

COUNTY COUNCIL

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING – 11 MAY 2010

MINUTES of the annual meeting of the County Council held at the County Hall, Kingston upon Thames on Tuesday 11 May 2010 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
	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	Mrs Nichols
	Mr Cosser	Mr Norman
	Mrs Curran	Mr Orrick
	Mr Elias	Mr Phelps-Penry
	Mr Ellwood	Mr Pitt
*	Mr Few	Dr Povey
	Mr Forster	Mr Renshaw
	Mrs Fraser DL	* Mr Rooth
	Mr Frost	Mrs Ross-Tomlin
*	Mrs Frost	Mrs Saliagopoulos
	Mr Fuller	Mr Samuels
	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 Keith Taylor
	Mr Harmer	* Mr Townsend
	Mr Harrison	Mrs Turner-Stewart
	Ms Heath	Mr Walsh
	Mr Hickman	Mrs Watson
	Mrs Hicks	Mrs White
	Mr Hodge	Mr Wood
	Mr Ivison	

*absent

32/10 **CHAIRMAN (ITEM 1)**

Upon the motion of Mr Tim Hall, seconded by Mr Michael Gosling, it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

That Mr Geoffrey Marlow be elected Chairman of the Council for the council year 2010/11

33/10 **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.

34/10 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (ITEM 2)**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Agarwal, Mr Carasco, Mr Chapman, Mr Cooper, Mr Few, Mrs Frost, Mr Lord, Mrs Mason, Mr Rooth, Mr Sydney, Mr Keith Taylor, Mr Townsend.

35/10 **MINUTES (ITEM 3)**

The Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 23 March 2010 were submitted, confirmed and signed.

36/10 **ELECTION OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR (ITEM 4)**

The Chief Executive reported the election of Mr Anthony Samuels as County Councillor for the Walton South and Oatlands Electoral Division.

37/10 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (ITEM 5)**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- That Mr Mike Nevins, County Councillor for Worplesdon had passed away last Friday. Members stood in silent tribute.
- He congratulated Mr Jonathan Lord on becoming MP for Woking.

38/10 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (ITEM 6)**

There were none.

39/10 **VICE-CHAIRMAN (ITEM 7)**

Upon the motion of Mr Peter Martin, seconded by Mrs Dorothy Ross-Tomlin, it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

That Mrs Lavinia Caroline Sealy be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the council year 2010/11.

40/10 **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.

41/10 **LEADER'S STATEMENT (ITEM 8)**

The Leader of the Council made a verbal statement, in which he informed Members of the following:

- He welcomed Tony Samuels, a returning County Councillor, to his first meeting.
- He considered that it was 'good news' that four County Councillors had stood for Parliament in the recent elections.
- He congratulated Jonathan Lord on becoming MP for Woking and said that he looked forward to working closely with all Surrey MPs.
- He reminded Members that cuts in public expenditure were anticipated and these would affect the County Council over the coming years.
- With reference to economic growth, he mentioned that Surrey County Council had recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Zibo City, China and he considered that this link was a good opportunity for Surrey businesses.
- He announced the members of his Cabinet and their portfolios for the council year 2010/11 (attached as Appendix A to these minutes).
- He also announced a £30k grant, from the Policy Initiative Fund, for this year to the Surrey Historic Buildings Trust.
- He gave the following examples as key factors of his Administration to date:
 - (i) a greater openness and transparency in the way that the County Council operates
 - (ii) webcasting of council meetings
 - (iii) a publically available four year Medium Term Financial Plan
 - (iv) the 'Have Your Say' public meeting

- (v) commitment to the publication of invoices on-line
- (vi) the Annual Report – tabled at the meeting and available in libraries and on-line
- (vii) acceptance of petitions at future County Council meetings
- (viii) setting up a programme of Public Value Reviews to review expenditure of all County Council services
- (ix) quarterly accountability meetings with Cabinet Members
- (x) developing of new commissioning models i.e. Surrey First
- (xi) working together with colleagues in the South East Region and setting up SE7
- (xii) extension of the Local Committees powers, under the localism and ‘total place’ agenda
- (xiii) Vice-Chairmanships of some Local Committees to be shared with Districts and Boroughs (refer to item 16)
- (xiv) Development of the personalisation agenda in Social Services
- (xv) 70% re-cycling target

Finally, he reiterated his ambition that Surrey County Council should become a world class authority.

Members had the opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Mr Harrison requested a written copy of the Leader’s speech.

Mr Mallett asked for, and the Leader agreed to provide, a list of the grants awarded under the Policy Initiatives Budget in the last year.

42/10 **MEMBERS’ QUESTION TIME (ITEM 9)**

Notice of 8 questions had been received. The questions and replies are attached as Appendix B.

