



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the **EXECUTIVE** will be held Virtually on
THURSDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2021 AT 6.30 PM

Susan Parsonage
Chief Executive
Published on 10 February 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/GqHo2le4NKE>

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.
78.		APOLOGIES To receive any apologies for absence	
79.		MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING To confirm the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 28 January 2021.	7 - 30
80.		DECLARATION OF INTEREST To receive any declarations of interest	
81.		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	
81.1	None Specific	Philip Meadowcroft has asked the Leader of the Council the following question: Question At the last Executive meeting on January 28, you claimed it was an honest mistake that the composition of the Standards Committee was not compliant with the WBC Constitution. As Leader of the Council, you	

took responsibility since the buck stopped with you on this matter. But, you did not accept when I put it to you that it was symptomatic of a wider disregard of Constitutional rules.

I watched the Audit Committee on February 1, during which Members realised that the Constitution had been flouted because the numbers in the Treasury Management Report which the Audit Committee had agreed in November 2020, and then forwarded to the Executive were replaced by new and materially different numbers whilst the approved November numbers were relegated to an appendix.

Were the changes which amended the Audit Committee's approved, as received, Treasury Management Report caused either by another honest mistake (as you admitted regarding the Standards Committee issue) or is this further evidence which suggests that compliance with the Constitution takes second place to the political convenience of the ruling group?

82.

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

82.1 None Specific

Gary Cowan has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

Question

If, as the letter from the Council to all Members indicates that Council can make changes; the restriction on Executive membership and the Leader on the Standards Committee is not a legal requirement but is a local choice adopted by full Council. The letter continued to add that the decision to appoint the Subcommittee in that form and with that membership was decided by a simple majority of the members present and voting (as required by section 39 of Schedule 12). Any decisions the Committee made subsequently are made with the Council's authority, are lawful and are binding.

My question is why bother to have a Constitution, when if it's the law the Council must abide by it, but if it's not, Council can just change it as recent events

have shown?

82.2 Norreys

Rachel Burgess has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

Question

There have been numerous resident concerns raised regarding London Road in Wokingham since the new cycle lanes have been introduced. These have included the safety of the new cycle lanes, the safety of, and lack of compliance with, the 'no right turn' at Whitlock Avenue, concerns about three other junctions on this road (William Heelas Way, Froghall Lane and Priest Avenue) and the lack of pedestrian crossing along a long stretch of London Road where numerous families need to cross on the school run.

Residents have raised these issues out of a sense of community safety as well as the desire to support walking and cycling, and they are right to expect the Council to address their concerns. However they have not received a satisfactory answer for months and feel ignored. What is being done to address these concerns?

Matters for Consideration

83.	None Specific	HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET 2021/22	31 - 40
84.	None Specific	CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND STRATEGY 2021-2024	41 - 80
85.	None Specific	TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2021-2024	81 - 126
86.	None Specific	MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2021-2024 - REVENUE BUDGET SUBMISSION 2021/22	127 - 144
87.	None Specific	BUILDING CONTROL CHARGES	145 - 152

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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