



Meeting of West Berkshire District Council

Thursday 9 January 2020

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

**9 January 2020 at the Rising of the
Extraordinary Meeting**



Sarah Clarke
Head of Legal and Strategic Support
West Berkshire District Council

Date of despatch of Agenda: Tuesday 31 December 2019

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 12 September 2019. **(Pages 9 - 20)**

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. COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO A PLASTIC WASTE RECYCLING PETITION -
ADDITIONAL PLASTIC WASTE COLLECTIONS**

To provide a response to the e-petition submitted on 5 September 2019 by Ms Sukey Russell-Hayward.

The wording of the e-petition is as follows:

"We, the undersigned, petition the Council to

1. Improve the environmental solutions for single-use plastics, including the collection and recycling of domestic plastic waste within West Berkshire.
2. Provide more effective communication on the environmental solutions for single-use plastics, including the collection and recycling of domestic plastic waste within West Berkshire.
3. Improve research into alternative and more ecological approaches to managing domestic plastic waste within West Berkshire.

As a resident of West Berkshire I am very concerned at the low level of plastic recycling which is collected in West Berkshire and challenge the council to improve this situation. I am also concerned about the council's use of incineration to dispose of plastics, when far less polluting, effective and efficient processes are available and used by other councils.

Some local residents have tried to compensate by offering collection points at their homes and then driving cars full of plastics to collection bins at Sainsbury's in Reading. This is not sustainable, and these people and businesses have become overrun with the volume of plastics being deposited, posing significant issues in terms of storage, handling and health risks.

Many councils, e.g. Stroud, Gloucester and Oxford, have excellent kerbside collections and transparency in terms of their contracts and recycling policy, including what happens to the plastics post collection. I would like to see West Berkshire Council taking a lead in, and communicating clearly, environmental solutions which directly impact our community and the wider environment." **(Pages 21 - 44)**

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 Transport and Countryside submitted by Mr Brian Withers:**

"Will the Council consider removing the ban on private cars crossing the Wharf Bridge in light of the changes that have been made to the Bear lane/A339 junction?"

- (b) **Question to be answered by the Executive Member for Economic Development and Planning submitted by Mr Simon Gardner:**

"What agreement was made with Vodafone regarding the planning permission for the HQ and restrictions upon the employee parking in the local streets within 2 miles of said buildings?"

- (c) **Question to be answered by the Executive Member for Economic Development and Planning submitted by Mr Simon Gardner:**

"Is parking in the local streets within a 2 mile radius of the Vodafone HQ lawful given that an individual pays a vehicle road tax that has no restrictions with respect to parking within the Highway Code?"

8. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

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

9. MOTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

To note the responses to Motions which have been presented to previous Council meetings.

- a) [Response to Motion from Councillor Keith Woodhams](#) presented to the 02 July 2019 Council Meeting.
- b) [Response to Motion from Councillor Lee Dillon](#) presented to the 12 September 2019 Council Meeting. **(Pages 46 - 48)**

10. LICENSING COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Licensing Committee met on 18 November 2019. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Legal and Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).

11. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Personnel Committee met on 12 September 2019 and 15 October 2019. Copies of the Minutes of these meetings can be obtained from Legal and Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).

Agenda - Council to be held on Thursday, 9 January 2020 (continued)

12. GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of Council, the Governance and Ethics Committee met on 25 November 2019. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Legal and Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).

13. DISTRICT PLANNING COMMITTEE

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

14. 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 29 October 2019. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Legal and Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).

15. JOINT PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Joint Public Protection Committee met on 07 November 2019. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Legal and Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).

16. RESPONSE TO A MOTION ON DEVELOPMENT SITES FOR THE NEW LOCAL PLAN (C3842)

To set out a response to a Motion brought to the 12 September 2019 Council meeting. **(Pages 49 - 62)**

17. RESPONSE TO A MOTION ON CO2 EMISSIONS AND WATER USAGE (C3843)

To set out a response to a Motion brought to the 12 September 2019 Council meeting. **(Pages 63 - 80)**

18. MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN – PROPOSED SUBMISSION VERSION FOR CONSULTATION AND ASSOCIATED EVIDENCE BASE DOCUMENTS (C3720)

To present the Proposed Submission version of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan and supporting evidence base for approval to undertake public consultation on these documents in accordance with the West Berkshire Statement of Community Involvement and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. **(Pages 81 - 240)**

Agenda - Council to be held on Thursday, 9 January 2020 (continued)

19. REVISED STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (2019) (C3751)

To seek agreement to adopt the Revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).
(Pages 241 - 286)

20. REVISION OF THE 2019/20 INVESTMENT AND BORROWING STRATEGY (C3856)

The 2019/20 Investment and Borrowing Strategy was approved by Full Council at the meeting held on 5 March 2019 meeting its legal obligation under the Local Government Act 2003. This report is an amendment of the agreed strategy to reflect:

- (1) Outline compliance against the Prudential Indicators
- (2) An expansion in the sources of borrowing available to the Council
- (3) An allowance for provision of loan financing to local enterprises, charities, wholly owned companies and joint ventures as part of a wider strategy for local economic growth. In particular the joint venture in the form of Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) with Sovereign Westing House Developments Ltd, a subsidiary of Sovereign Housing Association (SHA).

