

Minutes of the meeting of the
Guildford JOINT COMMITTEE
held at 7.00 pm on 29 June 2022
at Council Chamber, Guildford Borough Council, Millmead House, Millmead,
Guildford GU2 4BB.

These minutes are subject to confirmation by the Committee at its next meeting.

Committee Members:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Co. Cllr. Fiona White (Chairman)Bo. Cllr. David Goodwin (Vice-Chairman)Co. Cllr. Colin Cross* Co. Cllr. Fiona DavidsonCo. Cllr. Matt FurnissCo. Cllr. Angela GoodwinBo. Cllr Jan Harwood* Co. Cllr. Robert HughesBo. Cllr. Steven Lee* Co. Cllr. Julia McShane* Co. Cllr. Carla Morson* Bo. Cllr. Ramsey Nagaty* Co. Cllr. George PotterBo. Cllr John RiggBo. Cllr Tony Rooth* Bo. Cllr. Deborah Seabrook* Bo. Cllr Paul SpoonerBo. Cllr. James Steel* Bo. Cllr. Cait TaylorCo. Cllr. Keith Witham

* In attendance

1/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 1]

Apologies were received from Cllr Furniss, Cllr Lee, Cllr Rigg, Cllr Steel, Cllr Rooth and Cllr Witham. Cllr A Goodwin and Cllr D Goodwin attended virtually.

2/22 MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 2]

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2022 were agreed.

3/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 3]

There were no declarations of interest.

4/22 PETITIONS [Item 4]

No petitions were received.

5/22 MEMBER WRITTEN QUESTIONS [Item 5]

No questions were received.

6/22 PUBLIC WRITTEN QUESTIONS [Item 6]

No questions were received.

7/22 DECISION TRACKER [FOR INFORMATION] [Item 7]

The Chairman asked the Committee Officer to follow up Item 14 on the Decision Tracker to see what the timeline was for the discussions on reviewing parking permits for carers.

The decision tracker was noted.

8/22 GUILDFORD TOWN CENTRE AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA - ACTION PLAN (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION FOR DECISION) [Item 8]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officers attending: Gary Durrant, Senior Specialist – Environmental Protection, Environment and Regulatory Services, Guildford Borough Council; Justine Fuller, Head of Environment and Regulatory Services, Guildford Borough Council

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Member Discussion – key points:

The Chairman thanked the officers for their detailed report. Mr Durrant provided some context: Formal declaration of the Air Quality Management Area was made to DEFRA on 21st October 2021. 30 measures were identified to help reduce the exceedance, with five key ones that it was felt would provide the most significant improvement in air quality identified in the report. This would be the first time many have been implemented in Surrey, therefore it would be difficult to predict accurately the level of their impact. Borough officers from Environmental Health, Transport, Parking and Planning along with county council officers had worked closely in considering the implications of the AQMA and how to tackle it; improving the air quality in the area will have significant Public Health implications.

Points raised during the discussion included:

- The length of the consultation
- The possibility of traffic displacement
- The extent of proposed 20mph zones in Holy Trinity ward and Onslow
- Enforcement of HGV bans
- The need to coordinate work and discuss prioritisation with SCC to tie in with EV charging projects and the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan
- The contribution of Park & Ride to the plan
- Addressing anti-idling near the railway station and Waitrose
- Potential funding for implementation

Officers agreed to review the consultation period, bearing in mind the deadline in the autumn for preparing the follow-up report, when the results of the consultation would be presented to this committee. Reassurance was

given that the consultation was fully prepared and ready to launch on 1st July; the borough's Communications team would be helping to promote it.

Following the consultation process the chosen measures would then need to have a feasibility assessment. It is likely that a combination of measures would be the most effective approach. Because the exceedance had been identified as traffic related, some of the measures would sit within the county council's remit to implement.

The 20mph zone boundaries were indicative at the moment and could be adjusted following the collection of evidence to indicate possible traffic displacement. Officers undertook to circulate the results of traffic monitoring in Holy Trinity ward along with a link to modelling results from 2019.

There is a parking app in use already, to help people find the most suitable parking place and avoid driving around trying to find one. It would be reviewed for ease of use and effectiveness, and promoted to make sure the take up of it is as wide as possible.

The Chairman emphasised that the October meeting of this committee would be its last scheduled meeting. The AQAP was due to return to the committee at that point, so it was important for the consultation to have concluded successfully in time for officers to prepare their report so that it can be reported locally.

Note: Following this meeting, officers extended the consultation period, which will now run from 1600h on Friday 1st July to 2400h on Wednesday 3rd August.

Resolved:

The Joint Committee (Guildford):

- (i) Approved a 4-week public consultation on the Air Quality Action Plan for Guildford Air Quality Management Area shown in Appendix 2.
- (ii) Noted that the results of the public consultation and any consequent amendments will be presented to the 26 October 2022 Joint Committee and if approved will be sent to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) for final approval.

Reasons for Recommendations:

To ensure the Council meets its statutory duties to adopt an Air Quality Action Plan to improve air quality within the AQMA in Guildford Town Centre.

9/22 MEMBERSHIP OF PARKING AND AIR QUALITY WORKING GROUP (FOR DECISION) [Item 9]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officer attending: Gregory Yeoman, Partnership Committee Officer

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Member Discussion – key points:

The Chairman explained that with the Joint Committee no longer handling parking and highways, the terms of reference for the working group needed revising. There were also two spaces available on the group for membership from among the Guildford Borough Council members Cllr Seabrook put herself forward and was accepted. In the absence of a second volunteer the Chairman asked local Group leaders to canvass their members for a nomination. She stressed the importance of the working group, particularly in light of the Town Centre Air Quality discussion in the earlier item.

Resolved:

The Joint Committee (Guildford) agreed:

- (i) The revised terms of reference of the Parking & Air Quality working group
- (ii) The membership of the Parking & Air Quality working group, as detailed at paragraphs 2.1 to 2.8, **with the addition of Cllr Seabrook.**

Reasons for Recommendations:

Good governance practice requires that the Committee reviews membership arrangements regularly to ensure that representation on the committee, working groups and partnerships is fair and provides the best outcomes for the interests of Guildford borough residents.

10/22 FORWARD PLAN (FOR INFORMATION) [Item 10]

Declarations of Interest: None

Officer attending: Gregory Yeoman, Partnership Committee Officer

Petitions, Public Questions, Statements: None

Member Discussion – key points:

The A25 bus lane item was removed from the forward plan.

There was enthusiasm for a discussion on the Park & Ride provision and it was agreed that this should be covered in an informal meeting to be arranged by the officer.

The forward plan was noted.

11/22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING [Item 11]

26 October 2022.

Meeting ended at: 8.07 pm

Chairman