

COUNTY COUNCIL
ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING – 21 MAY 2013

MINUTES of the Meeting of the County Council held at the County Hall, Kingston upon Thames on Tuesday 21 May 2013 commencing at 10:30am, the Council being constituted as follows:

Mrs Angell		Mr Jenkins
Mr Barker OBE		Mr Johnson
Mrs Barton		Mrs Kemeny
Mr Beardsmore		Mr Kemp
Mr Beckett		Mr Kington
Mr Bennison		Mrs Lake
* Mrs Bowes		Mrs Lallement
* Mrs Bramhall		Mrs Lay
Mr Brett-Warburton	*	Ms Le Gal
Mr Carasco		Mrs Lewis
Mr Chapman		Mr Mahne
Mrs Clack		Mr Mallett MBE
Mrs Coleman		Mrs Marks
Mr Cooksey		Mr Martin
Mr Cosser		Mrs Mason
Mrs Curran		Mrs Moseley
Mr Ellwood		Mrs Mountain
Mr Essex		Mr Munro
Mr Robert Evans		Mr Norman
Mr Tim Evans		Mr Orrick
Mr Few		Mr Page
Mr Forster		Mr Pitt
Mrs Frost		Mrs Ross-Tomlin
Mr Fuller		Mrs Saliagopoulos
Mr Furey		Mr Samuels
Mr Gardner		Mrs Searle
Mr Goodman		Mr Selleck
Mr Goodwin		* Mr Skellett CBE
Mr Gosling	*	Mr Sydney
Dr Grant-Duff	*	Mr Keith Taylor
Mr Gulati		Ms Thomson
Mr Hall		Mr Townsend
Mrs Hammond		Mr Walsh
Mr Harmer		Mrs Watson
Mr Harrison		Mrs White
Ms Heath		Mr Wilson
Mr Hickman		Mrs Windsor
Mrs Hicks		Mr Witham
Mr Hodge		Mr Young
Mr Hussain		Mrs Young
Mr Ivison		

*absent

31/13 CHAIRMAN [Item 1]

Upon the motion of Mr David Hodge, seconded by Mr Nick Harrison, it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

That Mr David Munro be elected Chairman of the Council for the council year 2013/14.

32/13 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE [Item]

Mr Munro 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.

33/13 MINUTES [Item 2]

The minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 19 March 2013 were submitted, confirmed and signed.

34/13 ELECTION OF COUNTY COUNCILLORS [Item 3]

The Chief Executive, as County Returning Officer, formally reported the return of the County Councillors at the Elections held on 2 May 2013 for each of the 81 Divisions in the County.

35/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [Item 4]

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Bowes, Mrs Bramhall, Mrs Lay, Mr Skellett and Mr Sydney.

36/13 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [Item 5]

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- That the first award of the new Council had already been received – an award for the 'Best Council to do Business with' had been presented to the Leader and Deputy Leader at 10 Downing Street, by Lord Young, the Prime Minister's Advisor for Enterprise and Eric Pickles, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.
- Coronation Service – this service, to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's 60th anniversary of ascension to the throne, would be held at Guildford Cathedral on Sunday 9 June. All Members were invited to attend.
- The Surrey County Show would be taking place on Monday 27 May and Members were invited to apply for complimentary tickets.
- As part of the ongoing Member Induction, a marketplace, covering a range of services and projects would be taking place in the Grand Hall, this afternoon. Members were encouraged to drop in.

37/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 6]

There were none.

38/13 VICE-CHAIRMAN [Item 7]

Upon the motion of Mr Peter Martin, seconded by Mrs Fiona White, it was unanimously:

RESOLVED:

That Mrs Sally Marks be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the council year 2013/14.

39/13 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE [Item]

Mrs Marks was invested by Mr Munro 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.

40/13 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 and Independent Groups and Mrs Hicks 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 Lavinia Sealy during her tenure of office as Chairman of the Council from 11 May 2011 to 21 May 2013.

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

41/13 ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL [Item 9]

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

RESOLVED:

That Mr David Hodge be elected Leader of the Council for a four year term, expiring on the day of the post election annual meeting in 2017.

42/13 LEADER'S STATEMENT [Item 10]

The Leader made a detailed statement (Appendix A), including the announcement of the re-appointment of Mr Peter Martin as his Deputy Leader and that he would be bringing back all Members of his previous Cabinet, although some would be responsible for different roles. He

also said that he was appointing 4 Cabinet Associates to support the Cabinet Members in their duties. Details of all these appointments were tabled at the meeting (Appendix B).

