

COUNTY COUNCIL

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING – 23 JUNE 2009

MINUTES of the Annual Meeting of the County Council held at the County Hall, Kingston upon Thames on Tuesday 23 June 2009 commencing at 10:30am, the Council being constituted as follows:

	Mr Agarwal		Mrs King
	Mr Amin		Mr Kington
	Mrs Angell		Mr Lake
	Mr Barker OBE		Mr Lambell
	Mr Beardsmore		Mrs Lay
	Mr Bennison		Ms Le Gal
	Mrs Bowes		Mr Lord (arrived at 11am)
	Mr Brett-Warburton		Mr MacLeod
	Mr Butcher		Mr Mallett
	Mr Carasco		Mrs Marks
*	Mr Chapman		Mr Marlow
	Mrs Clack		Mr Martin
	Mrs Coleman	*	Mrs Mason
	Mrs Compton	*	Mrs Moseley
	Mr Cooksey		Mr Munro
*	Mr Cooper		Mr Nevins
	Mr Cosser		Mrs Nichols
	Mrs Curran		Mr Norman
	Mr Elias		Mr Orrick
	Mr Ellwood		Mr Phelps-Penry
	Mr Few		Mr Pitt
	Mr Forster		Dr Povey
	Mrs Fraser DL		Mr Renshaw
	Mr Frost		Mr Rooth
*	Mrs Frost		Mrs Ross-Tomlin
	Mr Fuller		Mrs Saliagopoulos
	Mr Furey		Mrs Sealy
	Mr Goodwin	*	Mrs Searle
	Mr Gosling	*	Mr Skellett CBE
	Dr Grant-Duff		Mrs Smith
	Dr Hack		Mr Sydney
	Mr Hall		Mr Colin Taylor
	Mrs Hammond		Mr Roy Taylor
	Mr Harmer		Mr Keith Taylor
	Mr Harrison		Mr Townsend
	Ms Heath		Mrs Turner-Stewart
	Mr Hickman		Mr Walsh
	Mrs Hicks		Mrs Watson
	Mr Hodge		Mrs White
	Mr Ivison		Mr Wood

*absent

47/09 **CHAIRMAN (ITEM 1)**

Upon the motion of Dr Andrew Povey, seconded by Mrs Hazel Watson, it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

That Mr Geoffrey Marlow be elected Chairman of the Council for the council year 2009/10

48/09 **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Mr Marlow made the statutory declaration of office and took the Chair. The newly elected Chairman expressed his thanks to the Members of the council for electing him as Chairman.

49/09 **MINUTES (ITEM 2)**

The minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 28 April 2009 were submitted, confirmed and signed.

50/09 **ELECTION OF COUNTY COUNCILLORS (ITEM 3)**

The Assistant Chief Executive, as County Returning Officer, formally reported the return of the County Councillors at the Elections held on 4 June 2009 for each of the 80 Divisions in the County.

[Note: Steve Cosser, County Councillor for Godalming North, should have been listed as Conservative and not Liberal-Democrat in the report]

51/09 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (ITEM 4)**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Chapman, Mr Cooper, Mrs Frost, Mrs Mason, Mrs Moseley, Mrs Searle and Mr Skellett.

52/09 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (ITEM 5)**

The Chairman announced that Mr Michael Burgess, the County Coroner, had been awarded an OBE in Her Majesty the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

53/09 **DECLARATION OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS (ITEM 6)**

There were none.

54/09 **VICE-CHAIRMAN (ITEM 7)**

Upon the motion of Mrs Margaret Hicks, seconded by Mr Nick Harrison, it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

That Mrs Lavinia Caroline Sealy be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the council year 2009/10.

55/09 **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Mrs Sealy was invested by Mr Marlow with the Vice-Chairman's badge. She made the statutory declaration of office and expressed thanks to the Members of the Council for electing her as Vice-Chairman.

