

## GUILDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Guildford Borough Council held at Millmead House, Millmead, Guildford, Surrey GU2 4BB on Tuesday 10 October 2017

- \* Councillor Nigel Manning (Mayor)
- \* Councillor Mike Parsons (Deputy Mayor)

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|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| * Councillor David Bilbé            | * Councillor Jennifer Jordan    |
| * Councillor Richard Billington     | * Councillor Nigel Kearse       |
| * Councillor Philip Brooker         | * Councillor Sheila Kirkland    |
| * Councillor Adrian Chandler        | * Councillor Julia McShane      |
| * Councillor Alexandra Chesterfield | * Councillor Bob McShee         |
| * Councillor Nils Christiansen      | * Councillor Marsha Moseley     |
| * Councillor Colin Cross            | * Councillor Nikki Nelson-Smith |
| * Councillor Geoff Davis            | * Councillor Susan Parker       |
| * Councillor Graham Ellwood         | * Councillor Dennis Paul        |
| * Councillor David Elms             | * Councillor Tony Phillips      |
| * Councillor Matt Furniss           | * Councillor Mike Piper         |
| * Councillor Andrew Gomm            | * Councillor David Quelch       |
| * Councillor Angela Goodwin         | Councillor Jo Randall           |
| * Councillor David Goodwin          | * Councillor David Reeve        |
| * Councillor Murray Grubb Jnr       | * Councillor Caroline Reeves    |
| * Councillor Angela Gunning         | * Councillor Iseult Roche       |
| * Councillor Gillian Harwood        | * Councillor Tony Rooth         |
| * Councillor Liz Hogger             | * Councillor Matthew Sarti      |
| * Councillor Christian Holliday     | * Councillor Pauline Searle     |
| * Councillor Liz Hooper             | * Councillor Paul Spooner       |
| * Councillor Mike Hurdle            | * Councillor James Walsh        |
| * Councillor Michael Illman         | * Councillor Jenny Wicks        |
| * Councillor Gordon Jackson         | * Councillor David Wright       |

\*Present

Honorary Aldermen B Parke and T Patrick were also in attendance.

The Council stood in silent tribute to the memory of Honorary Freeman Bill Bellerby MBE, who had passed away on 19 September 2017.

### **CO45 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jo Randall, from Honorary Freeman Jen Powell and from Honorary Aldermen K Childs, Mrs C F Cobley, Mrs C F P Griffin, Mrs M Lloyd-Jones, J Marks, and L Strudwick.

### **CO46 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of interest.

### **CO47 MINUTES**

The Council confirmed, as a correct record, the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25 July 2017. The Mayor signed the minutes.

## **CO48 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

### His Honour Christopher Critchlow

The Mayor had great pleasure in conveying the Council's thanks and good wishes to His Honour Christopher Critchlow, who had served with distinction as Honorary Recorder of Guildford, from October 2010 to July 2017, and presenting to him a small gift.

### Kazuo Ishiguro

On behalf of the Council, the Mayor congratulated well-known novelist, and former resident of Guildford, Kazuo Ishiguro, who had recently been awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature for 2017.

### Forthcoming charitable events

The Mayor drew attention to a number of forthcoming charitable events to raise money for the British Heart Foundation and the Mayor's Distress Fund.

## **CO49 LEADER'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Leader paid tribute to the huge contribution that the late Honorary Freeman Bill Bellerby MBE had made to the Borough and its residents over so many years, and indicated that the Council would be investigating options for the erection of a permanent memorial to both Bill and Doreen Bellerby.

## **CO50 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr George Dokimakis addressed the Council meeting in tribute to Bill and Doreen Bellerby.

The Leader of the Council responded to the statement.

## **CO51 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Councillor Susan Parker asked the Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Matt Furniss, the following question:

*"May I ask the Deputy Leader to please explain the financial implications of the proposals in the Twinning and International Relationships report (see Item 8 on the Council agenda), including:*

- (1) Will there be any promotion of investment in property within the Guildford area as part of this delegation's activities?*
- (2) What is the policy on publicising inward property investment? Given paragraph 7.2 (e) of the report, noting that one of the potential benefits is deemed to be "To promote Guildford and the UK as a destination for investment" will the Council's representatives confirm that they will not be encouraging inward property investment from Chinese investors to the Guildford area?*
- (3) How will accommodation and entertainment be paid for? Is this included in the budget of £5,000 as mentioned in paragraph 12.3 of the report?*
- (4) Will councillors receive any airmiles personally as a result of this trip?*
- (5) Given anecdotal comment on a culture of gift exchange within China, please explain the cost of any proposed gifts to be provided by the Guildford delegation, together with the policy on any gifts received by our delegation."*

The Deputy Leader's response was as follows:

- “(1) In response to part (1) of the question: The Council delegation will not be initiating any discussion on residential property investment.*
- (2) In response to part (2) of the question: We do not have a policy on publicising inward property investment.*
- (3) In response to part (3) of the question: The cost of accommodation and meals is included within the revised figures set out in the Supplementary information referred to on page 4 of the Order Paper, or will be met by Dongying Municipal Government when the delegation visits the city on 15 and 16 October 2017. The schedule for the visit is extremely full with very little time for entertainment or non-business activities, but any personal expenditure will be met by individual delegates themselves.*
- (4) In response to part (4) of the question: No.*
- (5) In response to part (5) of the question: The principal gifts for those hosting meetings and visits by the Guildford delegation in Dongying and Beijing are kindly being provided by the British Embassy in Beijing at no cost to the Council. The delegation will also take other small gift items, such as pens, lapel pins and small prints of Guildford. The cost will be small and will be met from within existing budgetary provision. The policy on gifts received by the Guildford delegation is set out in our codes of conduct for councillors and officers”.*

Councillor Matt Furniss  
Deputy Leader of the Council

## **CO52 TWINNING AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS**

The Council considered a report on proposals to enhance and strengthen the existing twinning arrangement with Freiburg and to agree potential new international partnerships that would benefit Guildford.

