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Agenda and Reports
for the meeting of
THE COUNTY COUNCIL
to be held on
16 MARCH 2021

(i)

(ii)

Woodhatch Place
Reigate
Surrey

Monday, 8 March 2021

TO THE MEMBERS OF SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

SUMMONS TO MEETING

You are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of the Council to be held remotely via Microsoft Teams, on Tuesday, 16 March 2021, beginning at 10.00 am, for the purpose of transacting the business specified in the Agenda set out overleaf.

JOANNA KILLIAN
Chief Executive

Please note that due to the COVID-19 situation this meeting will take place remotely.

Please be aware that a link to view a live recording of the meeting will be available on the Council page on the Surrey County Council website.

This page can be accessed by following the link below:

<https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CIId=121&Year=0>

If you have any queries relating to accessing this agenda please email

amelia.christopher@surreycc.gov.uk

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chairman to report apologies for absence.

2 MINUTES

(Pages
11 - 44)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9 February 2021.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Members present are required to declare, at this point in the meeting or as soon as possible thereafter

- (i) Any disclosable pecuniary interests and / or
- (ii) Other interests arising under the Code of Conduct in respect of any item(s) of business being considered at this meeting

NOTES:

- Members are reminded that they must not participate in any item where they have a disclosable pecuniary interest
- As well as an interest of the Member, this includes any interest, of which the Member is aware, that relates to the Member's spouse or civil partner (or any person with whom the Member is living as a spouse or civil partner)
- Members with a significant personal interest may participate in the discussion and vote on that matter unless that interest could be reasonably regarded as prejudicial.

4 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome everyone to today's Council Meeting - I hope you and your loved ones are all safe and well.

Farewell and Thank You

Today is our final meeting of this Council Year 2020/21 as the next meeting will be our AGM in May, following the local elections, at which we will see many new faces.

A number of you have decided against standing for re-election so I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge and heartfelt 'thank you' for your tremendous service over the years. What a difference to Surrey and our residents you have made – perhaps none more so than during this last, extraordinary year.

I hope you all look back at your time with Surrey County Council with happiness and pride at all that you have achieved.

We would love you to keep in touch with us; please do pass your new contact details on to my office so that we can keep you informed of civic events and updates: chairmans.office@surreycc.gov.uk.

Thank you for your service and dedication - you will be much missed.

Brighter times ahead – we hope

After a rather difficult start to the year, things are certainly looking up and, as a country, we seem to be heading in the right direction. Our vaccination programme is running at pace and the number of cases in every district and borough is dropping.

Of course, we must not get complacent and take our foot off the pedal; it is vital that everyone continues to follow the rules. We know from the end of last year just how quickly things can turn.

We are nearly there - please stay strong to keep everyone safe.

5 LEADER'S STATEMENT

The Leader to make a statement.

There will be an opportunity for Members to ask questions and/or make comments.

6 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

1. The Leader of the Council or the appropriate Member of the Cabinet or the Chairman of a Committee to answer any questions on any matter relating to the powers and duties of the County Council, or which affects the county.

(Note: Notice of questions in respect of the above item on the agenda must be given in writing, preferably by e-mail, to Democratic Services by 12 noon on 10 March 2021).

2. Cabinet Member Briefings on their portfolios.

These will be circulated by email to all Members prior to the County Council meeting, together with the Members' questions and responses.

There will be an opportunity for Members to ask questions.

7 STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Any Member may make a statement at the meeting on a local issue of current or future concern.

(Note: Notice of statements must be given in writing, preferably by e-mail, to Democratic Services by 12 noon on Monday 15 March 2021).

8 ORIGINAL MOTIONS

Item 8 (i)

Dr Andrew Povey (Cranleigh & Ewhurst) to move under standing order 11 as follows:

This Council notes that:

Given the number of residents volunteering during the current pandemic, Surrey County Council will build on this and the previous Government's

work on the Big Society.

It further recognises the importance of encouraging the ongoing volunteering by residents in a range of activities of benefit to our communities.

The Council resolves to:

- I. Work with other public sector bodies to promote volunteering and its benefits.
- II. Work with the voluntary, community and faith organisations and employers as an element of our 'no-one left behind strategy' to encourage volunteering.
- III. Publicise the benefits of volunteering to the individual, society and our local communities.

Item 8 (ii)

Mr Robert Evans (Stanwell and Stanwell Moor) to move under standing order 11 as follows:

This Council notes that:

It formally places on record its sincere thanks to all those workers, directly and indirectly employed by Surrey for their extraordinary efforts during the current COVID-19 crisis.

From the Council's own dedicated employees to the hard-working teachers and other staff in schools, Surrey recognises that many people have worked very long hours, not just to continue their existing role but to diversify and innovate.

Health service staff are at the forefront of saving lives, but care home workers, the Surrey Fire and Rescue Service and countless other people, including many community volunteers, are displaying remarkable courage in the face of great adversity and unforeseen challenges.

The Council resolves that:

- I. It hereby applauds and thanks each one for their remarkable contribution in this year of crisis.