56/09 **MOTION OF THANKS TO RETIRING CHAIRMAN (ITEM 8)**

Upon the motion of the newly elected Chairman, seconded by Mrs Hazel Watson, followed by speeches from the Leaders of the Conservative and Residents' Association / Independent and the Labour representative in support of the motion, it was:

RESOLVED:

That the Chairman and Members of the Surrey County Council, record our warm appreciation of the distinguished services given to the County and its inhabitants by Mrs Angela Fraser DL during her tenure of office as Chairman of the Council from 15 May 2007 to 23 June 2009.

The Chairman presented Mrs Fraser with an inscribed copy of the motion together with an ex-Chairman's badge. Mrs Fraser made a farewell speech.

57/09 **ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (ITEM 9)**

Upon the motion of Mr David Hodge, seconded by Mrs Denise Saliagopoulos, it was:

RESOLVED:

That Dr Andrew Povey be elected Leader of the Council for the a four year term, expiring on the day of the post election annual meeting in 2013.

Dr Povey expressed his thanks to Members of the Council for electing him as Leader.

58/09 **REPORT OF THE LEADER (ITEM 10)**

The newly elected Leader made a detailed statement setting out his vision for the future of Surrey for the next four years. He announced the renaming of the Executive to Cabinet and the appointment of a Deputy Leader and the Cabinet Members. Copies of their portfolios for the council year 2009/10 were tabled at the meeting. (Appendix A)

He also set out his objectives for the next four years. These included his intention to delegate some decisions to individual Cabinet Members to enable the full Cabinet to concentrate on more strategic issues at their monthly meeting.

He said there would be more powers for Local Committees, namely, approval of the youth plan, signing off the Highways community gangs work by Local Members and amending the process for HGV operator licences to include consultation with Local Members.

He said he would retain the following powers as Leader:

- Any matter affecting the boundaries of or development within the Green Belt / AONB / AGLV.
- The final decision to open / close a school.
- The establishment of and recruitment to posts evaluated with a pay band in excess of £100K and consultants on contracts over £100K.
- Expenditure against the agreed Policy Initiatives Budget and Future Income fund.

He also made three major announcements:

- To reduce speeding and anti-social driving on Surrey roads, he said that £1m would be allocated for a joint initiative with Surrey Police.
- He pledged to increase re-cycling across the Council, working with Districts and Boroughs to build on successes already achieved and also said that this would be an opportunity to remove or reduce reliance on Energy from Waste plants in Surrey, with officers asked to look at other options as a matter of urgency.
- Specific incentive packages to recruit and attract high calibre social workers to Surrey, offering 50 bursaries to students of £1,500 p.a. (with priority given to Surrey residents).

Finally, he informed Members of his first '100 day targets', namely launching a speeding initiative and one other safety initiative; starting the first Public Value Review, which will be on Adult Social Care (with all services being reviewed over a three year period) and increasing support for the business community.

59/09 **ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY – 2009/10 (ITEM 11)**

After a short debate, it was

RESOLVED (with no Member voting against):

- (i) That the Committee sizes and scheme of proportionality for 2009/10 as set out in the scheme, attached at Annex 1 of the submitted report, be adopted.
- (ii) That standing order 40, as set out in Annex 2 of the submitted report, be adopted.

60/09 **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES (ITEM 12)**

The proposals for the appointment of committees were tabled at the meeting.

Mrs Sally Marks said that she would be unable to serve on the Health Scrutiny Committee due to a conflict of interests.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Members, as set out in Appendix B, be appointed to serve on the Committees of the Council for the council year 2009/10 in accordance with the wishes of political groups.
- (2) That the Chief Executive be authorised to make changes to the membership of any of the Council's Committees as necessary during the council year in accordance with the wishes of political groups.
- (3) That the County Councillors for each district / borough area be appointed to serve on the appropriate Local Committee for the council year 2009/10, and that the Chief Executive be authorised to appoint an equal number of district / borough councillors to the Local Committees following nominations by the district and borough councils.

