

COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING - 17 MAY 2016

MINUTES of the meeting of the Council held at the Council Chamber, County Hall, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2DN on 17 May 2016 commencing at 10.00 am, the Council being constituted as follows:

Sally Marks (Chairman)

Nick Skellett CBE (Vice-Chairman)

	Mary Angell	*	Margaret Hicks
	W D Barker OBE		David Hodge
	Mrs N Barton		Saj Hussain
	Ian Beardsmore		David Ivison
	John Beckett		George Johnson
	Mike Bennison		Linda Kemeny
	Liz Bowes		Colin Kemp
*	Natalie Bramhall		Eber Kington
	Mark Brett-Warburton		Rachael I Lake
	Ben Carasco		Yvonna Lay
	Bill Chapman		Ms D Le Gal
	Helyn Clack		Mary Lewis
	Carol Coleman		Ernest Mallett MBE
	Stephen Cooksey		Mr P J Martin
	Mr S Cosser		Jan Mason
	Clare Curran		Marsha Moseley
*	Graham Ellwood		Tina Mountain
	Jonathan Essex		Mr D Munro
	Robert Evans		Christopher Norman
	Tim Evans		John Orrick
	Mel Few	*	Adrian Page
	Will Forster		Chris Pitt
	Mrs P Frost		Dorothy Ross-Tomlin
	Denis Fuller		Tony Samuels
	John Furey		Pauline Searle
	Bob Gardner		Stuart Selleck
	Mike Goodman	*	Michael Sydney
	David Goodwin		Keith Taylor
	Michael Gosling		Barbara Thomson
	Zully Grant-Duff	*	Chris Townsend
*	Ramon Gray		Richard Walsh
	Ken Gulati		Hazel Watson
	Tim Hall		Fiona White
	Kay Hammond		Richard Wilson
	Mr D Harmer		Helena Windsor
	Nick Harrison		Keith Witham
*	Marisa Heath		Mr A Young
	Peter Hickman		Mrs V Young

*absent

21/16 CHAIRMAN [Item 1]

Under the motion of Mr Martin, seconded by Mr Harrison, it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

That Mrs Sally Marks be elected Chairman of the Council for the Council Year 2016/17.

DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Mrs Marks made the statutory declaration of office and took the Chair. She expressed her thanks to the Members of the Council for electing her as Chairman for a second year.

22/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 2]

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Bramhall, Mr Ellwood, Mr Gray, Ms Heath, Mrs Hicks, Mr Page, Mr Sydney and Mr Townsend.

23/16 MINUTES [Item 3]

The minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 15 March 2016 were submitted, confirmed and signed.

24/16 ELECTION OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR [Item 4]

The Chief Executive, formally reported that Mrs Denise Turner-Stewart was duly elected as the new County Councillor for the Staines South and Ashford West division following the by-election held on 5 May 2016.

25/16 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [Item 5]

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- The new High Sheriff, Richard Whittington had been appointed at a ceremony at Guildford Cathedral on 22 March 2016 and he would be guest of honour at today's AGM ceremonial lunch.
- That, in honour of Her Majesty the Queen's 90th birthday, a letter had been sent to Her Majesty at Buckingham Palace, on behalf of the county to mark the occasion.
- Congratulations to Mr David Munro, recently elected as Surrey's Police and Crime Commissioner.
- That since the last County Council meeting, she had undertaken several visits, and highlighted the following ones:
 - 'This is Me' photography exhibition opening reception at Denbies Wine Estate on 21 March
 - Transform Housing and Support Winter Shelter open afternoon and Woking Duke of Edinburgh awards presentation on 22 March
 - Johnson's Road Sweepers, Dorking on 5 April
 - High Sheriff Youth Awards on 14 April

- The official opening of the Wooden Spoon Sensory Pod on 27 April
- Surrey Young Enterprise finals on 12 May.
- That the county of Surrey had been very fortunate to receive several recent visits from various members of the Royal family.
- The County Service at Guildford Cathedral to be held on 12 June 2016 – she reminded Members to apply for tickets.
- Also, she was hosting a fund raising dinner at Loseley Park on 13 July 2016, to support hospices throughout the county and asked for Members support.
- Finally, that nominations for the Chairman's volunteer awards should be submitted by the end of June.

26/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 6]

There were none.

27/16 VICE-CHAIRMAN [Item 7]

Upon the motion of Mr Walsh, seconded by Dr Grant-Duff, it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

That Mr Nicholas Skellett CBE be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the council year 2016/17.

DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Mr Skellett was invested by Mrs Marks with the Vice-Chairman's badge. He made the statutory declaration of office and expressed thanks to the Members of the Council for electing him as Vice-Chairman for a second year.

