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# Meeting of West Berkshire District Council

**Tuesday 5 March 2019**

***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**

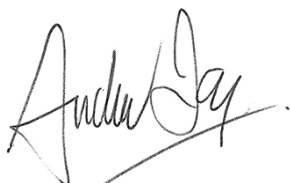
*to be held in the*

**Council Offices Market Street Newbury**

*on*

**Tuesday 5 March 2019**

**at 6.30pm**



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: Monday 25 February 2019

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## **AGENDA**

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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.



## Agenda - Council to be held on Tuesday, 5 March 2019 (continued)

### 3. MINUTES

The Chairman to sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 6 December 2018. (Pages 9 - 26)

### 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. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

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

- (a) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport, Environment and Countryside submitted by Mr Peter Norman:**

*"I am sure the Council will want to join me in congratulating West Berkshire students who took time off school to demand action on climate change on 15th February, however could the Council explain why no one from the Executive was there to listen to the demands of their demonstration and to support our youth in taking an active interest in getting involved in our democratic processes?"*

- (b) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Transformation and Property submitted by Mrs Joanne Stewart:**

*"What measures have been put in place to support the good causes who have been approved for the new West Berkshire Lottery?"*

- (c) **Question to be answered by the Leader of the Council submitted by Mr Steve Masters:**

*"Will the Leader of the Council reassure the students that the Council will do everything it can to plan and execute a credible, science based solution to the looming climate catastrophe and ensure that they have a sustainable future?"*

- (d) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport, Environment and Countryside submitted by Mr Steve Masters:**

*"Should environmental impact be an integral part of all council planning and decision making in the same way financial impacts are assessed?"*



**Agenda - Council to be held on Tuesday, 5 March 2019 (continued)**

- (e) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport, Environment and Countryside submitted by Ms Carlyne Culver:**

*“Will West Berkshire Council commit to return salt bins to parishes whence they were removed, so that parish councils and/or local residents can make arrangements to fill and maintain them?”*

- (f) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport, Environment and Countryside submitted by Ms Carlyne Culver:**

*“Would the Council consider allowing residents who, for example, simply want to visit the bank or drop their library books off, to park for free for 30 minutes in car parks in central Newbury?”*

- (g) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Transformation and Property submitted by Dr Julie Wintrup:**

*“Can we look forward to this being the final year of destabilising cuts and threats of cuts to local public health, drug and alcohol, and mental health services, now that the government has announced that austerity has ended?”*

- (h) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services submitted by Mr Thomas Tunney:**

*“Given that public sector retail jobs are offering better pay, what is the council doing in ways of attracting job applicants and retaining staff?”*

- (i) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Transformation and Property submitted by Mr Thomas Tunney:**

*“What is the point of raising council tax by 2.99% if it is still not going to fill the hole left by central government cuts?”*

- (j) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Young People submitted by Mr Thomas Tunney:**

*“At current funding rates, which schools will be in budget deficit in the upcoming financial year?”*

- (k) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport, Environment and Countryside submitted by Mr Thomas Tunney:**

*“What has been the uptake of the Get your coat app?”*



**Agenda - Council to be held on Tuesday, 5 March 2019 (continued)**

- (l) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing, Leisure and Culture submitted by Mr Thomas Tunney:**

*“How will the upcoming budget affect the ability of the Health and Wellbeing Board’s 2 main goals of Mental Health and helping vulnerable people back in to meaningful activities?”*

- (m) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport, Environment and Countryside submitted by Mr Steve Masters:**

*“How many times is climate change mentioned in the proposed budget?”*

- (n) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport, Environment and Countryside submitted by Mrs Miriam Lee:**

*“In the light of the IPCC report saying we have 12 years to reduce carbon emissions by 50%, can the council confirm if they are using a 100% renewable energy supplier for the electricity used in all their services?”*

- (o) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport, Environment and Countryside submitted by Mrs Miriam Lee:**

*“If the Council does not use a 100% renewable energy supplier for its electricity when do they intend to switch?”*

- (p) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing, Leisure and Culture and Countryside submitted by Mr Paul Morgan:**

*“Would the Council agree that the adoption of the Playing Pitch Strategy, when finalised, would be a good example of how the Council is adhering to the objectives and spirit of their own Consultation Policy, which states that West Berkshire Council (WBC) is committed to making sure decisions are evidence-based, taking into account the views and experiences of residents and service users?”*

**6. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES**

The Council to agree any changes to the membership of Committees.

**7. LICENSING COMMITTEE**

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Licensing Committee met on 11 February 2019 and 21 February 2019. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).