Members were invited to make comments and ask questions. They made the following points:

- Concern about the financial challenges facing the Council and whether the council tax may need to be increased significantly.
- Highways – Project Horizon was a step in the right direction but would not solve all the highways issues.
- Lack of school places continued to be an issue.
- Community Libraries were unpopular.
- Consider freezing council tax and using some of the funds from the Reserves and Balances to do this.
- Impressed by the Leader's commitment to seek a clean and litter free county. However, as the A3 / M3 were the responsibility of the Highways Agency, there was a need to engage with them to address this issue.
- Welcome involvement of local committees in relation to their local schools.
- The introduction of Superfast Broadband had been welcomed by rural electors and it was hoped that on completion of the programme, the County Council would have the best service in the country.
- Project Horizon was an exciting initiative – further details would be announced over the next few weeks.
- Recognition of the County's large investment in schools but would Central Government also be contributing additional funds.

43/13 AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION [Item 11]

A supplementary agenda was circulated to Members on 15 May 2013, with an amended version of the annexe to this item, setting out the remits for the select committees for 2013/14.

Members made the following points:

- Concern about the merging of Children & Families and the Education Select Committees. A request was made to review this decision and possibly consider expanding the membership of this committee.
- Clarification of the role of the Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- That the opposition groups had no input and had not been involved in these proposals.
- Noted that the Terms of Reference for the Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee included the role to hold the Leader / Deputy Leader to account.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the merger of the existing Children & Families and Education Select Committees to form a new Children and Education Select Committee be approved.
- (2) That the revised Article 7 of the Constitution, as set out in Annexe 1, be approved.

44/13 ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY 2013/14 [Item 12]

RESOLVED (with no Member voting against):

That the Committee sizes and scheme of proportionality for 2013/14 as set out in the scheme, attached at Annex 1 of the submitted report, be adopted.

45/13 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES [Item 13]

The proposals for the appointment of committees were tabled at the meeting and are attached as Appendix C.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Members, as set out in Appendix C, be appointed to serve on the Committees of the Council for the Council year 2013/14 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 2013/14, and 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.
- (4) That the Chief Executive be authorised to appoint the co-opted Members of the Surrey Pension Fund Board, following nominations from each stakeholder group.

46/13 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN 2013/14 [Item 14]

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

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Members listed below be elected as Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees, as shown, for the council year 2013/14.
- (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 Woking Local Committee once the co-opted Members are appointed.

SELECT COMMITTEES		
	Chairman	Vice-Chairman
Council Overview & Scrutiny	Nick Skellett	Eber Kington
Adult Social Care	Keith Witham	Margaret Hicks
Children & Education	Zully Grant-Duff	Denis Fuller
Communities	Denise Saliagopoulos	Chris Norman
Environment & Transport	David Harmer	Mike Bennison
Health Scrutiny	Bill Chapman	Ben Carasco
PLANNING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE		
	Keith Taylor	Tim Hall
AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE		
	Nick Harrison	Bill Barker
PEOPLE, PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE		
	David Hodge	Peter Martin
SURREY PENSION FUND BOARD		
	Denise LeGal	Nick Skellett

LOCAL COMMITTEES		
DISTRICT	CHAIRMAN	VICE-CHAIRMAN
Elmbridge	Margaret Hicks	Mike Bennison
Epsom & Ewell	Eber Kington	John Beckett
Guildford	Mark Brett-Warburton	Bill Barker
Mole Valley	Clare Curran	Tim Hall
Reigate & Banstead	Dorothy Ross-Tomlin	Kay Hammond
Runnymede	Chris Norman	Yvonna Lay
Spelthorne	Richard Walsh	Denise Saliagopoulos
Surrey Heath	David Ivison	Chris Pitt
Tandridge	Michael Sydney	Nick Skellett
Waverley	Pat Frost	David Harmer
Woking	Liz Bowes	<i>1 Borough Member (vacancy*)</i>

47/13 APPOINTMENTS TO JOINT COMMITTEES [Item 15]

The proposals for appointments to joint committees were tabled at the meeting.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Dorothy Ross-Tomlin be appointed to the Surrey Police and Crime Panel for the Council Year 2013/14.
- (2) That Mr Carasco, Mrs Kemeny, Mr Kemp and Mr Pitt be appointed to the Basingstoke Canal Joint Management Committee for a four year term, expiring on the day of the county council election in 2017.

48/13 REPORT OF THE CABINET [Item 16]

The Leader presented the report of the Cabinet's meetings held on 26 March and 23 April 2013.

(1) Statements / Updates from Cabinet Members

None were received.

(2) Reports for Information / Discussion

The following reports were received and noted:

- Strengthening the Council's Approach to Innovation: Update on our Innovation Journey
- Strengthening the Council's Approach to Innovation: Models of Delivery
- Children's Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Plan 2013 / 2014
- Quarterly Report on Decisions taken under Special Urgency Arrangements – 1 January 2013 to 31 March 2013

RESOLVED:

That the report of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 26 March and 23 April 2013 be adopted.

49/13 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE CABINET [Item 17]

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.

[Meeting ended at: 12.30pm]

Chairman