28/16 PUBLIC PETITION [Item 8]

In line with legislation and the Council's petition scheme, the Council has to debate a petition, if it contains more than 10,000 signatures.

An e-petition regarding Bridge Street, Guildford had received 11,390 signatures.

This petition was submitted to Guildford Borough Council in February and that Council had made the decision to forward it to Surrey County Council as the Highways Authority.

The petitioner, Mr Joe Hudson, had nominated Mr George Bowen to present it on his behalf, and he was invited to address the meeting.

He made the following points:

- He thanked Members for taking the time to receive the petition and listen to him
- The petition had received 11,390 signatures
- Bridge Street, Guildford had become infamous for the high number of accidents there over the last few years

- The petition had been started because two people had tragically lost their lives and he had spoken to the grieving families
- He had lived in Guildford as a student and considered that insufficient measures had been taken in Bridge Street to ensure that accidents did not happen because there were no barriers or traffic calming measures on this road
- It was important to ensure that no further accidents happened in the area
- He had studied the 'crash map' for the area and provided details of the traffic flow
- He proposed suggested improvements such as improvements around the Friary pedestrian crossing and the one-way gyratory system
- Acknowledgement that the police and coroner's reports were still pending
- Finally, he urged Members to find the funding to make the highway improvements to prevent further accidents.

The Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Flooding responded to the petitioner. A copy of his statement is attached as Appendix A.

Six Members spoke during the debate and made the following points:

- Condolences to the families and friends of Kat Garrett and Del Kendall for their sad loss
- Full support for the recommendation proposed by the Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Flooding
- A reference to the Guildford Master Plan and that measures were underway to improve pedestrian and cycling access in Bridge Street
- The petition had been presented to Guildford Borough Council a few weeks ago
- That road safety in Bridge Street would be included on the Economic Prosperity, Environment and Highways Board agenda for its 9 June meeting and that the Chairman of Guildford Local Committee and other key people would be invited to attend. This Board would then report its findings / recommendations back to County Council at the earliest opportunity.
- Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) funding (Enterprise M3) for Guildford was approved at the end of March
- Finally, Mr Bowen was thanked for his excellent presentation.

After the debate, Members were asked if they supported the recommendation made by the Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Flooding, that the Economic Prosperity, Environment and Highways Board scrutinise any proposed road safety improvements for Bridge Street, Guildford at their meeting in June and report back to a future County Council meeting at the earliest opportunity.

Guildford Local Committee would also be asked to scrutinise any proposals that may be introduced to improve road safety at this location.

Members agreed unanimously with the recommendation.

29/16 LEADER'S STATEMENT [Item 9]

The Leader made a detailed statement. A copy of the statement is attached as Appendix B.

Members raised the following topics:

- It was important not to forget Surrey's valuable cultural heritage and that Members were custodians of it, preserving it for future generations
- That this was the first time that the Leader's statement had focussed on Surrey's heritage, and museums in particular
- A request for information relating to this year's funding gap
- That tourism was important for Surrey's economy and that the county had a large area of outstanding natural beauty for visitors to enjoy
- The County Council had a responsibility to protect the environment
- Schools were a vital part of local communities and an update on the Government's u-turn on academies was requested
- Following the last County Council meeting, confirmation was requested on whether the Leader had written to the Prime Minister on the European Union referendum and if a response had been received
- Recognition of the work of volunteers, such as ex-engineers working with aircraft at Brooklands Museum, and Painshill
- The importance of ensuring that funding was available to protect the archives preserved by the Surrey History Centre
- A request to influence the future route of the Prudential Ride London cycle event to include Spelthorne
- Concern about the shortfall of funding for Adult Social Care Services and whether he could confirm that he was continuing to lobby Government for fairer funding for these services
- Referring to Borough / District Local Plans, the Leader was asked which body was taking an overview of their planning, particularly where building could be encroaching onto Green Belt land, and also whether there would be sufficient infrastructure in place for the additional housing
- A request for more cultural opportunities in Spelthorne
- Support for Surrey's partnership with South West Trains, to promote visitors to the county and also promoting other forms of public transport to enable people to travel around the county visiting attractions such as Watts Gallery.

30/16 ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY 2016/17 [Item 10]

The annual review of the Scheme of Political Proportionality 2016/17 was emailed to Members and tabled at the meeting. It is attached as Appendix C to these minutes.

RESOLVED (with no Member voting against):

That the committee sizes and scheme of proportionality, as set out in Annex 1 of the submitted report, be adopted for 2016/17.

31/16 APPOINTMENT OF BOARDS / COMMITTEES [Item 11]

The proposals for the appointment of Boards / Committees were emailed to Members and tabled at the meeting.

