



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the **EXECUTIVE** will be held Virtually on
THURSDAY 28 JANUARY 2021 AT 7.00 PM

Susan Parsonage
Chief Executive
Published on 20 January 2021

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/wNLxzK6BZFQ>

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.
62.		APOLOGIES To receive any apologies for absence	
63.		MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS To confirm the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 26 November 2020 and the Extraordinary Executive Meetings held on 2 December and 17 December 2020.	9 - 48
64.		DECLARATION OF INTEREST To receive any declarations of interest	
65.		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 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 www.wokingham.gov.uk/publicquestions	
65.1	Bulmershe and Whitegates	Helen Palmer has asked the Executive Member for Planning and Enforcement the following question: Question In the Topic Paper Local Green Space January 2020, prepared by Council officers to accompany the Draft Local Plan Update consultation, the site LGS09, Site	

name, Land between Thames Valley Business Park and Napier Road, known locally as Kennet Mouth is recommended not to be designated as Local Green Space. In justification for this recommendation the following statement is made:

“The presence of overhead electricity cables and pylons has led to some visual intrusion in the open landscape, which is not considered to be local in character, and therefore does not warrant further consideration as a Local Green Space designation.”

Does the Member agree that, as the photographs I have provided to you show, any visual intrusion is insignificant, and is not a sufficient reason to refuse the designation of Local Green Space.

Personally, walking in this pleasant area, I never notice the cables. What I notice is trees, bushes, flowers, grasses, the river, water fowl, other birds, insects, fungi, lichen, people on the water and the land, dogs, boats, fresh air and the weather. It is both restful and interesting.

Will the Council ask the Officers to strike out this statement on the basis of its lack of accuracy?

65.2 None Specific

Morag Malvern has asked the Executive Member for Finance and Housing the following question:

Question

How is the Borough Council planning to fully inform all EU residents here, in a timely way, of their rights to vote, and to stand as candidates, in local elections?

65.3 None Specific

Philip Meadowcroft has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

Question

Did the breaches of the Borough Constitution I identified at the January 11 Standards Meeting result from unintended or mistaken conduct or were they indicative of a wider disregard of the stipulations of the Borough's Constitution?

65.4 Bulmershe and Whitegates

Dani Esposito has asked the Executive Member for Planning and Enforcement the following question:

Question

The Topic Paper Local Green Space, accompanying the Draft Local Plan Update, the site, “*Land between Thames Valley Business Park and Napier Road*” it

states, *“the site is not considered to be of particular local significance.”* Successive attempts to build roads over this land adjacent to the River Thames have been frustrated by residents, who, like myself (having taken up wild swimming) recognise the value of this space.

In the 1980s, *“Boot the Route”* and in response to the MRT proposals, SOAR was formed. Thousands of people signed petitions objecting to the construction of the MRT. A public meeting was attended by hundreds of people, who voted against the road in an exit poll by a majority of 90%. Earley Town Council, The Whitegates Residents Association, ACER and the Berkshire Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust submitted objections. It was commented on that the number of objections received to these plans was unprecedented. At the public consultations held, the overwhelming majority of comments were against the MRT.

The description in the Topic Paper as, *“the site is not considered to be of particular local significance”* is incorrect. Will they ask the officers to substitute a statement that reflects the local significance of this site?

66.

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

66.1 Winnersh

Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

Question

Why was the need for a consultation for the Traffic Regulation Order for Woodward Close right turn prohibition ignored for several years and only done less than two weeks before it was due to be implemented?

66.2 None Specific

Rachel Bishop-Firth has asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:

Question

Even before the Coronavirus pandemic, the hidden costs of sending children to school was a significant

source of strain for many Wokingham families. Parents on lower incomes struggle to give their children the expensive blazers, jumpers with logos, sports kit with logos, and dress shoes which schools require. While one local supermarket could provide a full generic school uniform for £4.50 last September, parents at some of our schools are paying multiple times that amount for just one item of uniform because it has a colour and logo which is unique to that school. Parents may be lucky enough to pick up some second hand items in the right size, but that is less likely for shoes or reliable IT equipment, let alone school trips.

The pandemic is causing financial hardship to an increasing number of families and the effects may last for years. What action will the Council be taking to encourage maintained and other local schools to ensure that uniforms and other school costs are kept genuinely affordable for parents?

66.3 None Specific

Michael Firmager has asked the Executive Member for Business and Economic Development the following question:

Question

Has Wokingham Borough Council done all it could to support businesses during the pandemic effect of Covid-19 and the lockdowns?

66.4 None Specific

Caroline Smith has asked the Executive Member for Planning and Enforcement the following question:

Question

I am a member of the Earley Town Council Planning Committee and we are quite often receiving complaints from residents that they have not been informed by Wokingham Borough Council Development Control about any planning application near to their property. This matter has been ongoing for some time and the Chair of Earley Town Planning Committee has written in the past on this matter, but this is still happening.

Please can the Executive Member look into this matter and resolve it for all our residents so they are informed and therefore able to raise their concerns on a planning application affecting them?

Matters for Consideration

67. None Specific

CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

49 - 82

68.	None Specific	REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT FY 2020/21 - QUARTER 3	83 - 100
69.	None Specific	CAPITAL MONITORING 20/21 - END OF DECEMBER 2020	101 - 112
70.	None Specific	TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REPORT 2020-21	113 - 122
71.	None Specific	WOKINGHAM COMMUNITY ENERGY (WCE)	123 - 148
72.	None Specific	THE HEALTHY CHILD PROGRAMME	149 - 156
73.	None Specific	THE COUNCIL'S PROPOSED APPROACH TO POVERTY	157 - 164
74.	Remenham, Wargrave and Ruscombe	TEMPORARY CLOSURE REMENHAM FOOTPATH NO. 4 HENLEY FESTIVAL	165 - 180
75.	None Specific	DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES	181 - 198
76.	None Specific	PROPOSED NEW RESOURCE BASE FOR SECONDARY AGED CHILDREN	199 - 218
77.	Finchampstead South	DELIVERING THE GORSE RIDE REGENERATION PROJECT - CONFIRMATION OF COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER	219 - 282

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Executive may exclude the press and public in order to discuss the Part 2 sheets of Agenda Item 77 above and to do so it must pass a resolution in the following terms:

That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended) as appropriate.

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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