

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF SURREY
HEATH BOROUGH COUNCIL held at
Surrey Heath House, Camberley on
27 July 2022**

+ Cllr Helen Whitcroft (Mayor)
+ Cllr Pat Tedder (Deputy Mayor)

+ Cllr Dan Adams	* Cllr Rebecca Jennings-Evans
* Cllr Graham Alleway	+ Cllr David Lewis
* Cllr Peter Barnett	+ Cllr Emma-Jane McGrath
+ Cllr Rodney Bates	- Cllr Charlotte Morley
+ Cllr Cliff Betton	+ Cllr Alan McClafferty
+ Cllr Stuart Black	+ Cllr Sashi Mylvaganam
+ Cllr Richard Brooks	+ Cllr Liz Noble
- Cllr Vivienne Chapman	+ Cllr Adrian Page
+ Cllr Sarah Jane Croke	- Cllr Robin Perry
+ Cllr Paul Deach	+ Cllr Darryl Ratiram
- Cllr Colin Dougan	+ Cllr Morgan Rise
+ Cllr Tim FitzGerald	+ Cllr John Skipper
+ Cllr Sharon Galliford	- Cllr Graham Tapper
+ Cllr Shaun Garrett	+ Cllr Victoria Wheeler
+ Cllr Mark Gordon	+ Cllr Valerie White
+ Cllr Edward Hawkins	+ Cllr Kristian Wrenn
+ Cllr Josephine Hawkins	

+ Present
- Apologies for absence presented
* In attendance virtually

13/C Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Graham Alleway, Vivienne Chapman, Colin Dougan, Rebecca Jennings-Evans, Charlotte Morley, Graham Tapper and Robin Perry. It was noted that some councillors had joined the meeting virtually but would not be entitled to vote.

14/C Minutes

It was moved by the Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Mayor, and

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Annual meeting of
the Council held on 11 May 2022 be approved as a correct record.**

15/C Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor presented a compilation of the numerous events she had attended since her election in May. These events had included the Platinum Jubilee Weekend celebrations, laying wreaths at St Peter's Church, Frimley and the War Memorial on London Road, Camberley to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the end of the Falklands War, and Raising the Flag for Armed Forces Day.

The Council was advised that a Tea Dance at Camberley Cricket Club and a Murder Mystery event at Roti, Park Street would be held on 8 September 2022 and 21 September 2022 respectively, in support of the Mayor's Charity.

16/C Leader's Announcements

The Leader, Councillor Alan McClafferty, referred to the current economic situation and the support schemes the Council had introduced, along with the support granted to local charities and partners. He encouraged Members to raise awareness with residents of the assistance they could receive from these schemes.

The Council was informed about the recent Star Chamber process, which had been undertaken to identify in-year savings. The Leader reported that the £450,000 of savings required had been exceeded. In addition, future savings had been identified.

Members were updated on recent projects and achievements, including the refurbishment of Mytchett skatepark and the letting of Town Centre units. The Leader also referred to a number of other accolades achieved in the borough, including Camberley being named the top UK town winner of UK best town for business 2022 by Enterprise Nation, the new Camberley Leisure Centre achieving finalist status in the UK Active Design of the Year award, and the High Street regeneration project being shortlisted for the Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation award for creating better places. Frimley Lodge Park and Lightwater Country Park had also been awarded Green Flag status.

It was reported that there were currently 102 active sponsors providing homes to 130 Ukrainian guests as part of the Homes for Ukraine scheme. A further 91 guests were expected to arrive in the coming weeks. On behalf of the Council, the Leader thanked the residents of the borough for the generosity they had demonstrated and paid tribute to the staff that had stepped up to the challenge to facilitate the scheme.

The Leader informed the Council about enhancements to services being introduced in response to the feedback received in the 5 Year Strategy consultation. In recognition of residents' wish to continue to make Surrey Heath even more safe, the Council would be increasing activities and working even more closely with the Police to tackle anti-social behaviour, including undertaking more joint patrols and facilitating more Joint Action Group meetings. Protecting and enhancing the environment had also been identified as a priority in the consultation. In response, a goal had been set to plant 4,000 more trees by the end of that season's planning season; this initiative would support both the Queen's Green Canopy scheme and Surrey County Council's goal to see 1.2m more trees planted in Surrey. The Council would also be increasing activities to tackle and prosecute fly-tipping.

17/C Executive, Committees and Other Bodies

- (a) Executive – 31 May, 21 June and 19 July 2022

It was moved by Councillor Alan McClafferty, seconded by Councillor Shaun Garrett, and

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings of the Executive held on 31 May, 21 June and 19 July 2022 be received and the recommendation therein be adopted as set out below:

2/E Local Community Project Fund Bids

RESOLVED that £3,611 (net) and £15,200 (net), for five new wooden benches in Heatherside ward and to Heatherside Ward Residents' Association for the replacement of play equipment and surface area respectively, be added to the Council's Capital Programme.

- (b) Planning Applications Committee – 7 April, 5 May and 9 June 2022

It was moved by Councillor Edward Hawkins, seconded by Councillor Victoria Wheeler, and

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Applications Committee held on 7 April, 5 May and 9 June 2022 be received.