The following amendments were made at the meeting:

- Economic Prosperity, Environment and Highways Board: Ian Beardsmore to replace David Goodwin
- Planning and Regulatory Committee: Ian Beardsmore to be added as a substitute
- That the name of the Surrey Pension Fund Board should be the Surrey Pension Fund Committee.

With these amendments, the appointment of Members to Boards / Committees for the 2016/17 council year was agreed. A copy of the finalised version is attached to the minutes as Appendix D.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Members, as set out in Appendix D, be appointed to serve on the Boards and Committees of the Council for the Council Year 2016/17, 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 Boards / Committees as necessary during the Council Year, in accordance with the wishes of political groups.
3. That the County Councillors representing divisions in the Woking borough area be appointed to serve on the Woking Joint Committee for the Council Year 2016/17.
4. That the remaining County Councillors for each district/borough area be appointed to serve on the appropriate Local Committee for the Council Year 2016/17, and to authorise the Chief Executive 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.
5. That the Council's representative be appointed to the Surrey Police and Crime Panel for the Council Year 2016/17.

32/16 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN 2016/17 [Item 12]

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

RESOLVED:

1. That the Members listed below be duly elected as Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen respectively for the Boards and Committees, as shown for the Council Year 2016/17.
2. That the Chief Executive be authorised, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, to appoint the Borough's nominated Member as Vice-

Chairman of Guildford Local Committee once the co-opted Members are appointed.

BOARDS		
	Chairman	Vice-Chairman
Council Overview	Steve Cosser	Eber Kington
Social Care Services	Keith Witham	Margaret Hicks
Education and Skills	Mark Brett-Warburton	Marsha Moseley
Resident Experience	Colin Kemp	Rachael I Lake
Economic Prosperity, Environment & Highways	David Harmer	Bob Gardner
Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny	Bill Chapman	Ben Carasco
PLANNING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE		
	Tim Hall	Keith Taylor
AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE		
	Stuart Selleck	Denis Fuller
PEOPLE, PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE		
	David Hodge	Peter Martin
SURREY PENSION FUND COMMITTEE		
	Denise Le Gal	Alan Young

LOCAL COMMITTEES		
DISTRICT	CHAIRMAN	VICE-CHAIRMAN
Elmbridge	Margaret Hicks	Mike Bennison
Epsom & Ewell	Eber Kington	John Beckett
Guildford	Keith Taylor	Borough to Appoint
Mole Valley	Tim Hall	Clare Curran
Reigate & Banstead	Dorothy Ross-Tomlin	Barbara Thomson
Runnymede	Yvonna Lay	Mary Angell
Spelthorne	Denise Saliagopoulos	Denise Turner Stewart
Surrey Heath	David Ivison	Chris Pitt
Tandridge	Nick Skellett	Michael Sydney
Waverley	Pat Frost	Victoria Young

Woking Joint Committee	Liz Bowes	Borough to appoint
-------------------------------	-----------	--------------------

33/16 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME [Item 13]

Notice of 11 questions had been received. The questions and replies are attached as Appendix E.

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

(Q1) Mr Essex asked the Leader of the Council whether 'countries' also included UK overseas territories and was advised that this was correct.

(Q3) Mrs Watson asked the Cabinet Member for Children and Families Wellbeing if she would agree that this underspend on youth services could be transferred to youth centres to provide more activities for young people. The Cabinet Member responded by stating that Children, Schools and Families Directorate took a 'whole system approach' to its services and budget and overall there was an overspend, partly due to service priorities relating to recruitment and retention of social workers and the on-going work of the Children Services Improvement Plan. The Leader of the Council also said that the accounts for the financial year 2015/16 had now closed and there had been no request for a carry forward for this underspend.

(Q4) Mrs Angell did not consider that Surrey Library Service had a good working relationship with New Haw Community Partnered Library (CPL) and asked the following supplementary questions:

- i. she considered that the response relating to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was unsatisfactory because it had been outstanding for over two years and it was unrealistic to expect a ten day turn around,
- ii. she was disappointed with the differing timescales for photocopiers,
- iii. she asked the Cabinet Member for confirmation that the minutes that he had agreed to provide would inform the CPL who, why and where the cuts would be made and why there had been no CPL involvement,
- iv. she asked for an undertaking that in future, any decision would be taken in conjunction with the CPL
- v. finally, she invited the Cabinet Member to attend the CPL's Annual General Meeting on 2 June.

The Cabinet Member for Localities and Community Wellbeing said that he would provide a written response outside the meeting.

(Also Q4) Mrs Young raised the issue of timely and transparent information at Bramley CPL and asked for assurance from the Cabinet Member that, in future, this would be the case. Mr Essex asked whether it was an appropriate time to undertake a review by the Resident Experience Board on whether CPLs were working effectively.