Guildford had a small number of existing twinning and other international relationships:

- (a) twinned with Freiburg in Germany since 1979;
- (b) twinned with Bar-le-Duc in France in 1958; and
- (c) linked with Mukono in Uganda since 2003.

Despite some successes, the Council acknowledged that more could be done to nurture existing international relationships for the mutual benefit of Guildford and its partner communities. There were also opportunities for new arrangements with other towns and cities to be explored.

The report had also set out details of the work being undertaken, and proposals put forward, by the cross-party Town Twinning Working Group, which had been established to demonstrate, develop and enhance the benefits of Guildford's existing twinning arrangements and to make recommendations to the Council on any future formal twinning arrangement or similar link.

These proposals included the Council becoming more proactive in leading the relationship with Freiburg, particularly in terms of strengthening economic, tourism and business links.

The report noted that the former Borough Council had twinned with Bar-le-Duc in France in 1958, but that it appeared that the arrangement was allowed to lapse, with no equivalent of the Guildford-Freiburg Association to maintain a close relationship. Following an approach to the

current Maire de Bar-le-Duc in September 2016 about the twinning arrangement, it was suggested that the relationship should not be re-established.

The Council was informed that following an approach to the British Embassy in Paris, by the city of Versailles about identifying a suitable UK twin, the Embassy had recommended Guildford and, in May 2017, asked whether the Council would be interested in establishing a twinning agreement.

Discussions had continued through the Embassy and the following areas had been identified as priorities for cooperation:

- (a) developing business links between Guildford and Versailles;
- (b) sharing ideas about how the authorities work with their business communities;
- (c) tourism promotion;
- (d) arts and culture (exchanges and collaboration etc.); and
- (e) links between schools and universities.

Although at an early stage, it was hoped that direct discussions with Versailles could be held in the near future about taking forward a formal twinning agreement.

The report had set out details of the very successful links with Mukono and the various initiatives that had been developed since 2003. The Town Twinning Working Group had commended the Guildford-Mukono Link for developing such strong links and for delivering so many successful projects to benefit residents and, particularly, children in Mukono. The continuation of the formal link was therefore very much supported.

Building on existing links between the Universities of Surrey and Dongying, the opportunity had been taken to explore the establishment of a formal relationship with Dongying City in China. The Town Twinning Working Group had identified a number of potential benefits, details of which were set out in the report. Given the logistical issues, it was considered that any links developed with Dongying were more likely to be focused on businesses and institutions rather than the exchanges between local groups and clubs familiar to the relationship with Freiburg. It was therefore proposed to take forward a link with Dongying in the form of a partnership agreement, details of which were also set out in the report.

A delegation from Dongying had been welcomed to Guildford on 17 July 2017 to discuss areas of cooperation and to sign an expression of interest to develop a formal partnership agreement. Following further discussions, a delegation from Guildford would visit Dongying on 15 and 16 October 2017 and, subject to Council approval, sign the proposed agreement.

The Mayor drew the Council's attention to the supplementary information on the Order Paper as follows:

- Dongying Municipal Government had offered to contribute up to £5,660 (50,000 RMB) towards the Council's travel costs in respect of the visit to Dongying on 15 and 16 October 2017.
- A copy of the Guildford delegation's schedule in Beijing and Dongying
- A detailed breakdown of the costs associated with the Council's delegates' visit to Dongying (and Beijing) is provided below:

Prior to the debate on this matter, and upon the motion of The Mayor, Councillor Nigel Manning seconded by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mike Parsons, the Council

RESOLVED: That the vote on paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) of the Motion (see below) be conducted by way of a show of hands, and that all other votes taken in relation to this matter, including any amendments, be conducted by way of separate recorded votes.

The Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Matt Furniss proposed, and the Leader of the Council, Councillor Paul Spooner, seconded, the adoption of the following motion:

- “(1) That proposed work to develop and strengthen our existing relationship with Freiburg, referred to in the report submitted to the Council, be supported.
- (2) That the twinning arrangement with Bar-le-Duc be formally ended.
- (3) That discussions to progress the establishment of a new formal twinning agreement with Versailles be supported.
- (4) That the Leader and Managing Director be authorised to sign a proposed partnership agreement with Dongying, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report submitted to the Council.
- (5) That the Council considers whether it wishes to accept a contribution of up to £5,660 from the Dongying Municipal Government towards the travel costs of the Leader, Deputy Leader and Managing Director when visiting Dongying.

Reason for Recommendation:

To develop new international relationships and enhance existing twinning arrangements to maximise the benefits for Guildford residents”.

