



Meeting of West Berkshire District Council

**Thursday, 18th September,
2014**

Summons and Agenda

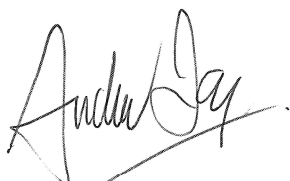


WestBerkshire
C O U N C I L

To: All Members of the Council

You are requested to attend a meeting of
WEST BERKSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
to be held in the
**COUNCIL OFFICES, MARKET STREET,
NEWBURY**

on
Thursday, 18th September, 2014
at 7.30 pm



Andy Day
Head of Strategic Support
West Berkshire District Council

Date of despatch of Agenda: Wednesday, 10 September 2014

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for inability to attend the meeting (if any).

2. **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

The Chairman to report on functions attended since the last meeting and other matters of interest to Members. **(Verbal Report)**

3. **MINUTES**

The Chairman to sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 22nd July 2014. **(Pages 1 - 12)**

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To remind Members of the need to record the existence and nature of any Personal, Disclosable Pecuniary or other interests in items on the agenda, in accordance with the Members' [Code of Conduct](#).



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5. PETITIONS

Councillors may present any petition which they have received. These will normally be referred to the appropriate body without discussion.

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Members of the Executive to answer the following questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with the Council's Constitution:

- (a) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Strategy & Performance, Housing, ICT & Corporate Support, Legal and Strategic Support submitted by Mrs Martha Vickers:**

“As a volunteer for Loose Ends, Newbury's local charity which provides meals and support for the homeless and needy adults. I'm aware that the numbers attending the sessions appears to be increasing. Emergency accommodation such as Two Saints is at capacity because those ready to move on are unable to do so. This means that those in urgent need have no where to go but our streets. What is this Council doing to increase its provision of appropriate move on accommodation for the single homeless?”

7. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

The Monitoring Officer to advise of any changes to the membership of Committees since the previous Council meeting.

8. LICENSING COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Licensing Committee has not met.

9. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Personnel Committee has not met.

10. GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of Council, the Governance and Audit Committee met on 1st September 2014. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).

11. DISTRICT PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the District Planning Committee met on 20th August 2014. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).



12. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission has held extraordinary meetings on 01 September 2014, 05 September 2014 and 11 September 2014. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#)

13. STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Standards Committee has not met.

14. RESPONSE TO COUNCIL MOTION ON PROTECTED EMPLOYMENT LAND (C2793)

(CSP: 2 and 8)

Purpose: To respond to the Council Motion on Protected Employment Land (Pages 13 - 22)

15. WEST BERKSHIRE HOUSING SITE ALLOCATIONS DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT (DPD): HOUSING IN THE COUNTRYSIDE - PREFERRED OPTIONS FOR CONSULTATION (C2881)

(CSP: 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 8)

Purpose: To consider the Development in the Countryside policies which form part of the preferred options West Berkshire Site Allocations DPD. (Pages 23 - 56)

16. WEST BERKSHIRE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (REVISED 2014) (C2846)

(CSP: 2, 4-8)

Purpose: To consider responses to the representations on the draft Revised Statement of Community Involvement and to consider adoption of the Revised Statement of Community Involvement. (Pages 57 - 96)

17. AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION - PART 7 SPEAKING RIGHTS AT PLANNING MEETINGS (C2859)

(CSP: 8)

Purpose: To propose an amendment to speaking rights for Ward Members that are Members of a Planning Committee at Planning Committee meetings. (Pages 97 - 100)

18. ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014

(CSP: 2 & 8)

Purpose: To appraise Members of the Anti Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 in relation to changes required to be made to the Council's Scheme of Delegation. (Pages 101 - 110)



19. NOTICES OF MOTION

- (a) **The following Motion has been submitted in the name of Councillor Alan Macro:**

“This Council recognises that the developing Local Plan will affect all communities in the district for years to come. In particular, the allocation of sites for housing will have a major impact on both the communities where they are located and on the district at large. It is therefore of the utmost importance that the decisions on where housing is allocated are made in a transparent and democratic way. Although in theory decisions on the Local Plan are made by Full Council, the Planning Policy Task Group is hugely influential in working through the detail and subsequently providing significant input to the Council as to how it should decide such matters. The Planning Policy Task group meets in private and therefore its decisions have not been transparent and will not be transparent in the future if it is continued.

The Council therefore resolves that decisions and recommendations on the Local Plan, including housing site allocations, are resolved and recommended to the Council by a properly constituted, Council appointed, cross party committee that will replace the Planning Policy Task Group. This is so that the new Committee can consider these vital considerations in public, can make formal resolutions and recommendations to the full Council and thus make sure that these decisions are subject to the oversight and scrutiny of the Council process and the public observation that public meetings impose on them.”

- (b) **The following Motion has been submitted in the name of Councillor Alan Macro:**

“This Council is concerned about the number of families in the district that are in need of affordable housing and the low number of such homes being built in the district.

The Council therefore resolves to set up a cross-party task group or committee to develop strategies that can greatly increase the number of affordable homes being built and to examine ways in which the Council can assist housing associations to find finance and thereby increase the number of homes that they can provide for social and affordable rent.”

20. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Members of the Executive to answer the following questions submitted by Councillors in accordance with the [Council's Constitution](#):

- a) **Question to be answered by the Leader of the Council submitted by Councillor Alan Law:**

“Following the Monitoring Officer’s recent note to all Members explaining the unofficial status of task groups such as Planning Policy Task Group and Adult Social Care Efficiency Board, and his confirmation that no regulations or formal

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guidance addresses the management of task groups, can the Leader of Council therefore tell me what decision making process was used to determine that all task groups are held in confidence and who is responsible for deciding a specific task group's terms of reference?"

- b) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport (Policy), Culture, Customer Services, Countryside submitted by Councillor Alan Macro:**

"What has the Council done to ensure that all residents of West Berkshire were aware of the consultation on the Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document and the deadline for responses to be received?"

- c) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Strategy & Performance, Housing, ICT & Corporate Support, Legal and Strategic Support submitted by Councillor Alan Macro:**

"Please could the Executive Member for Housing give me the latest status on the affordable homes provided in the Parkway development?"

- d) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport (Policy), Culture, Customer Services, Countryside submitted by Councillor Tony Vickers:**

"The construction of a new link road through the Sterling Cables site will allow Mill Lane and Kings Road to become safe for cycling commuters from west Newbury who work in the Hambridge Road area - but it won't make the rest of their journey any safer. What is this Council planning to do to ensure safe cycle access for the many employees in this the largest employment area in the District whose journeys to work from the residential areas to the west of the town are too long to walk but who would like to be able to bike?"

- e) **Question to be answered by the Leader of the Council submitted by Councillor Keith Woodhams:**

"What is the Leader of Council doing to promote the use of Smartphone Apps, such as Fix My Street, to make it easier and quicker for members of the public to report problems such as the recent BT works in London Road, so that West Berkshire Council can take urgent action to return the road network to normality as soon as possible?"

If you require this information in a different format or translation, please contact Moira Fraser on telephone (01635) 519045.

