

# Meeting of West Berkshire District Council

Thursday, 3rd March, 2011

Summons and Agenda

### 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, 3rd March, 2011 at 7.00pm

Andy Day

Head of Policy and Communication West Berkshire District Council

Date of despatch of Agenda: Wednesday, 23 February 2011

## **AGENDA**

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

#### 2. TRIBUTES TO KEITH LOCK

To receive tributes to Councillor Keith Lock who sadly passed away on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2011.

#### 3. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman to report on functions attended since the last meeting and other matters of interest to Members.

#### 4 MINUTES

The Chairman to sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010 and the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011. **(Pages 1 - 16)** 



#### 5. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive notice of any Declarations of Interest from Members.

#### 6. **PETITIONS**

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

#### 7. 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 Executive Member for Highways, Transport (Operational) and ICT submitted by Mr Richard Coles:

"Can the representative from the Council please explain why the full adoption of the Mortimer Hill Development is still not completed? Taylor Wimpey, (the developers,) have made it quite clear that West Berkshire Council have no reason to delay (other than a small area of Tarmac repair which should be completed within the next couple of weeks), the full engrossment of the S38 agreement, as the S278 agreement has now been formally terminated?

The current situation with this development is that West Berkshire Council say they have never received the revised plans 'as built'.

Taylor Wimpey say they have been sent to West Berkshire for approval and signature.

Someone is not telling the truth and would the council please tell me the correct and truthful position."

(b) Question to be answered by the Executive Member for Highways, Transport (Operational) and ICT submitted by Mrs. Lucy Flowerdew:

"What were the costs of the recent resurfacing of Burnthouse Lane, Burghfield, and what proportion of these costs were paid by the Atomic Weapons Establishment?"

(c) Question to be answered by the Leader of the Council submitted by Mr. Grahame Murphy:

"We are supposed to have a coalition government made up of Tories and Lib Dems, when are West Berks Council (Tories and Lib Dems) going to start behaving as a coalition and start consulting with each other, never mind the rest of us poor electorate?"

(d) Question to be answered by the Leader of the Council submitted by Mr. Richard Garvie:

"Almost 1,000 in Newbury have said they do not want a pavilion on Victoria Park, yet the council press ahead with this plan. There was little or no consultation with the public regarding the cuts to youth services, nor was there



#### Agenda - Council to be held on Thursday, 3 March 2011 (continued)

any consultation before the decision to axe five day centres was made. May the Leader of the Council please explain the value of which consultation has to this administration?"

# (e) Question to be answered by the Executive Member for Community Care, Pensions and Insurance submitted by Mrs. Diane Smith:

"Why has WBC withdrawn (the very little) funding for ROAR, a dual benefit project which enables learning disabled adults to be meaningfully employed in litter picking and clearing of excess vegetation from commons and rights of way?"

# (f) Question to be answered by the Executive Member for Community Care, Pensions and Insurance submitted by Mrs. Diane Smith:

"How is WBC going to ensure that all learning disabled adults are provided with the independent assistance necessary for a meaningful discussion to take place about setting and managing a personal care budget?"

#### 8. LICENSING COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Licensing Committee met on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2010. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Policy and Communication or via the <u>Council's website</u>.

#### 9. GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of Council, the Governance and Audit Committee met on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2011. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Policy and Communication or via the <u>Council's website</u>.

#### 10. **DISTRICT PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the District Planning Committee met on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Policy and Communication or via the Council's website.

#### 11. 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 18<sup>th</sup> January 2011 and 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011. Copies of the Minutes of these meetings can be obtained from Policy and Communication or via the Council's website.

#### 12. STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Standards Committee met on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2011. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Policy and Communication or via the <u>Council's website</u>.



#### **Agenda - Council to be held on Thursday, 3 March 2011** (continued)

#### 13. STATEMENT ON THE POLICE REORGANISATION

A verbal update on the Police Reorganisation will be given by Councillor Anthony Stansfeld. **(Verbal Report)** 

# 14. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL 2011 (C2204)

To inform Council of the recommendations of the West Berkshire Council Independent Remuneration Panel 2011. (Pages 17 - 30)

# 15. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2003 - BORROWING LIMITS AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2011/12 (C2180)

To summarise the Council's borrowing limits as set out by CIPFA's Prudential Code, and recommends the Annual Investment Strategy for the coming year. (Pages 31 - 38)

#### 16. INTERIM MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (C2179)

To inform Members of the medium term financial planning and strategy for the organisation. (Pages 39 - 90)