**Agenda - Council to be held on Tuesday, 5 March 2019 (continued)**

**8. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Personnel Committee met on the 12 February 2019. Copies of the Minutes of these meetings can be obtained from Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).

**9. GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE**

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

**10. DISTRICT PLANNING COMMITTEE**

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

**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 6 December 2018, 15 January 2019 and 26 February 2019. Copies of the Minutes of these meetings can be obtained from Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).

**12. 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.

**13. INVESTMENT AND BORROWING STRATEGY 2019/20 (C3613)**

In compliance with the Local Government Act 2003, this report summarises the Council's borrowing limits as set out by CIPFA's Prudential Code, and requests Council approval of the Annual Investment and Borrowing Strategy for 2019/20. **(Pages 27 - 44)**

**14. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2019/20 TO 2021/22 (C3614)**

That Council approves and adopts the medium Term financial planning and strategy for the organisation. **(Pages 45 - 68)**

**15. CAPITAL STRATEGY AND PROGRAMME 2019/20 TO 2021/22 (C3615)**

To outline the three year Capital Strategy for 2019 to 2022, including the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) and to set out the funding framework for the Council's three year Capital Programme for 2019 to 2022. **(Pages 69 - 102)**

**Agenda - Council to be held on Tuesday, 5 March 2019 (continued)**

**16. REVENUE BUDGET 2019/20 (C3616)**

To consider and recommend to Council the 2019/20 Revenue Budget, which proposes a Council Tax requirement of £97.87m requiring a Council Tax increase of 2.99% in 2019/20. The Council Tax increase will raise £2.84m.

This report also proposes the Fees and Charges for 2019/20 as set out in Appendix H and the Parish Expenses as set out in Appendix I and recommends the level of General Reserves as set out in Appendix F and Appendix G. **(Pages 103 - 466)**

**17. STATUTORY PAY POLICY 2019 (C3617)**

To seek Council's approval of the Statutory Pay Policy Statement for publication from 1 April 2019. **(Pages 467 - 486)**

**18. COUNCIL TAX EMPTY PROPERTY CHANGES REPORT (C3675)**

To update Council on the legislation changes made by government in respect to Council Tax empty home charges from 2019/20 onwards. **(Pages 487 - 524)**

**19. POLLING DISTRICTS, POLLING PLACES AND POLLING STATIONS REVIEW 2019/20 (C3428)**

This report provides feedback on the results of the public consultation into the Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations Review 2019/20. **(Pages 525 - 586)**

**20. WEST BERKSHIRE 2036 VISION (C3647)**

To introduce the final draft of the West Berkshire 2036 Vision for Council endorsement following its agreement by the Health and Wellbeing Board on 24 January 2019. **(Pages 587 - 648)**

**21. NOTICES OF MOTION**

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

"The District of West Berkshire has over 50 Parish/Town Councils all of which have an important part to play in continuing to make West Berkshire a great place in which to live, work, study and play.

As this Council continues to focus on the more strategic core services that it must provide Parish Councils will have an increasingly important role to play in the delivery of services at the local level. It has been acknowledged that devolution can support local communities to become more self-sufficient and ultimately do more for themselves.

The National Association of Local Councils has also welcomed the opportunity for Parish Councils to play an active role in the devolution agenda.

## Agenda - Council to be held on Tuesday, 5 March 2019 *(continued)*

Members are therefore requested to confirm that they fully support the Council's collaborative approach to devolution with its Parishes with the objective of making sure that appropriate services and assets are managed at the local level where possible."

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

**"This council** has a long-standing commitment to 'green principles' of stewardship, responsibility and resilience and in order to reaffirm this commitment the Council is asked to:

- **Accept and welcome** its local leadership role, as the United Kingdom as a whole moves further towards environmental sustainability and achieving or bettering targets in line with the Paris Agreement
- **Anticipate** the advice expected from the Committee on Climate Change to the UK government on May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019 on how and when to achieve net zero emissions and **commit** to translating this into a programme of action for West Berkshire
- **Resolve** to maintain its strong record of leadership, innovation and partnership in protecting and enhancing the environment in West Berkshire in all spheres of its work
- **Determine to act**, not sloganise, respecting the need to consult and work with residents to deliver change
- **Achieve** this while promoting green growth and maintaining the status of west Berkshire as a vibrant and innovative world economy, with a highly skilled workforce and low unemployment".

## 22. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Members of the Executive to answer questions submitted by Councillors in accordance with the [Council's Constitution](#). *(Note: there were no Member questions submitted relating to items not included on this Agenda).*

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