

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Executive  
held on 20 April 2021**

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+ Cllr Alan McClafferty (Chairman)

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|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| + Cllr Colin Dougan           | + Cllr David Lewis     |
| + Cllr Josephine Hawkins      | + Cllr David Mansfield |
| + Cllr Rebecca Jennings-Evans | + Cllr Adrian Page     |

+ Present

- Apologies for absence presented

In Attendance: Cllr Peter Barnett, Cllr Rodney Bates, Cllr Sharon Galliford, Cllr Shaun Garrett, Cllr Sashi Mylvaganam, Cllr Robin Perry, Cllr Graham Tapper, Cllr Pat Tedder, Cllr Valerie White, Cllr Graham Alleway and Cllr Emma-Jane McGrath

**115/E Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2021 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**116/E Adoption of the Equality Strategy 2021-23**

The Equality Working Group had recently considered a draft programme for Members' equality training, and had agreed that Ioda Ltd, which led the training sessions during the 2019 Member induction programme, would be invited to deliver further training early in the 2021/22 municipal year.

This would focus upon 'The Doorstop Challenge', sessions aimed to equip Members with the tools to hold difficult conversations around equality and to challenge members of the public who held discriminatory views. The sessions would also act as an aide memoire as to the responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010.

Members had also discussed how best to support the myriad of annual commemorative events. The Equality Strategy included a template for members of the working group to nominate events to be supported.

The Working Group had acknowledged the greater potential for the Council to celebrate its diversity of religions followed within the borough; and it had been agreed that religious festivals be included in the annual plan of events to be marked. The Group also added Gypsy and Traveller week to the plan, and suggested that there was potential for the local Muslim, Hindu and Sikh communities to make use of the Council's facilities in order to celebrate events and hold open days.

**RESOLVED that the Equality Strategy 2021-23, as set out at Annex A to the report, be adopted.**

## 117/E Camberley and Old Dean CCTV Review

The Council had introduced CCTV in Camberley in 1997 with further additions in 2002 and 2010. The existing specification included 30 CCTV cameras located in Camberley town centre, and two monitoring the shops in the Old Dean. The Council had entered into an agreement with Woking Council around 20 years ago to provide a 24/7 control room service in Woking. The cost involved totalled £66,742 per year.

In 2018, Surrey Police had introduced a new CCTV Strategy for Surrey, which had established a funding formula, based on a sliding scale. Initial discussions were progressing, but at present Surrey Police had advised that the policy would direct any payments to the district where the control room was located i.e. Woking for Surrey Heath.

The Council had a statutory responsibility, as part of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, to consider crime and disorder implications and, in conjunction with partners, to mitigate risk and actuality of crime by utilising various options. CCTV had long been a useful tool in discouraging and detecting crime and disorder and in satisfying that statutory responsibility.

The existing CCTV equipment was outdated and could be costly to update or replace. In addition the improvement in technology had resulted in other options to deliver the same service with potential for improved efficiency and lesser cost. As a result it was proposed that an independent technical specialist, as recommended by Surrey Police, be employed to conduct a review of CCTV in the borough and £10,000 would be allocated to meet the cost.

The Executive supported the proposal to conduct a view and felt that the decision by another Surrey Council to remove CCTV and rely on private CCTV and mobile phone footage, had been a regressive step. In addition it was felt that whilst the operation of public realm CCTV needed to demonstrate cost effectiveness, it was recognised that some benefits might be difficult to quantify, such as acting as a deterrent and mitigating the fear of crime.

It was noted that the experience of neighbouring local authorities would be used to inform the review and the local Borough Commander would be consulted. It was expected that the review would include a number of costed options as well as a recommendation for the way forward. The benefits of partnering with either Woking or Runnymede Councils for the monitoring of the CCTV would also be examined.

**RESOLVED that a review of the existing CCTV service be undertaken by an independent specialist consultant who will be commissioned, with the outcomes and options presented at a future Executive meeting.**

Note 1: In accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, Councillor Shaun Garrett declared a non-pecuniary interest as he was a trustee of the Old Dean Community Group.

Note 2: It was noted for the record that Councillor Rodney Bates and Councillor Peter Barnett declared personal interests as they lived close to the shops on the Old Dean.

#### **118/E Exclusion of Press and Public**

In accordance with Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, the press and public were excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the ground that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as set out below:

Minute	Paragraph(s)
118/E	3
119/E	3
120/E	3

#### **119/E Executive Working Group notes**

The Executive noted the correction of a typographical error in the notes of the meeting of the Poverty Working Group, by the removal of "Cllr" in front of the name Trevor Hogg.

The Leader, Cllr Alan McClafferty, thanked all members of the working groups and in particular the Chairman, for their good work and excellent recommendations.

**RESOLVED that the Working Group notes be received as follows:**

- (i) Camberley Town Centre Working Group - 10 December 2020.**
- (ii) Climate Change Working Group - 4 February 2021.**
- (iii) Equality Working Group - 15 February 2021**
- (iv) Local Plan Working Group - 16 December 2021.**
- (v) Poverty Working Group - 11 January 2021.**
- (vi) Property Investment Working Group -1 March 2021.**
- (vii) Surrey Heath Villages Working Group - 10 February 2021.**

Note 1: In relation to the Surrey Heath Villages Working Group notes, Councillor Rebecca Jennings-Evans declared, for the record, that her husband owned a business in Bagshot High Street.

#### **120/E Review of Exempt Items**

The Executive reviewed the reports which had been considered at the meeting following the exclusion of members of the press and public, as it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information.

Members indicated a desire to be as transparent as possible in relation to the publication of minutes of the Executive Working Groups while at the same time recognising that some information, due to its commercial nature, needed to remain

exempt at this time. Members were advised that in those instances where the Working Group notes were to remain exempt, they would be reviewed by the Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer every six months, with a view to making as much information available to the public as soon as possible.

**RESOLVED in relation to the Executive Working Group notes presented to the meeting:**

- (i) the Camberley Town Centre Working Group notes to be remain exempt for the present time;**
- (ii) the Climate Change Working Group notes to be made public;**
- (iii) the Equality Working Group notes to be made public;**
- (iv) the Local Plan Working Group notes to remain exempt for the present time;**
- (v) the Poverty Working Group notes to be made public;**
- (vi) the Property Investment Working Group notes to remain exempt for the present time;**
- (vii) the Surrey Heath Villages Working Group notes to be made public; and**
- (viii) all Working Group notes remaining exempt to be periodically reviewed by the Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer, with a view to making them public when appropriate.**

Chairman