



Meeting of West Berkshire District Council

Thursday 9 September 2021

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

**Thursday 9 September 2021
at 7.00pm**

This meeting will be streamed live here: <https://www.westberks.gov.uk/fullcouncillive>



Sarah Clarke
Service Director – Strategy and Governance
West Berkshire District Council

Date of despatch of Agenda: Wednesday 1 September 2021

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for inability to attend the meeting (if any). **(Pages 7 - 8)**

2. **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

The Chairman to report on functions attended since the last meeting and other matters of interest to Members. **(Pages 9 - 10)**

3. **MINUTES**

The Chairman to sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 8 July 2021. **(Pages 11 - 32)**



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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](#). **(Pages 33 - 34)**

5. PETITIONS

Councillors may present any petition which they have received. These will normally be referred to the appropriate body without discussion. **(Pages 35 - 36)**

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

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

Please note that the list of public questions is shown under item 6 in the agenda pack. **(Pages 37 - 40)**

7. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

The Council to agree any changes to the membership of Committees. **(Pages 41 - 42)**

8. LICENSING COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to note that since the last meeting of the Council, the Licensing Committee met on 6 September 2021. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Legal and Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#). **(Pages 43 - 44)**

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 26 July 2021. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Legal and 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 met on 8 September 2021. Copies of the Minutes of this meeting can be obtained from Legal and Strategic Support or via the [Council's website](#).



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 10 August 2021 and 31 August 2021. Copies of the Minutes of these meetings can be obtained from Legal and 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. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL 2021 (C4117)

Purpose: To consider the IRP's Recommendations following their meeting on 23 June 2021. **(Pages 45 - 58)**

15. NOTICES OF MOTION

(a) The following Motion has been submitted in the name of Councillor Carolyne Culver:

“West Berkshire Council notes:

West Berkshire Council declared a climate emergency in July 2019 and subsequently produced an Environment Strategy and Environment Strategy Delivery Plan, with the objective of delivering carbon neutrality by 2030 in support of limiting global warming to less than 1.5 degrees centigrade.

The Environment Strategy Delivery Plan includes objectives designed to protect and enhance biodiversity.

The climate emergency cannot be tackled by reducing emissions in isolation. Our ecological systems are intrinsic to life on earth and should be protected and enhanced as a valued asset.

The State of Nature 2019 report highlighted the critical decline in biodiversity in the UK, where 15 per cent of species are threatened with extinction.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the relationship between humans and nature. When we destroy and degrade habitats, we disrupt the equilibrium of our ecological systems resulting in an increased risk of transference of pandemic type diseases between wildlife and humans.

The State of the World's Plants and Fungi 2020 report from Royal Botanic Gardens Kew estimated that 39 per cent of plants are threatened with extinction.

The IPCC Report Sixth Assessment Report published in August 2021 concluded that climate change is 'widespread, rapid and intensifying' and urgent action is required to reduce carbon emissions and secure the long-term sustainability of planet earth and its inhabitants.



Agenda - Council to be held on Thursday, 9 September 2021 (continued)

In June the previously titled Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill was reintroduced for the 2021/22 parliamentary session as the Climate and Ecology Bill with support from across the House of Commons.

The government is running a public consultation about Nature Recovery Network Strategies, which ends on 2 November 2021.

West Berkshire Council resolves to:

1. Declare an ecological emergency.
2. Support the Climate and Ecology Bill and ask the Leader to write to our three local MPs urging them to support it.
3. Participate constructively in the government's public consultation about Nature Recovery Network Strategies before it closes on 2 November."

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

"Recognising that Council should take every measure to ensure that no resident is excluded from council services and also recognising that many residents are not familiar, or not comfortable, with using online services, or with using payment methods such as direct debit,

Council therefore resolves that:

- all services should be accessible to residents in person, or by phone as well as online
- all payments by residents for council services can be made by cheque, or by credit or debit card, in person, or by phone, as well as via all forms of online banking."

(Pages 59 - 60)

16. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Members of the Executive to answer questions submitted by Members of the Council in accordance with the Council Procedure Rules contained in the [Council's Constitution](#).

Please note that the list of Member questions is shown under item 16 in the agenda pack. **(Pages 61 - 64)**

If you require this information in a different format or translation, please contact Stephen Chard on telephone (01635) 519462.