**Amendment No. 1**

Following the debate on the motion, Councillor Susan Parker proposed, and Councillor David Reeve seconded, the following amendment

Substitute the following in place of paragraphs (4) and (5) of the motion:

*“(4) That the proposed partnership arrangement with Dongying, including the proposed visit on 15 and 16 October 2017, be cancelled in the interest of conserving public funds.”*

Following the debate on the amendment, it was put to a recorded vote and was lost with 3 councillors voting in favour and 44 against as follows:

**For:**

Cllr Mike Hurdle  
Cllr Susan Parker  
Cllr David Reeve

**Against:**

Cllr David Bilbé  
Cllr Richard Billington  
Cllr Philip Brooker  
Cllr Adrian Chandler  
Cllr Alexandra Chesterfield  
Cllr Nils Christiansen  
Cllr Colin Cross  
Cllr Geoff Davis  
Cllr Graham Ellwood  
Cllr David Elms  
Cllr Matt Furniss  
Cllr Andrew Gomm  
Cllr Angela Goodwin  
Cllr David Goodwin  
Cllr Murray Grubb Jnr.  
Cllr Angela Gunning  
Cllr Gillian Harwood  
Cllr Liz Hogger

**Abstain:**

None

**For:****Against:****Abstain:**

Cllr Christian Holliday  
 Cllr Liz Hooper  
 Cllr Michael Illman  
 Cllr Gordon Jackson  
 Cllr Jennifer Jordan  
 Cllr Nigel Kearse  
 Cllr Sheila Kirkland  
 Cllr Nigel Manning  
 Cllr Julia McShane  
 Cllr Bob McShee  
 Cllr Marsha Moseley  
 Cllr Nikki Nelson-Smith  
 Cllr Mike Parsons  
 Cllr Dennis Paul  
 Cllr Tony Phillips  
 Cllr Mike Piper  
 Cllr David Quelch  
 Cllr Caroline Reeves  
 Cllr Iseult Roche  
 Cllr Tony Rooth  
 Cllr Matthew Sarti  
 Cllr Pauline Searle  
 Cllr Paul Spooner  
 Cllr James Walsh  
 Cllr Jenny Wicks  
 Cllr David Wright

**Amendment No. 2**

Councillor Tony Rooth proposed, and Councillor Jenny Wicks seconded, the following amendment:

Substitute the following in place of paragraph (4) of the motion:

*"(4) That the Leader, Deputy Leader and Managing Director be authorised to visit Beijing and Dongying to investigate and assess in a thorough and objective way the possibility of partnership with Chinese cities and, in particular, Dongying, and to then submit a comprehensive report with recommendations for consideration by the Council at a future meeting."*

Following the debate on the amendment, it was put to a recorded vote and was lost with 20 councillors voting in favour, 26 against, with one abstention, as follows:

**For:**

Cllr Colin Cross  
 Cllr Angela Goodwin  
 Cllr David Goodwin  
 Cllr Murray Grubb Jnr.  
 Cllr Angela Gunning  
 Cllr Gillian Harwood  
 Cllr Liz Hogger  
 Cllr Christian Holliday  
 Cllr Mike Hurdle  
 Cllr Julia McShane  
 Cllr Bob McShee  
 Cllr Susan Parker  
 Cllr Dennis Paul  
 Cllr Tony Phillips  
 Cllr David Reeve  
 Cllr Caroline Reeves  
 Cllr Tony Rooth  
 Cllr Pauline Searle

**Against:**

Cllr David Bilbé  
 Cllr Richard Billington  
 Cllr Philip Brooker  
 Cllr Adrian Chandler  
 Cllr Alexandra Chesterfield  
 Cllr Nils Christiansen  
 Cllr Geoff Davis  
 Cllr Graham Ellwood  
 Cllr David Elms  
 Cllr Matt Furniss  
 Cllr Andrew Gomm  
 Cllr Liz Hooper  
 Cllr Michael Illman  
 Cllr Gordon Jackson  
 Cllr Jennifer Jordan  
 Cllr Nigel Kearse  
 Cllr Nigel Manning  
 Cllr Marsha Moseley

**Abstain:**

Cllr Sheila Kirkland

**For:**

Cllr James Walsh  
Cllr Jenny Wicks

**Against:**

Cllr Nikki Nelson-Smith  
Cllr Mike Parsons  
Cllr Mike Piper  
Cllr David Quelch  
Cllr Iseult Roche  
Cllr Matthew Sarti  
Cllr Paul Spooner  
Cllr David Wright

**Abstain:**

Having considered the original motion, the Council

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That proposed work to develop and strengthen our existing relationship with Freiburg, referred to in the report submitted to the Council, be supported.
- (2) That the twinning arrangement with Bar-le-Duc be formally ended.
- (3) That discussions to progress the establishment of a new formal twinning agreement with Versailles be supported.
- (4) That the Leader and Managing Director be authorised to sign a proposed partnership agreement with Dongying, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report submitted to the Council.