A number of supplementary questions were asked and a summary of the main points is set out below:

(Q1) Mrs Smith asked for further information and clarity from the Cabinet Member for Children and Families, concerning the assessment of needs of the children who may benefit from Ruth House or Applewood. She also asked how the cost of the building could be justified if the facilities were not going to be fully utilised.

The Cabinet Member gave a detailed explanation of the background to this situation. She stated that the Children’s Service

was committed to supporting this service and provided details of the numbers involved and the occupancy. She also said that the challenge this financial year would be a balanced Children, Schools and Families Budget. She informed Members that the Children and Families Select Committee had identified five areas where savings could be made and that a review would be undertaken. She confirmed that it was normal practice to review care packages and that all current bookings would be honoured.

Mrs Smith also asked for the length of time that the 20 beds had been open. The Cabinet Member agreed to provide this information outside the meeting.

(Q3) Mr Kington queried whether the Leader's campaign for Members to sign an on-line petition for additional Government funding for investment in Surrey's roads had been a publicity stunt? The Leader gave an assurance to both Mr Kington and Surrey's residents that he would continue to pursue whichever Government was in power for more funding for Surrey's roads.

(Q4) Mrs Nichols said that she would prefer the use of 'clarify' rather than 'correct' in the response and also that she did not infer that 'massburn' was an option in her question. The Cabinet Member for Environment agreed to amend the wording. She also explained that an agreement with Allington in Kent was in place to accept black bag waste from Surrey and that nothing would be considered until 2013.

(Also, Q4) Mr Beardsmore considered that this response was different from that given to a similar question asked at the County Council meeting in January. However, the Cabinet Member for Environment said that had referred to thermal treatment and not Energy from Waste. She said that the Surrey Waste Plan was comprehensive and she was not proposing any changes to it.

(Also, Q4) Mr Mallett asked for the tonnage of waste sent out-county. The Cabinet Member said that the agreement with Allington was to accept 100k tonnes until 2018.

(Q6) Mr Harrison said that point (iii) of his question had not been addressed in the response. He also referred to the Cabinet report of 18 months ago, on Applewood and asked about the future of the centre. The Cabinet Member for Children and Families provided an explanation concerning the savings and also the possible changes to the provision. She said that Applewood may not necessarily be the best service for these young people – their parents priority was greater flexibility, which would be considered under the personalisation agenda. She also said that, in order to make the necessary savings, the Children, Schools and Families service would be totally redesigned. Finally, on the future of Applewood,

she said that she hoped that it would be run in conjunction with the NHS to provide places for children that were currently placed out-county.

(Q7) Mrs Smith said that she had been unable to obtain a response locally and asked the Cabinet Member for Transport for a commitment that Knaphill High Street would be on the anticipated list for maintenance. The Cabinet Member said that, due to financial constraints, resources had to be re-directed to maintain the principal road network and therefore he was unable to give an assurance to her.

(Q8) Mr Kington considered that a review was long overdue and asked the Cabinet Member for Transport for his comments. The Cabinet Member confirmed that the review would address the inconsistencies of parking enforcement across Boroughs / Districts in Surrey and that he hoped that, following Cabinet approval, a scheme would be in place by April 2011.

43/10 **SURREY POLICE AUTHORITY (ITEM 10)**

No questions had been received for the Surrey Police Authority.

44/10 **REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE (ITEM 11)**

The Chairman of the Standards Committee presented the report of the Standards Committee. He gave a brief outline of the committee's work and commended the Standards Committee's first annual report (May 2009 to April 2010) to Members.

He thanked Nicolas Davies and Simon Rutter for their work as Independent Representatives on the committee and requested that Members ratified the appointment of the two new Independent Representatives.

Finally, he agreed to re-examine, and clarify for Members, the guidance for granting exemptions from political restriction.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Mrs Sally De la Bedoyere and Mrs Marion Roberts be appointed as Independent Representatives on the Standards Committee until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2014.
- (2) That the report of the meeting of the Standards Committee be adopted.

45/10 **REPORT OF THE SURREY POLICE AUTHORITY (ITEM 12)**

A written statement on the work of the Surrey Police Authority had been included in the agenda.

46/10 **STATEMENT BY MEMBERS (ITEM 13)**

There were no statements from Members.

47/10 **ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY – 2010/11 (ITEM 14)**

RESOLVED (with no Member voting against):

That the committee sizes and scheme of proportionality for 2010/11 as set out in the scheme, attached at Annex 1 to the submitted report, be adopted.

48/10 **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES (ITEM 15)**

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

Mr Colin Taylor tabled an amendment to recommendation (3), which was to add the following clause at the end of this recommendation:

‘which they should be requested to make proportional to their membership’

Members agreed to include ‘politically’ into the clause and it was:

RESOLVED (unanimously):

- (1) That the Members, as set out in Appendix C, be appointed to serve on the committees of the Council for the council year 2010/11 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 2010/11, 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, which they should be

requested to make politically proportional to their membership.