The Cabinet Member provided assurance to Mrs Young in relation to her concerns, and in relation to Mr Essex suggestion, he confirmed that the library service continually reviewed its work with CPLs to ascertain where improvements could be made.

(Q5) Mrs White asked the Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Flooding whether local committees would be given the opportunity to discuss the type of treatment given to the repair of pavements. The Cabinet Member confirmed that it would be open for debate but in the first year of operation it was a question of available funding, plus the type of surface would also be dependent on highways officers' advice.

(Q6) Mrs Windsor praised the facilities at St Piers School and College in Lingfield and requested that the Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Educational Achievement bore this in mind when considering placements for SEND children and young people. The Cabinet Member said that this school was within the non-maintained and independent sector and referred to the SEND 2020 strategy, which was to make Surrey schools more inclusive in the future.

(Q7) Mr Mallett asked the Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Educational Achievement what mechanism was in place for cross-checking the appointment of various school governors. **Mr Robert Evans** also drew the Cabinet Member's attention to what he considered was a flawed system for the appointment of Local Authority governors to schools and asked if there were any guidelines from Babcock 4S on this matter. The Cabinet Member stated that all appointments at Surrey schools were undertaken by Babcock 4S, although currently this does not include academies. She invited Mr Evans to send her details of any issues.

(Q8) Mrs Mason requested a statement from Surrey Highways, providing an explanation of delayed works on the Project Horizon programme. The Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Flooding was not convinced that this would be a good use of officer time and said that, as stated in his written answer, Members would be having a briefing later this week where there would be a full update of schemes completed, removed and still to be done.

(Q9) Mr Kington asked the Leader of the Council to provide the cost of officer time at this County Council meeting, rather than the number of hours, which he agreed to do. However, the Leader of the Council did reiterate that the Constitution stated that the authority was required to hold an Annual General meeting and that it was right and proper that it was attended by officers.

(Q10) Mr Essex asked for more details in relation to the number of SEN school places and also whether there were any SEND children travelling to schools outside Surrey. The Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Educational Achievement said that she could provide more information directly to Mr Essex outside the meeting, if he requested it.

(Q11) Mr Robert Evans referred to a recent residents' meeting that he had attended and their concern that the recent changes made at Community Recycling Centres would result in increased fly tipping in Spelthorne. The Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning said that the County Council was proud of the quality of its recycling service and that changes had saved residents £1.8m on this budget. He reminded Members that fly tipping was a criminal act, referred to the fly tipping prevention strategy currently being produced and said that the information campaign for residents would start in June. **Mrs Turner-Stewart** said that residents needed more information and clarification on this matter and asked if details could be included in a future issue of Surrey Matters, to which the Cabinet Member agreed.

34/16 STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS [Item 14]

Mr Kington made a statement relating to the contribution made by parent governors at state funded school governing bodies in his division.

35/16 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION [Item 15]

This report set out changes to the executive and non-executive functions, in the Scheme of Delegation and specifically referred to new delegations relating to the Woking Joint Committee.

Members were invited to comment on the report. Mr Carasco requested clarification of the section relating to public questions and statements (Section 14.2 of the Woking Joint Committee's Constitution), parts of which he felt were contradictory.

The Chairman considered that this was a matter for the Woking Joint Committee to clarify and proposed that it was referred back to that committee for discussion, which was agreed by the Chairman of Woking Joint Committee.

RESOLVED:

1. That the changes to the appointment of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Woking Joint Committee be approved so that both

positions are appointed for two year period with the presumption that the chairmanship will rotate between the Borough Council and the County Council.

2. That the amendments to the Woking Joint Committee Constitution agreed by the Leader be noted.

36/16 REPORT OF THE CABINET [Item 16]

The Leader presented the report of the Cabinet meetings held on 22 March and 26 April 2016.

Reports for Information / Discussion

That the following reports were received and noted:

- Health and Social Care Integration
- Quarterly Report on Decisions taken under Special Urgency Arrangements (January – March 2016)

RESOLVED:

That the report of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 22 March and 26 April 2016 be adopted.

37/16 WELLBEING AND HEALTH SCRUTINY BOARD [Item 17]

The Chairman of the Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny Board presented this report. He thanked officers and Members of the Board who had taken part in Member Reference Groups.

He also drew Members' attention to the NHS Five Year Forward View and said that there would now be targets for treatment for Mental Health issues.

RESOLVED:

That the report of the Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny Board be noted.

38/16 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE CABINET [Item 18]

No notification had been received from Members wishing to raise a question or make a statement on any of the matters in the minutes, by the deadline.