Paragraph (4) above was put to a recorded vote and was carried with 29 councillors voting in favour, 16 against, with two abstentions, as follows:

**For:**

Cllr David Bilbé  
Cllr Richard Billington  
Cllr Philip Brooker  
Cllr Adrian Chandler  
Cllr Alexandra Chesterfield  
Cllr Nils Christiansen  
Cllr Geoff Davis  
Cllr Graham Ellwood  
Cllr David Elms  
Cllr Matt Furniss  
Cllr Andrew Gomm  
Cllr Murray Grubb Jnr.  
Cllr Liz Hooper  
Cllr Michael Illman  
Cllr Gordon Jackson  
Cllr Jennifer Jordan  
Cllr Nigel Kearse  
Cllr Sheila Kirkland  
Cllr Nigel Manning  
Cllr Marsha Moseley  
Cllr Nikki Nelson-Smith  
Cllr Mike Parsons  
Cllr Dennis Paul  
Cllr Mike Piper  
Cllr David Quelch  
Cllr Iseult Roche  
Cllr Matthew Sarti  
Cllr Paul Spooner  
Cllr David Wright

**Against:**

Cllr Colin Cross  
Cllr Angela Goodwin  
Cllr David Goodwin  
Cllr Angela Gunning  
Cllr Gillian Harwood  
Cllr Liz Hogger  
Cllr Mike Hurdle  
Cllr Julia McShane  
Cllr Susan Parker  
Cllr Tony Phillips  
Cllr David Reeve  
Cllr Caroline Reeves  
Cllr Tony Rooth  
Cllr Pauline Searle  
Cllr James Walsh  
Cllr Jenny Wicks

**Abstain:**

Cllr Christian Holliday  
Cllr Bob McShee

- (5) That the Council agrees to not accept a contribution of up to £5,660 from the Dongying Municipal Government towards the travel costs of the Leader, Deputy Leader and Managing Director when visiting Dongying.

Paragraph (5) was put to a recorded vote with the outcome being that no councillors voted to accept the offer, 44 councillors voted to not accept the offer, with three abstentions, as follows:

**Accept:**

None

**Not Accept:**

Cllr David Bilbé  
Cllr Richard Billington  
Cllr Philip Brooker  
Cllr Adrian Chandler  
Cllr Alexandra Chesterfield  
Cllr Nils Christiansen  
Cllr Colin Cross  
Cllr Geoff Davis  
Cllr Graham Ellwood  
Cllr David Elms  
Cllr Matt Furniss  
Cllr Andrew Gomm  
Cllr Angela Goodwin  
Cllr Murray Grubb Jnr.  
Cllr Angela Gunning  
Cllr Gillian Harwood  
Cllr Liz Hogger  
Cllr Christian Holliday  
Cllr Liz Hooper  
Cllr Mike Hurdle  
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Cllr Gordon Jackson  
Cllr Jennifer Jordan  
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Cllr Sheila Kirkland  
Cllr Nigel Manning  
Cllr Bob McShee  
Cllr Marsha Moseley  
Cllr Nikki Nelson-Smith  
Cllr Susan Parker  
Cllr Mike Parsons  
Cllr Dennis Paul  
Cllr Mike Piper  
Cllr David Quelch  
Cllr David Reeve  
Cllr Caroline Reeves  
Cllr Iseult Roche  
Cllr Tony Rooth  
Cllr Matthew Sarti  
Cllr Pauline Searle  
Cllr Paul Spooner  
Cllr James Walsh  
Cllr Jenny Wicks  
Cllr David Wright

**Abstain:**

Cllr David Goodwin  
Cllr Julia McShane  
Cllr Tony Phillips

Reason for Decision:

To develop new international relationships and enhance existing twinning arrangements to maximise the benefits for Guildford residents.

**CO53 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW: NORMANDY PARISH**

The Council considered a detailed report on a proposed community governance review of Normandy parish. A Community Governance Review (CGR) was undertaken by the principal council for the area (i.e. this Council) and was a review of the whole or part of the Borough to consider one or more of the following:

- Creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes;
- The naming of parishes and the style (i.e. whether to call it a town council or village council etc.) of new parishes;



- The electoral arrangements for parishes (including the number of councillors to be elected to the council, and parish warding), and
- Grouping parishes under a common parish council or de-grouping parishes

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 had set down the legal framework within which principal councils must undertake such reviews.

The Council noted that a CGR may be undertaken at any time by the principal council but the Council must undertake a CGR upon receipt of a valid community governance petition. On 14 July 2017, the Council received such a petition signed by 189 local electors of Normandy Parish, which had stated:

*“We the undersigned, being residents of Normandy, hereby petition Guildford Borough Council to conduct a Community Governance Review of Normandy Parish with a view to increasing the number of parish councillors from its present day level of seven Councillors to nine Councillors”.*

The Council was asked to approve the proposed terms of reference of the CGR, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report submitted to the Council) together with the proposed timetable for the review. The draft terms of reference included the matters on which public would be consulted, as required by the 2007 Act, namely:

- (1) the petitioners’ request as outlined above;
- (2) whether there should be any change to the year in which elections to the parish council are held (currently every four years with next elections due in May 2019); and
- (3) whether Normandy Parish Council should be divided into wards for the purpose of electing parish councillors and, if so, the name, number and boundaries of any such wards, and the number of parish councillors to be elected for such wards.

Upon the motion of the Deputy Leader, Councillor Matt Furniss, seconded by Councillor David Bilbé, the Council

RESOLVED:

- (1) That a community governance review of Normandy Parish be conducted in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 3 of Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, as described in the report submitted to the Council.
- (2) That the terms of reference in respect of the community governance review including the proposed timetable, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved and published.
- (3) That the Democratic Services Manager be authorised to conduct the community governance review on the Council’s behalf and to take all necessary action to comply with the Council’s statutory obligations in that regard.

