

# **EXECUTIVE**

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON**

### **THURSDAY, 30 MAY 2019**

**Councillors Present:** Graham Bridgman, Jeff Cant, Hilary Cole, Lynne Doherty, Rick Jones, Richard Somner and Howard Woollaston

**Also Present:** John Ashworth (Corporate Director - Environment), Nick Carter (Chief Executive), Sarah Clarke (Head of Legal and Strategic Support), Tess Ethelston (Group Executive (Cons)), Olivia Lewis (Group Executive (Lib Dem)), Bryan Lyttle (Planning & Transport Policy Manager), Andy Sharp (Executive Director (People)), Shiraz Sheikh (Principal Solicitor) and Peta Stoddart-Crompton (Public Relations Officer), Councillor Adrian Abbs (Shadow Portfolio Holder: Climate Change and Public Protection), Councillor Phil Barnett, Stephen Chard (Principal Policy Officer), Councillor Carolyne Culver, Councillor Lee Dillon (Shadow Executive Portfolio: Performance and Communities – Corporate ICT), Councillor Owen Jeffery (Shadow Portfolio Holder: Health and Adult Social Care), Councillor Tony Linden, Councillor Alan Macro (Shadow Executive Portfolio: Planning, Housing, Countryside, Waste, Strategic Support, Culture, Eastern Area Vision, ICT & Corporate Support, Emergency Planning, Environmental Health, Trading Standards, Legal, Customer Services, Community Safety), Councillor David Marsh, Councillor Steve Masters, Councillor Erik Pattenden (Shadow Portfolio Holder: Children, Education and Culture), Councillor Garth Simpson (Council Member), Councillor Andrew Williamson and Councillor Keith Woodhams

**Apologies for inability to attend the meeting:** Councillor Steve Ardagh-Walter, Councillor Dominic Boeck and Councillor Jeff Brooks

#### **PART I**

##### **1. Minutes**

The Minutes of the meetings held on 28 March 2019 and 25 April 2019 were approved as true and correct records and signed by the Leader.

##### **2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest received.

##### **3. Public Questions**

Councillor Lynne Doherty welcomed members of the public in attendance at the meeting and explained the process for the question and answer session.

In accordance with paragraph 5.12.9 of the Constitution, where questioners had more than one question only their first question would be asked and answered. If after all other first questions had been asked and answered, and there was sufficient time, answers would be given to subsequent questions.

In addition, in accordance with paragraph 5.12.6, where public questioners were unable to attend the meeting they would be provided with a written response only.

Councillor Doherty gave a reminder that thirty minutes were set aside for public questions (in accordance with paragraph 5.12.8 of the Constitution). If there was not sufficient time to respond to all questions then a written response would be provided.

A full transcription of the public and Member question and answer sessions would be available from the following link: [Transcription of Q&As](#).

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(a) **Question submitted by Mr Thomas Tunney to the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning**

A question standing in the name of Mr Thomas Tunney on the subject of the Council's rough sleeping plan for 2019/20 was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning.

(b) **Question submitted by Mr Thomas Tunney to the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside**

A question standing in the name of Mr Thomas Tunney on the subject of the compulsory acquisition of the memorial field in Thatcham for flood water retention was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside.

(c) **Question submitted by Mr Thomas Tunney to the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside**

A question standing in the name of Mr Thomas Tunney on the subject of whether the new flood defences focussed water to the memorial field in Thatcham was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside.

(d) **Question submitted by Mr Thomas Tunney to the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside**

A question standing in the name of Mr Thomas Tunney on the subject of what would happen to the location of the dog enclosure as part of the plans for the memorial field in Thatcham was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside.

(e) **Question submitted by Mr Peter Norman to the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning**

A question standing in the name of Mr Peter Norman asking when the Council would undertake a review of the current Core Strategy was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning.

(f) **Question submitted by Mr Peter Norman to the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning**

A question standing in the name of Mr Peter Norman on the subject of the Council's land allocations for new housing was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning.

(g) **Question submitted by Mrs Pamela Sergent to the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside**

A question standing in the name of Mrs Pamela Sergent on the subject of the installation of the hedge netting in Theale was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside.

(h) **Question submitted by Mr Thomas Ward to the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside**

A question standing in the name of Mr Thomas Ward on the subject of when the investigation required on the drainage layout on Englefield Road would resume would receive a written answer from the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside.

(i) **Question submitted by Mr Paul Morgan to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Community Wellbeing**

A question standing in the name of Mr Paul Morgan on the subject of the business case and the costs associated with the Council's proposal for the Community Football Ground

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in Faraday Road was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Community Wellbeing.