#### 17. CAPITAL STRATEGY AND PROGRAMME 2011-2016 (C2181)

To outline the Council's proposed five year Capital Strategy for 2011 to 2016 including the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) statement and to set out the funding framework for Council's five year Capital Programme for 2011/12–2015/16. (Pages 91 - 126)

#### 18. **REVENUE BUDGET 2011/12 (C2178)**

To consider and recommend to Council the 2011-12 revenue budget. (Pages 127 - 272)

#### 19. **COUNCIL GOVERNANCE (C2199)**

To propose a change in the Council's current scrutiny structures with effect from 1 April 2011 and, as a consequence, to amend the previously approved timetable of meetings. To update Council in relation to the Localism Bill and the timetable for the introduction of any new governance structures (Committee System). (Pages 273 - 278)

# 20. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION - CHANGES TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE AND GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE (C2195)

To amend the terms of reference of the two committees in line with the recent recommendations arising from an Internal Audit of the Management of the Constitution. (Pages 279 - 288)



#### 21. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY 2011/12 (C2184)

To agree the Sustainable Community Strategy. (Pages 289 - 316)

#### 22. LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 2011-2026 (C2192)

To seek approval for the new Local Transport Plan (Pages 317 - 416)

#### 23. SEX ESTABLISHMENTS LICENSING (C2220)

To consider the adoption of Section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009. (Pages 417 - 422)

#### 24. COUNCIL MOTION - RENEWABLE ENERGY IN WEST BERKSHIRE

To report back the findings of the Greener Select Committee's deliberations into two separate but related Council Motions concerning renewable energy. (Pages 423 - 444)

#### 25. NOTICES OF MOTION

(a) The following Motion has been submitted in the name of Councillor Paul Bryant:

"The Council notes, with concern and disappointment, that whilst West Berkshire Council has faced an unexpected in-year grant cut of about £1M and a large grant cut of about £3.5M in the coming financial year, the UK's contribution to the European Union (EU) has increased by 60% over two years. These Council cuts have resulted in severe problems in struggling to maintain front line services.

This Council notes that, despite the opposition of many MPs, and MEPs, the government has agreed to a further 2.9% increase in the overall EU budget.

This Council believes the EU should be treated the same as the other tiers of government and in these austere times should share responsibility, along with central and local government, for public spending reductions. Sharing the burden would result in less severe cuts for local authorities, and give more assistance to councils to protect front line services.

This Council therefore urges West Berkshire's three MPs not to support any increase in the EU budget or the UK contribution to the EU."

#### 26. 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 Executive Member for Highways & Transport (Operational) and ICT submitted by Councillor Keith Woodhams

"Can the Executive Member for Highways & Transport tell me what progress is being made to fund a right hand only turn for buses, from the A4 into the



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West Berkshire Hospital, to reduce the journey time for both passengers and bus operators?"

# (b) Question to be answered by the Executive Member for Highways & Transport (Operational) and ICT submitted by Councillor Keith Woodhams

"Can the Executive Member for Highways & Transport tell me what provision is being made at the new Park Way shopping centre, to accommodate bus passengers in a waiting room whilst they wait for a bus?"

# (c) Question to be answered by the Executive Member for Children & Families, Youth Service & Culture & Leisure submitted by Councillor Jeff Beck

"It is with much regret that the national Comprehensive Spending Review and the subsequent Local Spending Decisions have resulted in Youth Service and Commissioning deciding to withdraw Staff and Support from the Riverside Community Centre and it's associated MUGA.

I would remind Members' of this Council, that this building was constructed as the result of "Planning Gain" from the redevelopment of the old Turnpike School site - it was intended for Community Use!

The Coalition Government are bringing about changes in the relationship between Local Government and the Community, by the promotion of the Big Society and Localism concepts.

Youth Services and Commissioning, in conjunction with the Clay Hill Residents' Association, are holding exploratory discussions with a view towards establishing a "Partnership Arrangement" which will ensure the Riverside Community Centre continues to be available for use by all sections of the Community.

I seek this Council's unequivocal assurance, that the financial responsibility for ensuring the future use by the Community of the Riverside Community Centre Facilities, will be the responsibility of the entire Administration and not limited to the resources of Youth and Commissioning."

West Berkshire Council is committed to equality of opportunity. We will treat everyone with respect, regardless of race, disability, gender, age, religion or sexual orientation.

If you require this information in a different format, such as audio tape, or in another language, please ask an English speaker to contact Moira Fraser on telephone (01635) 519045, who will be able to help.