49/10 **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN (ITEM 16)**

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

(i) There were two nominations for the Vice-Chairman of Epsom and Ewell Local Committee – Mr Colin Taylor and Mr David Wood. These nominations were put to the vote, with the majority of Members voting for Mr David Wood.

Therefore, it was:

RESOLVED:

That Mr David Wood be elected as Vice-Chairman of Epsom and Ewell Local Committee for the council year 2010/11.

(ii) There were two nominations for the Chairman of Woking Local Committee – Mr Ben Carasco and Mrs Diana Smith. These nominations were put to the vote, with the majority of Members voting for Mr Ben Carasco.

Therefore, it was:

RESOLVED:

That Mr Ben Carasco be elected as Chairman of Woking Local Committee for the council year 2010/11.

RESOLVED:

That the Members listed below be elected as Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees, as shown, for the council year 2010/11.

SELECT COMMITTEES		
	Chairman	Vice-Chairman
Adult Social Care	Chris Pitt	Tony Samuels
Children and Families	Denise Le Gal	Richard Walsh
Change and Efficiency	Helyn Clack	Mel Few

Education, Learning and Development	Dorothy Ross-Tomlin	Denise Turner-Stewart
Environment and Economy	Carol Coleman	Steve Renshaw
Safer and Stronger Communities	Lavinia Sealy	Steve Cosser
Transportation	David Ivison	Mike Bennison
Health Scrutiny	David Munro	Peter Hickman
PLANNING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE		
	Stuart MacLeod	Marisa Heath
AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE		
	Nick Harrison	Bill Barker
PEOPLE, PERFORMANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE		
	Andrew Povey	David Hodge

LOCAL COMMITTEES		
DISTRICT	CHAIRMAN	VICE-CHAIRMAN
Elmbridge	Margaret Hicks	<u>TWO POSITIONS</u> (1 County and 1 District / Borough Member) Mike Bennison and 1 District / Borough Member (vacancy*)
Epsom & Ewell	Chris Frost	David Wood
Guildford	Mark Brett-Warburton	Graham Ellwood
Mole Valley	Clare Curran	1 District / Borough Member (vacancy*)
Reigate & Banstead	Angela Fraser	<u>TWO POSITIONS</u> (1 County and 1 District / Borough Member) Zully Grant-Duff and 1

		District / Borough Member (vacancy*)
Runnymede	Marisa Heath	Chris Norman
Spelthorne	Denise Turner- Stewart	Richard Walsh
Surrey Heath	Bill Chapman	Denis Fuller
Tandridge	Nick Skellett	Sally Marks
Waverley	Pat Frost	Steve Renshaw
Woking	Ben Carasco	1 District / Borough Member (vacancy*)

* District / Borough Member to be nominated once the co-opted Members are appointed, and reported to County Council on 15 June 2010 for final agreement.

- (2) That the appointment of Simon Edge and Karen Heenan as the Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively of the Standards Committee be ratified.

50/10 **SURREY POLICE AUTHORITY 2010/11 (ITEM 17)**

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 2010/11:

Mr Bill Barker, Mr David Harmer, Mrs Margaret Hicks, Mrs Yvonna Lay, 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.

51/10 **REPORT OF THE CABINET (ITEM 18)**

Dr Povey presented the report of the Cabinet meeting held on 30 March and 27 April 2010.

(1) Statements / Updates from Cabinet Members

There were none.

(2) Reports for Information / Discussion

The following reports were received and noted:

- Surrey First – Establishment of a Joint Committee for the Oversight of Delivery of Surrey Public Authority Services
- Quarterly report on decisions taken under Special Urgency Arrangements – 1 January – 31 March 2010

RESOLVED:

That the report of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 30 March and 27 April 2010 be noted.

52/10 REPORT BACK ON MOTIONS REFERRED (ITEM 19)

Under Standing Order 12.6, the Council was required to consider the report.

The Chairman of the Transportation Select Committee presented the report of the joint Transportation and Safer and Stronger Communities Select Committees, in which the committees considered a motion referred to it by the Council on 23 March 2010. It was considered at its joint meeting on 28 April 2010.

After 7 Members had spoken on the referred motion, the recommendation that: 'the Council endorse the original motion and refer to Cabinet for action' was put to the vote.

17 Members voted for and 45 Members voted against it. There were 3 abstentions.

Therefore the recommendation was lost.

53/10 AMENDMENTS TO THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION – THE EXERCISE OF EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS (ITEM 20)

RESOLVED:

That the Leader's decision to delegate the approval of loans to schools to Cabinet Members be noted.

[The meeting ended at 12.30 pm]

Chairman

Item 2