(j) **Question submitted by Mr Paul Morgan to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Community Wellbeing**

A question standing in the name of Mr Paul Morgan on the subject of the Playing Pitch Strategy was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Community Wellbeing.

(k) **Question submitted by Mr Jason Braidwood to the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside**

A question standing in the name of Mr Jason Braidwood on the subject of what quality controls the Council would put in its own planning application submission process was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside.

(l) **Question submitted by Mr Jack Harkness to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Community Wellbeing**

A question standing in the name of Mr Jack Harkness asking what consultation took place and what evidence of need did the Council have to justify the plans for a MUGA at the community football ground in Faraday Road was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Community Wellbeing.

(m) **Question submitted by Mr Lee McDougall to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Community Wellbeing**

A question standing in the name of Mr Lee McDougall on the subject of identifying a permanent solution for the Community Football Ground at Faraday Road would receive a written answer from the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Community Wellbeing.

(n) **Question submitted by Ms Alison May to the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning**

A question standing in the name of Ms Alison May asking if the Council would instigate an Ancient Woodland Inventory review was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning.

(o) **Question submitted by Mr John Stewart to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Community Wellbeing**

A question standing in the name of Mr John Stewart asking for confirmation of the costs the Council incurred from the removal of the spectator stand, fencing, gates and floodlighting from the Faraday Road football ground was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Community Wellbeing.

(p) **Question submitted by Dr Julie Wintrup to the Portfolio Holder for Internal Governance**

A question standing in the name of Dr Julie Wintrup asking if the deal with St Modwen's would be subject to a public and independent review would receive a written answer from the Portfolio Holder for Internal Governance.

#### 4. **Petitions**

There were no petitions presented to the Executive.

#### 5. **Members' Questions**

A full transcription of the public and Member question and answer sessions would be available from the following link: [Transcription of Q&As](#).

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(a) **Question submitted by Councillor Steve Masters to the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning**

A question standing in the name of Councillor Steve Masters on the subject of the success of the night shelter managed by West Berkshire Homeless was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning.

(b) **Question submitted by Councillor Steve Masters to the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning**

A question standing in the name of Councillor Steve Masters querying the number of people and/or families who were currently on the waiting list for social housing was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning.

(c) **Question submitted by Councillor Steve Masters to the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning**

A question standing in the name of Councillor Steve Masters on the subject of the number of social housing units which had been brought into the local housing stock since May 2015 was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning.

(d) **Question submitted by Councillor Steve Masters to the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning**

A question standing in the name of Councillor Steve Masters asking if the Portfolio Holder noted any connection between the levels of homelessness and the lack of adequate social housing stock was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning.

(e) **Question submitted by Councillor Steve Masters to the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning**

A question standing in the name of Councillor Steve Masters querying how many social housing units could have been built on existing Council land if the money invested in commercial property had instead been used for this purpose was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning.

(f) **Question submitted by Councillor Adrian Abbs to the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning**

A question standing in the name of Councillor Adrian Abbs on the subject of the decoupling of the two Sandford planning applications was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Planning.

(g) **Question submitted by Councillor Alan Macro to the Portfolio Holder for Environment**

A question standing in the name of Councillor Alan Macro on the subject of Clean Air Day was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside.

(h) **Question submitted by Councillor Alan Macro to the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside**

A question standing in the name of Councillor Alan Macro on the subject of the timing chosen for the removal of hedges near the construction site of the new Theale Church of England Primary School was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside.

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**(i) Question submitted by Councillor David Marsh to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Community Wellbeing**

A question standing in the name of Councillor David Marsh asking if the Council would implement a ban on all vehicles near schools at drop-off and collection times to protect children from poisonous exhaust fumes was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Community Wellbeing.

**6. Exclusion of Press and Public**

**RESOLVED that** members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the under-mentioned item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as contained in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) Order 2006. Rule 8.10.4 of the Constitution also refers.

**7. Staffing Restructure at Birchwood Care Home (EX3726)**

*(Paragraph 1 – information relating to an individual)*

*(Paragraph 2 – information identifying an individual)*

The Executive considered an exempt report (Agenda Item 8) concerning the changes made to the staffing structure at Birchwood Care Home following the 2019/20 investment and which sought approval to delete posts and make redundancy payments.

**RESOLVED that** the recommendations in the exempt report be agreed.

**Other options considered:** as outlined in the exempt report.

*(The meeting commenced at 5.00 pm and closed at 5.47 pm)*

**CHAIRMAN** .....

**Date of Signature** .....