Item 8 (iii)

Mr Matt Furniss (Shalford) to move under standing order 11 as follows:

This Council notes that:

Following the last Council meeting, I wrote to the Mayor of London on behalf of this Council to express our strong feelings against the proposed new Greater London Boundary Charge that would penalise Surrey and other counties' residents bordering London.

London is not an island and must take into consideration the impact on its neighbours. Surrey County Council and the Mayor of London need to work together to tackle congestion, to move toward net zero carbon and to enhance the prosperity of the region by working together.

However, it is clear from the response that Transport for London (TfL) is initially looking at a £3.50 daily charge, with a possible higher charge (£5.50) for the most polluting vehicles.

This charge would impact between 57,000 and 61,000 residents on a typical working day based on 2011 and 2019 data. Whilst this levy, as the Mayor's Office says, could be earmarked to support sustainable travel in boundary borough, there is no mention that this money would be invested in cross-border improvements.

Surrey residents and taxpayers have already bailed out London's TfL for the second time through the Government's generous settlements in 2020. Surrey and other bordering counties' residents should not have to bear extra financial penalties for the London Mayor's mismanagement of TfL's finances.

The Council resolves to:

- I. Oppose any Greater London Boundary Charge or charge on entering London to work that targets non-London residents.

Item 8 (iv)

Mr Will Forster (Woking South) to move under standing order 11 as follows:

This Council notes that:

The shift to Microsoft Teams meetings has enabled Council business to continue during the pandemic and that Members and staff have adapted admirably to this change in practice.

There are some definite advantages to holding remote meetings such as increased participation from the public and members and reduced road congestion and carbon emissions. It also saves the council money and enables those with caring responsibilities to attend when travelling a distance would have been an obstacle. It would therefore be beneficial to have the choice to continue to hold these remote meetings where appropriate, after the current temporary measures have lapsed.

Some Members may prefer meeting in person whilst acknowledging that remote meetings do have their place.

It is essential for Members to understand their obligations with regard to meeting attendance be it in person or online.

The Council resolves to:

- I. Write to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) urging that the temporary change to the

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meeting rules set out in the Local Government Act 1972 be made permanent so that after May we have the flexibility to hold meetings remotely or in person or by using a combination of the two.

- II. Write to Surrey's Members of Parliament, as well as Surrey's Borough, District, Town and Parish Councils asking for support for this flexible approach to council meetings.
- III. Request that the members of the Audit and Governance Committee assess the pros and cons of holding remote/hybrid/in person meetings and make recommendations as appropriate to which Council/committee meetings must be held in person and which could continue to be held remotely.
- IV. Once our request is successful, to explore the use of technology to develop remote meetings in order to attract an even wider audience.

Item 8 (v)

Mr Chris Botten (Caterham Hill) to move under standing order 11 as follows:

This Council notes that:

The economy of Surrey relies significantly on workers from the European Union (EU) in the care and health sectors, in construction and hospitality and other areas vital to our communities.

EU nationals from the 27 EU member states are part of our shared communities alongside United Kingdom (UK) citizens. They are our husbands, wives, partners, parents, friends, neighbours and colleagues.

This Council further notes that:

Since 2016 EU nationals have been promised again and again that "there will be no change for EU citizens already lawfully resident in the UK and [they...] will be treated no less favourably than they are at present".

Home Office figures (as of Dec 2020) reveal that 4,800 people in Surrey are still waiting for a decision on their Settled Status application.

27,320 people in Surrey have only been granted temporary 'Pre-Settled Status'. That means a total of 32,120 applicants in Surrey have still not been given the permanent right to stay.

The Council resolves to:

- I. Recognise the valuable contribution EU citizens make to Surrey, acknowledging that they are an integral part of our community and without them the Council would struggle to deliver its services.
- II. Write to the Home Office and Surrey's Members of Parliament urging them to grant EU citizens living locally the automatic right to stay in the UK.

- 9 REVIEW OF SELECT COMMITTEE TASK GROUP LEAD ROLE - REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL** (Pages 45 - 56)
- Council is invited to consider the Independent Remuneration Panel's report on the review of the Select Committee Task Group Role and the Panel's resulting recommendations.
- 10 ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL - MEMBER DEVELOPMENT** (Pages 57 - 62)
- This report provides an annual overview of the Council's approach to Member development, so that Members can be assured that the current approach is sufficient, equitable and effective.
- 11 CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES - REMOTE MEETINGS** (Pages 63 - 70)
- A report to consider arrangements for Council decision making post 7 May 2021 if regulations to hold remote meetings are not extended by that date or if new legislation is not in force.
- 12 REVISED COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT - AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE: REPORT OF THE MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT TASK GROUP** (Pages 71 - 88)
- That Council approves the Audit and Governance Committee's report of the Member Code of Conduct Task Group following revisions made since the report was last taken to Council on 9 February 2021.
- 13 REPORT OF THE CABINET** (Pages 89 - 92)
- To receive the report of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 23 February 2021.
- 14 MINUTES OF CABINET MEETINGS** (Pages 93 - 112)
- Any matters within the minutes of the Cabinet's meetings, and not otherwise brought to the Council's attention in the Cabinet's report, may be the subject of questions and statements by Members upon notice being given to Democratic Services by 12 noon on Monday 15 March 2021.