Executive  
Published on 18 November 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/uiLZN7RS18g>

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.
43.		<p><b>APOLOGIES</b> To receive any apologies for absence</p>	
44.		<p><b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b> To confirm the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 29 October 2020.</p>	7 - 34
45.		<p><b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</b> To receive any declarations of interest</p>	
46.		<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 Executive</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>	
47.		<p><b>MEMBER QUESTION TIME</b> To answer any member questions</p> <p>A period of 20 minutes will be allowed for Members to ask questions submitted under Notice</p> <p>Any questions not dealt with within the allotted time will be dealt with in a written reply</p>	

47.1 None Specific

Andy Croy has asked the Executive Member for Finance and Housing the following question:

**Question**

Why does the Council consult the public on cuts to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme but not on Councillor pay rises?

47.2 None Specific

Lindsay Ferris has asked the Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Services the following question:

**Question**

We are aware that there have been a number of issues within Optalis over the past months. Have the relations between RBWM and WBC now improved?

47.3 None Specific

Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey has asked the Executive Member for Planning and Enforcement the following question:

**Question**

Have you received any notification of changes to planning for the future proposals by Ministry for Housing Community and Local Government as has been hinted at by the news media due to MPs revolting against the Government white paper?

47.4 None Specific

Imogen Shepherd-DuBey has asked the Executive Member for Business and Economic Development the following question:

**Question**

Under our 'Love Wokingham' brand, Wokingham Town Council has setup a virtual access point for many of our local businesses in the town, which directs people to the online presence for our local shops and businesses. We have our own website and regularly promote these businesses on social media. During the lockdown windows we have been putting out lists of restaurants who are delivering takeaway food. A sort of virtual High Street, which we have not been charging for.

I can see that Wokingham Borough Council have decided to start up a Virtual Christmas Market for small local traders on a Facebook feed, for which they are, rather shockingly charging £20-£50 to use. Considering that there is clearly no web site development and this looks like a very minimal service, I am wondering what value it offers.

What is Wokingham Borough Council actually investing in to promote and support ALL virtual businesses across the Borough?

47.5 None Specific

Tahir Maher has asked the Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Services the following question:

**Question**

Will the Council set up specific arrangements to assist with Loneliness, which is currently impacting on many residents across the Borough? It not only impacts on the older population, but during this pandemic it is impacting on younger people as well. Existing issues that were present before are now becoming increasingly chronic.

This Council needs to consider and work at three levels to address loneliness: -

One to one:

- Launch a local campaign to raise awareness of the health effects of loneliness and isolation amongst target risk groups. Make sure this information is available both off and online;

Neighbourhood:

- Support the voluntary and community sector to further strengthen referral partnerships with frontline healthcare staff and social workers;

Strategic:

- Agree a long-term plan to act to prevent and reduce loneliness, so that it is part of the Council's strategic intent; to regularly measure loneliness and mapping need through Needs Assessment and/or lifestyle surveys. Results of this can be used to monitor the impact of interventions.

**Matters for Consideration**

48.	None Specific	<b>FEES AND CHARGES</b>	<b>35 - 114</b>
49.	None Specific	<b>SUPPORT AND CARE PROCUREMENT</b>	<b>115 - 136</b>
50.	None Specific	<b>SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 20/21 – MONITORING CUSTOMER SATISFACTION</b>	<b>137 - 142</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.

**CONTACT OFFICER**

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