61/09 **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN (ITEM 13)**

The proposals for the Committee Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen were tabled at the meeting.

There were two nominations for the Vice-Chairman of Mole Valley Local Committee – Mrs Clare Curran and Mr Stephen Cooksey. These nominations were put to the vote, with the majority of Members voting for Mrs Clare Curran.

Therefore, it was:

RESOLVED:

That Mrs Clare Curran be elected as Vice-Chairman of Mole Valley Local Committee for the council year 2009/10.

RESOLVED:

That the Members listed below be elected as Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees, as shown, for the council year 2009/10.

SELECT COMMITTEES		
	Chairman	Vice-Chairman
Adults & Community Care	Chris Pitt	Margaret Hicks
Children & Families	Yvonna Lay	Marisa Heath
Corporate Management	Helyn Clack	Angela Fraser
Environment & Economy	Carol Coleman	Tony Rooth
Safer & Stronger Communities	Lavinia Sealy	David Goodwin
Schools & Learning	Dorothy Ross-Tomlin	Denise Turner-Stewart
Transportation	David Ivison	Mike Bennison
Health Scrutiny	David Munro	Peter Hickman
PLANNING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE		
	Roy Taylor	Ian Beardsmore
AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE		
	Nick Harrison	Bill Barker

PERSONNEL & APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE		
	Andrew Povey	David Hodge

LOCAL COMMITTEES		
DISTRICT	CHAIRMAN	VICE-CHAIRMAN
Elmbridge	Margaret Hicks	Mike Bennison
Epsom & Ewell	Colin Taylor	David Wood
Guildford	Mike Nevins	Bill Barker
Mole Valley	Helyn Clack	Clare Curran
Reigate & Banstead	Dorothy Ross-Tomlin	Frances King
Runnymede	Marisa Heath	Yvonna Lay
Spelthorne	Denise Turner-Stewart	Richard Walsh
Surrey Heath	David Ivison	Chris Pitt
Tandridge	Nick Skellett	Sally Marks
Waverley	Pat Frost	Jonathan Lord
Woking	Elizabeth Compton	Ben Carasco

62/09 **SURREY POLICE AUTHORITY 2009/10 (ITEM 14)**

The proposals for Members to serve on the Surrey Police Authority were tabled at the meeting.

RESOLVED:

(1) That the Members named below be appointed to serve on the Surrey Police Authority for the council year 2009/10:

Mr Bill Barker, Mrs Angela Fraser, Mr David Harmer, Mrs Margaret Hicks, Mr Ernest Mallett, Mrs Sally Marks, Mr Nick Skellett, Mrs Hazel Watson and Mrs Fiona White

(2) That the Chief Executive be authorised to make changes to the Council's membership of the Surrey Police Authority as necessary during the council year in accordance with the wishes of political groups.

63/09 **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE (ITEM 15)**

Mr David Harmer, as Vice-Chairman of the Executive at the time of the meetings, presented the report of the Executive's meetings held on 29 April and 19 May 2009.

(1) Reports for Information / Discussion

The following reports were received and noted:

- Surrey Alliance for Children, Young People and Families
- Annual Report on Services to Children and Young People

(2) Executive meeting minutes

- Mr Eber Kington gave notice and spoke on the Executive minute, item no. 145/09, the Snow Emergency Response.
- Mr Nick Harrison gave notice and spoke on the Executive minute, item no. 144/09, the Executive response to the Transportation Select Committee report on the Audit Commission's report on Surrey Highways.

RESOLVED:

That the report of the meetings of the Executive held on 29 April and 19 May 2009 be adopted.

64/09 **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES (ITEM 16)**

(a) Standards Committee

The Vice-Chairman of the Standards Committee presented the report of the Standards Committee meeting held on 17 April 2009.

RESOLVED:

That the report of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 17 April 2009 be noted.

[The meeting ended 12.34pm]

Chairman