Reason for Decision:

To address the community governance petition received in respect of this matter with a view to ensuring that community governance within the area under review is:

- reflective of the identities and interests of the community in that area; and
- is effective and convenient.

#### **CO54 DRAFT TIMETABLE OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2018-19**

Upon the motion of the Deputy Leader, Councillor Matt Furniss, seconded by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Paul Spooner, the Council

RESOLVED: That the proposed timetable of Council and Committee meetings for the 2018-19 municipal year, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report submitted to the Council, be approved.

Reason for Decision:

To assist with the preparation of individual committee work programmes.

**CO55 REPORT OF THE HEARINGS SUB-COMMITTEE ON RECOMMENDED SANCTIONS AGAINST COUNCILLOR DAVID REEVE**

The Council considered a report on sanctions recommended by the Hearings Sub-Committee following a local hearing held on 11 September 2017 at which it was found that, after hearing all the evidence, Councillor David Reeve (the "Subject Member") had failed to comply with the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

In accordance with the Council's adopted Arrangements for dealing with allegations of misconduct by councillors, the Sub-Committee, having found that the Subject Member had breached the Code of Conduct, had recommended to Council that the following sanctions should be applied:

- (1) That the Subject Member be asked to apologise specifically to Laura Howard, Principal Planning Officer, regarding the disclosure of the confidential information.
- (2) That the Subject Member be requested to participate in appropriate training, on a one-to-one basis, on the role of the councillor and their responsibilities under the Code of Conduct, in particular reconciling their representational role with their obligations under the Code.

In the absence of a procedure in the Constitution for dealing with sanctions recommended by the Hearings Sub-Committee referred to full Council and, upon the motion of the Mayor, Councillor Nigel Manning, seconded by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mike Parsons, the Council:

RESOLVED:

That the following procedure for dealing with this matter at this meeting, be approved:

- Before the debate on the matter, the Council shall hear representations (if any) from the two complainant councillors and the Subject Member about the recommended sanctions, each of whom shall have up to five minutes for this purpose.
- After hearing the representations from the three councillors about the recommended sanctions, the Mayor will ask all of them to absent themselves from the Chamber whilst the Council debates and votes on the matter.
- The five members of the Sub-Committee, who heard the evidence at the hearing, shall remain in the Council meeting, and may participate in the debate and vote thereon.
- After the Council has debated and voted on the recommended sanctions, the three councillors will be invited back into the Chamber".

The Council heard representations from the Subject Member and the two complainant councillors about the recommended sanctions, the three councillors absented themselves from the Chamber.

Councillor Gordon Jackson proposed, and Councillor Richard Billington seconded, the following motion:

“That the Council agrees that the recommendations from the Hearings Sub-Committee that the following sanctions should be applied to the Subject Member:

- (i) That the Subject Member be asked to apologise specifically to Laura Howard, Principal Planning Officer, regarding the disclosure of the confidential information.
- (ii) That the Subject Member be requested to participate in appropriate training, on a one-to-one basis, on the role of the councillor and their responsibilities under the Code of Conduct, in particular reconciling their representational role with their obligations under the Code.

were appropriate and proportionate in view of the finding that the Subject Member had breached the Code of Conduct”.

Following the debate on the motion, Councillor Liz Hogger proposed, and Councillor Colin Cross seconded, the following amendment:

In paragraph (ii) of the motion, delete the words “*on a one-to-one basis,*”

Following the debate on the amendment, it was put to the vote and was carried.

In considering the substantive motion therefore, the Council

RESOLVED:

That the Council agrees that the following sanctions:

- (i) That the Subject Member be asked to apologise specifically to Laura Howard, Principal Planning Officer, regarding the disclosure of the confidential information.
- (ii) That the Subject Member be requested to participate in appropriate training on the role of the councillor and their responsibilities under the Code of Conduct, in particular reconciling their representational role with their obligations under the Code.

are appropriate and proportionate in view of the finding by the Hearings Sub-Committee that the Subject Member had breached the Code of Conduct.

**CO56 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE**

The Council received and noted the minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 18 July 2017.

**CO57 COMMON SEAL**

The Council

RESOLVED: That the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to any documents to give effect to any decisions taken by the Council at this meeting.

The meeting finished at 10.07 pm

Signed .....  
Mayor

Date .....

# GUILDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of Guildford Borough Council held at Millmead House, Millmead, Guildford, Surrey GU2 4BB on Tuesday 21 November 2017

- \* Councillor Nigel Manning (Mayor)
- \* Councillor Mike Parsons (Deputy Mayor)

