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Meeting of West Berkshire District Council

Thursday 13 September 2018

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 Council


to be held in the

Council Offices Market Street Newbury

on

Thursday 13 September 2018

at 7.00pm



Andy Day
Head of Strategic Support
West Berkshire District Council

Note: The Council broadcasts some of its meetings on the internet, known as webcasting. If this meeting is webcast, please note that any speakers addressing this meeting could be filmed. If you are speaking at a meeting and do not wish to be filmed, please notify the Chairman before the meeting takes place. Please note however that you will be audio-recorded.

Date of despatch of Agenda: Wednesday, 5 September 2018

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.

3. **MINUTES**

The Chairman to sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 3rd July 2018. **(Pages 7 - 12)**



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4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

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 Leader of the Council submitted by Mr Gabriel Stirling:

"Why has Dominic Boeck not been removed from the Executive Committee given the verdict of the Council's Governance and Ethics Committee on his Twitter activity?"

(b) Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Communications by Mr Simon Pike :

"Following the comments on 5G made by Councillor Frederickson at an Executive Meeting in June, what further consideration has the Council made to participating in the Rural Connected Communities project that is planned by the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)?"

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 ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of Council, the Governance and Ethics Committee met on 30th July 2018 and 8th August 2018. Copies of the Minutes of these meetings 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 has not met.

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 met on 10th July 2018. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).

13. JOINT PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

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

14. FAMILY HUB FEES AND CHARGES (C3633)

To request approval for in-year changes to the fees and charges for the Family Hubs.
(Pages 13 - 22)

15. NOTICES OF MOTION

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

- “1) There were a large number of unauthorised encampments in the district this year.
- 2) Several of these were on land owned by the Council.
- 3) There are many green areas in towns and villages that are owned by the Council and that are vulnerable to unauthorised encampments.
- 4) The police are restricted by guidance from the Chief Police Officers Council in their use of their powers under Section 61 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 to direct persons to move off unauthorised sites.

The Council therefore resolves that an assessment of the susceptibility of each of its green areas in towns and villages to unauthorised encampments be urgently carried out. The assessment should assess each site on its vulnerability to incursions and the likely impact on nearby homes. The assessment to be used to prioritise a programme to improve the security of the sites against future incursions.”

Agenda - Council to be held on Thursday, 13 September 2018 *(continued)*

(b) The following Motion has been submitted in the name of Councillor Jeanette Clifford:

“This council agrees that the use of sky lanterns on all West Berkshire council-owned land and West Berkshire council-owned property should be banned. It calls on the Leader to write to West Berkshire MPs, other Berkshire Authorities, West Berkshire town and parish councils, the LGA, DEFRA and MHCLG confirming a ban in West Berkshire and calling for a ban throughout England and Wales.

Also known as ‘Chinese’, ‘Wish’, ‘Floating’ and ‘Party’ Lanterns, Sky Lanterns are made from paper over wire or bamboo frames and have an open flame heat source.

Increasingly popular, it is estimated that 200,000 are released in the UK each year but - beautiful though they are - they are deadly to wildlife, present a real risk of fire to buildings and land, can be mistaken for emergency flares, and end up littering our lovely countryside.

The RSPCA has called for a ban, as have the Marine Conservation Society, the NFU and others. West Berkshire should heed that call and members are urged to support this Motion.”

(c) The following Motion has been submitted in the name of Councillor Jeff Brooks:

“Goodwill and respect is essential from all Councillors to achieve the good working needed to best represent the people of West Berkshire.

Accordingly, this Council resolves to remain respectful at all times to members of the public and Councillors of both political Parties, acknowledging their right to disagree and have different policies and objectives, without resorting to unpleasant and vituperative comments which simply sour relations and undermine political goodwill.”

16. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

There were no Member questions submitted in relation to items not on the agenda.

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