- (c) Audit and Standards Committee – 25 April 2022

It was moved by Councillor Cliff Betton, seconded by Councillor Darryl Ratiram and

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee held on 25 April 2022 be received.

- (d) Employment Committee – 6 April, 10 May and 14 July 2022

It was moved by Councillor Stuart Black, seconded by Councillor Cliff Betton and

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings of the Employment Committee held on 6 April, 10 May and 14 July 2022 be received and the recommendation therein be adopted as set out below:

5/EC Pay Policy Statement 2022/23

RESOLVED that the Pay Policy Statement 2022/23, as set out at Annex A to the Employment Committee agenda report, as amended, be adopted.

- (e) External Partnerships Select Committee – 7 June 2022

It was moved by Councillor Morgan Rise, seconded by Councillor Josephine Hawkins and

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the External Partnerships Select Committee held on 7 June 2022 be received.

- (f) Licensing Committee – 15 June 2022

It was moved by Councillor Pat Tedder, seconded by Councillor Valerie White and

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 15 June 2022 be received.

- (g) Joint Staff Consultative Group – 16 June 2022

It was moved by Councillor Sharon Galliford, seconded by Councillor Josephine Hawkins and

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Joint Staff Consultative Group held on 16 June 2022 be received.

18/C Governance Working Group

The Council received a report from the Governance Working Group on the matters it had discussed at its meeting on 1 July 2022.

The Working Group had reviewed and made a number of recommended changes to the Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules. The changes principally concerned updating the Call-In Protocol. A number of minor amendments had also been proposed, including updating job titles.

The Working Group had also recommended that the Procedure Rules were changed to provide that, in the event that a Committee voted to remove its Chairman, it would have responsibility for appointing a new Chairman for the remainder of that municipal year. In addition, it was proposed to require two thirds of the Committee's membership to vote in favour of this change. It was also suggested that the corresponding be made to the Committees, Sub Committees and Other Bodies Procedure Rules at Part 4, Section D or the Constitution.

The Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules and the Committees, Sub Committees and Other Bodies Procedure Rules had been amended to state that, where a single party was acting as the administration, the Chairman of the Performance & Finance Committee and the Audit & Standards Committee would usually be chaired by a member of the opposition.

Members reviewed the amendments to the Roles of Different Councillors and, following discussion on the proposed changes to the Role of a Leader of an

Opposition Group, agreed to amend paragraph 8.1 (a) by replacing 'constructive opposition' with 'constructive challenge'.

It was moved by Councillor Alan McClafferty, seconded by Councillor Rodney Bates and

RESOLVED that

- (i) the Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules at Part 4, Section C of the Constitution be amended, as set out at Annex A to the agenda report;
- (ii) paragraph 2 (xii) of Council Procedure Rules at Part 4, Section A of the Constitution be removed;
- (iii) paragraph 6 of the Committees, Sub Committees and Other Bodies Procedure Rules at Part 4, Section D of the Constitution be updated as follows:

6.3 At any meeting of a committee, a councillor may propose that "the meeting has no confidence in the chairman." The question will, after debate, be put and if carried by a majority of at least two thirds of the councillors present, the chairman will stand down and the remainder of the meeting will be chaired by the vice-chairman or, in his or her absence (or if he or she was the chairman subject to the vote) by a councillor elected for that purpose by the meeting.

~~6.4 Following a successful vote of no confidence in the chairman, he or she will not officiate at any subsequent meeting of the committee prior to the next meeting of the Council. At that meeting, the Council will consider whether to confirm the vote of no confidence. If by a simple majority the Council decides to confirm the vote, the office of chairman of the committee will be declared vacant and a new chairman will be elected by the Council. The first item on the agenda for the next meeting will be the election of a new chairman for the remainder of the municipal year.~~

6.5 No member of the Executive will chair any meeting of the Planning Applications Committee, the Licensing Committee or the Joint Staff Consultative Group or be the vice-chairman of that Group. Where a single party is acting as the administration, a member of the opposition shall normally chair the Audit & Standards Committee.

- (iv) the Role of Different Councillors at Part 3, Section D of Constitution be updated as set out at Annex B to the agenda report, with a further amendment to paragraph 8.1 (a) to replace 'constructive opposition' with 'constructive challenge'.

19/C Leader's Question Time

The Leader, Councillor Alan McClafferty, responded to questions from Councillors Sharon Galliford, Edward Hawkins and Sashi Mylvaganam concerning the presentation received from the Leader of Surrey County Council on the Devolution Deal for Surrey. He also responded to question from Councillor Richard Brooks concerning Local Enterprise Partnerships and the creation of unitary authorities based upon economic areas.

Questions were received from Councillor Rodney Bates about Surrey County Council's proposal to abolish its Local Committees, Councillor Liz Noble regarding the decision arising from the Star Chamber process to discontinue the Council Tax Reduction Scheme payment to the parishes, and Councillor Victoria Wheeler concerning the proposals to consult on the allocation of Gypsy & Traveller sites on areas within the Green Belt.

Mayor