- |                                     |                                 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| * Councillor David Bilbé            | * Councillor Jennifer Jordan    |
| * Councillor Richard Billington     | * Councillor Nigel Kears        |
| * Councillor Philip Brooker         | * Councillor Sheila Kirkland    |
| * Councillor Adrian Chandler        | * Councillor Julia McShane      |
| * Councillor Alexandra Chesterfield | * Councillor Bob McShee         |
| * Councillor Nils Christiansen      | * Councillor Marsha Moseley     |
| Councillor Colin Cross              | * Councillor Nikki Nelson-Smith |
| * Councillor Geoff Davis            | * Councillor Susan Parker       |
| * Councillor Graham Ellwood         | * Councillor Dennis Paul        |
| * Councillor David Elms             | * Councillor Tony Phillips      |
| * Councillor Matt Furniss           | * Councillor Mike Piper         |
| Councillor Andrew Gomm              | * Councillor David Quelch       |
| Councillor Angela Goodwin           | * Councillor Jo Randall         |
| * Councillor David Goodwin          | * Councillor David Reeve        |
| * Councillor Murray Grubb Jnr       | * Councillor Caroline Reeves    |
| * Councillor Angela Gunning         | * Councillor Iseult Roche       |
| * Councillor Gillian Harwood        | * Councillor Tony Rooth         |
| * Councillor Liz Hogger             | * Councillor Matthew Sarti      |
| Councillor Christian Holliday       | * Councillor Pauline Searle     |
| * Councillor Liz Hooper             | * Councillor Paul Spooner       |
| * Councillor Mike Hurdle            | * Councillor James Walsh        |
| * Councillor Michael Illman         | * Councillor Jenny Wicks        |
| Councillor Gordon Jackson           | Councillor David Wright         |

\*Present

Honorary Alderman T Patrick was also in attendance

## **CO58 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Colin Cross, Andrew Gomm, Angela Goodwin, Christian Holliday, and Gordon Jackson, from Honorary Freeman Jen Powell and from Honorary Aldermen Mrs C F Cobley, Mrs C F P Griffin, Mrs M Lloyd-Jones, J Marks, and L Strudwick.

## **CO59 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of interest.

## **CO60 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

Honorary Alderman Mary Lloyd-Jones

The Mayor reported that Honorary Alderman Mary Lloyd-Jones had been unwell and that, on behalf of the Council, he had sent her some flowers and best wishes.

Mayor's charitable fund raising

The Mayor thanked everyone who had supported his fund raising efforts so far this year and drew councillors' attention to forthcoming events including The Wine Tasting event at the Guildhall on 30 November 2017.

### British Heart Foundation

The Mayor invited councillors to register for the British Heart Foundation 'Guildford Santa Jog' at Stoke Park on Saturday 2 December 2017.

### **CO61 LEADER'S COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no communications from the Leader of the Council.

### **CO62 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

#### Statements

The following persons addressed the Council meeting in respect of Minute No. CO64 – Proposed Submission Local Plan:

- (1) Lisa Wright
- (2) Ramsey Nagaty
- (3) Peter Shaw
- (4) Diana Elliot on behalf of Save the Hogs Back campaign
- (5) Peter Elliot on behalf of Save the Hogs Back campaign
- (6) Mike Murray, (Causeway Land, on behalf of Wisley Property Investments)

The Leader of the Council responded to the statements.

### **CO63 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

- (a) Councillor Colin Cross asked the Leader of the Council and Lead Councillor for Planning and Regeneration, Councillor Paul Spooner, the following question:

*“There is an overwhelming and ever-increasing weight of evidence to the effect that submitting the current Draft Local Plan, with the inclusion of the Former Wisley Airfield Site (A35), for public examination would be unsound and would lead to its rejection. There are manifold unresolved issues regarding this site which include its unsustainability, A3/M25 highways matters, Greenbelt considerations and its overall undeliverability.*

*Given that it is the role of this Council to act with the utmost responsibility in all such strategically important actions affecting the long term future of Guildford Borough, does the Leader of the Council agree that the Council should take the necessary action to heed the advice received and therefore act to remove site A35 from the Draft Local Plan so as to ensure its progress?”*

The Leader of the Council's response was as follows:

*“Whilst I can understand concerns being raised by those opposed to the scheme given views expressed by contributors at the recent Wisley planning appeal, I do not accept that there is an increasing weight of evidence either to remove the Former Wisley Airfield site from the submission plan or that the plan will be found unsound if included. Highways England agree that the proposed new slip roads at Burnt Common is a modification to an existing junction.*

*On this basis, Highways England does not object in principle to the new slip roads. Nevertheless, they must be provided safely and with a demonstrable benefit to the economy. Highways England's objection at the Wisley Appeal was technical in nature and related to the fact that at the time of the Appeal's closure, insufficient technical information had been provided to them to enable them to assess whether the mitigation was technically feasible, and therefore they could not advise whether it mitigated the traffic impact on the strategic road network.*

*There has been considerable progress since the Inquiry in relation to the technical approval process. This information was not available to the Inspector. The appeal was in relation to a specific planning application not the soundness of a local plan. Clearly the Council did not support that specific planning application as submitted but for the local plan process the considerations are different. The Inquiry was considering the planning application and if very special circumstances exist to justify allowing this development in the green belt. The Local Plan will assess if exceptional circumstances exist to justify taking this site out of the green belt. They are very different tests and we remain confident that exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated. With the appropriate highway mitigation, improvements to public transport, delivery of a primary and secondary school, a local centre for shops and some small scale employment, the site is considered to be sustainable.*

*In terms of the Council acting responsibly, then submitting this plan is the most prudent course of action. Removing the site from the plan would constitute a main modification and would result in the need for a further consultation. The impact of this would be that Guildford would not be able to take advantage of the transitional arrangements in relation to the proposed approach to calculating OAN so a new plan would need to be produced based on the higher housing figure of 789 units per annum and not the 654 that this submission plan is based on. To simply remove this site will make the whole plan unsound.*

*We have considered the implications of the recent Inquiry and continue to think the plan is and will be found to be sound and recommend it is submitted to the Secretary of State.”*