The Council has approved a revised Property Investment Strategy in July 2018. The criteria for investment in property are different from those for cash based investments. However the strategy for borrowing set out in this document also applies to borrowing to fund investment in property. **(Pages 287 - 308)**

21. 2020/21 WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL TIMETABLE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS (C3845)

To recommend a timetable of public meetings for the 2020/21 Municipal Year. **(Pages 309 - 316)**

22. NOTICES OF MOTION

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

“We contend that there is considerable risk to pedestrians and motorists along the A4/Benham Hill section from the Lower Way Traffic lights to Henwick Lane in Thatcham.

It is extraordinary that this section along the A4 allows a 40 Mile Per Hour speed limit when the rest of the A4 through Thatcham is at 30 MPH. Recent installation of a Pedestrian refuge at the top of Pound Lane is welcome but did not prevent a serious incident involving a young girl in September when her foot was run over and broken by a speeding vehicle.

We believe that the speed limit in these two stretches of road is anomalous and we therefore propose that this section of the A4 is adapted to a 30 Mile Per Hour limit by West Berkshire Highways Department and with a high degree of urgency.”



Agenda - Council to be held on Thursday, 9 January 2020 (continued)

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

“Maintaining a Green District is one of this Council’s priorities for improvement. It’s about natural habitats, it’s about biodiversity, it’s about our open spaces, it’s about the improving the environment we live and work in, it’s about our communities, it’s about our homes, our health, our wellbeing and more.

The Council recognises the freedoms for some that vehicle ownership brings, whilst it acknowledges that many older properties do not have designated off road parking. It fully recognises vehicle drivers are often reliant upon street parking with little alternative option. However, the practice of parking on pavements is becoming more widespread, and is a nuisance at best and a public danger at worst. Parking is not the only cause of pavement obstruction. It also arises from poorly placed advertising stands, protruding shop front displays and street clutter.

This Council notes the Healthwatch Voice of Disability Report which raises concerns for the disabled in our community; this Council has a long been concerned that pavement obstruction can risk public health and is detrimental to public wellbeing. The lack of easy navigability for wheel chair uses, those with sight conditions and limited mobility as well as for parents with pushchairs, can become trapped in their homes, leading to social isolation or a danger to pedestrians, particularly children in often having to step in to traffic to avoid obstructions.

While the government select committee is considering widening the ban on pavement parking outside London and until legislation in England comes in to force;

The Council calls on:

- Parish Councils to champion an awareness campaign for considerate parking in their parishes.
- Drivers to respect the rights of pedestrians to exercise their right to safe and unobstructed passage on footpaths and pavements.
- Drivers to park any vehicle, motorcycle or bike with the maximum consideration to pavement users and to avoid blocking lines of sight or the passage of emergency vehicles.
- Drivers to limit their use of pavement parking where damage to curbs, street furniture and grass verges would occur.
- Businesses to be considerate with Advertising Board placement and remove where the footpath is obstructed.
- Residents to safely position curb clutter such as bins and recycling boxes, pushchairs and trollies.”



23. **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 Transport and Countryside submitted by Councillor Keith Woodhams:**

“Can the Executive Member for Transport and Countryside tell me why on one hand he is promoting getting out of the car to walk and cycle when cycle ways are not being swept leading to tyre punctures, and when London Road & Hambridge Road flood when it rains leading to pedestrians and cyclists being drenched in water by passing cars, vans and heavy lorries?”

- (b) **Question to be answered by the Executive Member for Transport and Countryside submitted by Councillor Keith Woodhams:**

“Given that it was recently reported that a passing HGV knocked off a branch from an overhanging tree in Bowling Green Road, which then fell onto the bonnet of a car travelling in the opposite direction, can the Executive Member for Highways and Transport tell me if the highways authority has a duty to maintain public roads to a standard that ensures they are safe and passable?”

- (c) **Question to be answered by the Executive Member for Transport and Countryside submitted by Councillor Phil Barnett:**

“Can the Executive Member for Highways identify what official powers private security guards controlling traffic movements on certain public roads have to undertake these activities?”

- (d) **Question to be answered by the Executive Member for Transport and Countryside submitted by Councillor Phil Barnett:**

“Can the Executive Member for Highways identify when the highly valued speed indicator devices [SIDS] that the West Berkshire Council own are likely to be upgraded or replaced?”

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