- (b) Councillor Susan Parker asked the Leader of the Council and Lead Councillor for Planning and Regeneration, Councillor Paul Spooner, the following question:

*“In view of Government guidance that local authorities are all required to prepare a register of Brownfield land for publication before 31 December 2017\*, can the Lead Councillor for Planning and Regeneration please indicate:*

- (i) where the public can find the register of brownfield land for Guildford and summarise the amount of land available;*
- (ii) also indicate the estimated number of sites (in aggregate, expressed in number of dwellings or hectares) that might provide housing sites but which individually fall below the de minimis threshold for 0.25 hectares or 5 dwellings required for the register;*
- (iii) if such a register is not yet in existence, please may we be informed as to the date when the required register will be available?*
- (iv) if such a register has not been prepared, and will not be available prior to 31 December 2017, can the Lead Councillor please explain why government guidance has not been complied with, and why (in the absence of such a register) the Local Plan can be deemed ready for submission?*

*(\*please note Government guidance on the requirement to provide Brownfield registers: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/brownfield-land-registers>)”*

The Leader of the Council's response was as follows:

- “(i) The Brownfield Land Register is still being prepared and therefore currently not in the public domain; however, it is on track to be completed and on our website by the Government's deadline of 31 December 2017. The main area of work involved – the*

*process of identifying and assessing suitable sites for inclusion – has now been completed and we have identified a total of approximately 92 ha of land that meets the criteria laid out in paragraph 1 of regulation 4 of the The Town and Country Planning (Brownfield Land Register) Regulations 2017. This land will be included in Part 1 of the published register.*

- (ii) There is no legal requirement for Brownfield Land Registers to identify potential housing sites that do not meet the criteria in regulation 4(1)(a) i.e. which fall below the 0.25ha and 5 dwelling threshold; therefore we have not assessed and do not intend to include any such sites. The sites that we have assessed and will include in the register are either a) at least 0.25ha and/or b) are capable of providing at least 5 dwellings. The housing supply in the Local Plan includes an element for small 'windfall sites' based in part on historical completion rates.*
- (iii) As stated in paragraph (i) above, the register (Part 1) will be published on our website by the Government's deadline of 31 December 2017.*
- (iv) This scenario does not apply, as our register will be available by 31 December 2017. Furthermore, the completion of a Brownfield Land Register is not a requirement in terms of Submission of a Local Plan”.*

#### **CO64 PROPOSED SUBMISSION LOCAL PLAN**

The Council considered the Proposed Submission Local Plan: strategy and sites (“the draft Local Plan”) which outlined the spatial development strategy for the borough up to 2034. The draft Local Plan had set out the quantum and location of development based on an evaluation of objectively assessed need (OAN) for new homes, employment and retail space and an assessment of whether this quantum of development could be provided in a sustainable way following consideration of other policy constraints. The conclusion reached was that appropriate sustainable sites could be allocated within the plan to meet the OAN for both housing and employment.

The draft Local Plan was also concerned with the protection and enhancement of our environment, the provision of appropriate infrastructure to support the planned growth of the borough and the promotion of sustainable transport.

The draft Local Plan contained minor corrections and suggested minor amendments as tracked changes which, if approved by the Council, would be put before the Inspector for consideration at the forthcoming Examination.

Subject to the Council's approval, it was proposed to submit the plan to the Secretary of State by 15 December 2017.

Councillors noted that, at its special meeting held on 20 November 2017, the Executive had considered the proposed Submission Local Plan and had endorsed the recommendation in the report submitted to the Council. A copy of the draft minutes of that special meeting was attached to the Order Paper for this Council meeting.

Prior to the debate on this matter, and upon the motion of The Mayor, Councillor Nigel Manning seconded by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mike Parsons, the Council

**RESOLVED:** That recorded votes would be taken in respect of both the amendment and the final vote on either the original, or substantive, motion.

The Leader of the Council, and Lead Councillor for Planning and Regeneration, Councillor Paul Spooner, proposed and the Deputy Leader of the Council, and Lead Councillor for Infrastructure and Governance, Councillor Matt Furniss, seconded the following motion:

- “(1) That the draft Local Plan: strategy and sites document, together with all relevant associated documentation referred to in Appendix 4 to the report submitted to the Council, be approved for submission to the Secretary of State for the purpose of proceeding to and through the Examination in Public process.
- (2) That the Director of Planning and Regeneration be authorised, in consultation with the Lead Councillor for Planning and Regeneration, to make such minor alterations to improve the submission documents as she may deem necessary.

Reasons:

- The draft Local Plan provides a coherent approach to meeting future development needs and allocates sites to accommodate sustainable development in the borough up to 2034. The document is considered to be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy.
- The recommendations above will enable an Inspector to test the plan in terms of its legal compliance and ‘soundness’ to enable the Council to move a step closer to adopting an up-to-date Local Plan.”

Following the debate on the motion, Councillor Susan Parker proposed, and Councillor David Reeve seconded, the following amendment:

“Substitute the following in place of the motion:

- (1) That the submission of the draft Local Plan to the Secretary of State for Examination in Public be deferred for the following reasons:
  - In light of the consultation responses in relation to the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA), it has become clear that the current draft assessment of objectively assessed need (OAN) is considered by the population of Guildford to be more than is required to meet the reasonable foreseeable needs of the community, given the fact that 89% of the borough is Green Belt, 44% is AONB, and especially given the problems with local infrastructure and the issue of air quality.
  - Given that the analysis prepared for the SHMA includes an uplift for economic factors, and that the analysis was prepared before the EU Referendum, the SHMA analysis does not take into account the prospective impact of Brexit and is therefore overstated.
  - Furthermore, the SHMA calculations were prepared in conjunction with those for the borough of Waverley, which were themselves found by an inspector to be questionable within an inquiry.
- (2) That a small cross-party working group be established:
  - (a) to review the SHMA in the light of the circumstances referred to in paragraph (1) above, and finalise the number for the OAN and the revised housing target number, for inclusion in the draft Local Plan,
  - (b) to reconsider the proposed inclusion in the draft Local Plan of greenfield sites in terms of their suitability and sustainability,
  - (c) to consider whether the inclusion of greenfield sites should be conditional only, with their inclusion being subject to the creation of a suitable register of available brownfield sites, and where such a register provides adequate space on available



sites for the revised housing target number, then greenfield and Green Belt sites would be withdrawn from the final version of the Local Plan; and

- (d) to suggest suitable amendments to the text of the draft Local Plan prior to further consideration by the Council.”

Following the debate on the amendment, it was put to a recorded vote and was lost with three councillors voting in favour, 39 against and no abstentions as follows:

<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>
Cllr Mike Hurdle	Cllr David Bilbé	None
Cllr Susan Parker	Cllr Richard Billington	
Cllr David Reeve	Cllr Philip Brooker	
	Cllr Adrian Chandler	
	Cllr Alexandra Chesterfield	
	Cllr Nils Christiansen	
	Cllr Geoff Davis	
	Cllr Graham Ellwood	
	Cllr David Elms	
	Cllr Matt Furniss	
	Cllr David Goodwin	
	Cllr Murray Grubb Jnr.	
	Cllr Angela Gunning	
	Cllr Gillian Harwood	
	Cllr Liz Hogger	
	Cllr Liz Hooper	
	Cllr Michael Illman	
	Cllr Jennifer Jordan	
	Cllr Nigel Kearse	
	Cllr Sheila Kirkland	
	Cllr Nigel Manning	
	Cllr Julia McShane	
	Cllr Bob McShee	
	Cllr Marsha Moseley	
	Cllr Nikki Nelson-Smith	
	Cllr Mike Parsons	
	Cllr Dennis Paul	
	Cllr Tony Phillips	
	Cllr Mike Piper	
	Cllr David Quelch	
	Cllr Jo Randall	
	Cllr Caroline Reeves	
	Cllr Iseult Roche	
	Cllr Tony Rooth	
	Cllr Matthew Sarti	
	Cllr Pauline Searle	
	Cllr Paul Spooner	
	Cllr James Walsh	
	Cllr Jenny Wicks	

Having considered the original motion, the Council

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the draft Local Plan: strategy and sites document, together with all relevant associated documentation referred to in Appendix 4 to the report submitted to the Council, be approved for submission to the Secretary of State for the purpose of proceeding to and through the Examination in Public process.

(2) That the Director of Planning and Regeneration be authorised, in consultation with the Lead Councillor for Planning and Regeneration, to make such minor alterations to improve the submission documents as she may deem necessary.

**Reasons:**

- The draft Local Plan provides a coherent approach to meeting future development needs and allocates sites to accommodate sustainable development in the borough up to 2034. The document is considered to be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy.
- The recommendations above will enable an Inspector to test the plan in terms of its legal compliance and 'soundness' to enable the Council to move a step closer to adopting an up-to-date Local Plan.

The result of the recorded vote on the original motion was 32 councillors in favour, with seven against, and three abstentions, as follows:

**For:**

Cllr David Bilbé  
Cllr Richard Billington  
Cllr Philip Brooker  
Cllr Alexandra Chesterfield  
Cllr Nils Christiansen  
Cllr Geoff Davis  
Cllr Graham Ellwood  
Cllr David Elms  
Cllr Matt Furniss  
Cllr Murray Grubb Jnr.  
Cllr Angela Gunning  
Cllr Gillian Harwood  
Cllr Liz Hogger  
Cllr Liz Hooper  
Cllr Michael Illman  
Cllr Jennifer Jordan  
Cllr Nigel Kearse  
Cllr Nigel Manning  
Cllr Julia McShane  
Cllr Marsha Moseley  
Cllr Nikki Nelson-Smith  
Cllr Mike Parsons  
Cllr Dennis Paul  
Cllr Mike Piper  
Cllr David Quelch  
Cllr Jo Randall  
Cllr Caroline Reeves  
Cllr Iseult Roche  
Cllr Tony Rooth  
Cllr Pauline Searle  
Cllr Paul Spooner  
Cllr James Walsh

**Against:**

Cllr David Goodwin  
Cllr Mike Hurdle  
Cllr Susan Parker  
Cllr Tony Phillips  
Cllr David Reeve  
Cllr Matthew Sarti  
Cllr Jenny Wicks

**Abstain:**

Cllr Adrian Chandler  
Cllr Sheila Kirkland  
Cllr Bob McShee

**CO65 COMMON SEAL**

The Council

RESOLVED: That the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to any documents to give effect to any decisions taken by the Council at this meeting.

The meeting finished at 9.10 pm

Signed .....  
Mayor

Date .....