

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Executive
held at Surrey Heath House on 28
February 2022**

+ Cllr Alan McClafferty (Chairman)

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| + Cllr Colin Dougan | + Cllr Adrian Page |
| + Cllr Shaun Garrett | + Cllr Robin Perry |
| + Cllr Rebecca Jennings-Evans | |

+ Present

In Attendance: Cllr Graham Alleway, Cllr Rodney Bates, Cllr Cliff Betton, Cllr Paul Deach, Cllr Sharon Galliford, Cllr Morgan Rise, Cllr Graham Tapper, Cllr Pat Tedder, Cllr Victoria Wheeler, Cllr Helen Whitcroft and Cllr Valerie White

98/E Response to the Ukrainian Crisis

The Leader, on behalf of the Council, expressed dismay and horror at recent events in Ukraine. He referred to the Council's history of coming to the aid of refugees and indicated that, although the Government had not asked for assistance at that point, the Council would do everything it was able to in response to any such requests. As a symbol of solidarity with the people of Ukraine, and in support of international law and the right to democracy, the Council would be flying the Ukrainian flag.

Members were reminded that collections for Ukrainian refugees were taking place at specified locations in the borough and the Council would be sign posting these collection points. The Leader praised the terrific effort being demonstrated by residents and businesses in the borough.

99/E Questions by Members

The Leader responded to a question from Councillor Rebecca Jennings-Evans, confirming that Surrey County Council would be consulted as part of the Local Plan consultation process.

100/E Draft Surrey Heath Local Plan: Preferred Options (2019 - 2038)

The Executive considered a detailed report seeking approval of the Draft Local Plan, together with the mapping booklet and Interim Sustainability Appraisal for public consultation. The Draft Local Plan set out the planning framework for the Borough up to 2038 and once adopted, would replace current Local Plans.

Consultation on the Draft Plan would be undertaken between 14 March and 9 May 2022. Responses from this consultation and any additional evidence would be used to prepare the next version of the Local Plan.

Members discussed the plans for a further call for Gypsy and Traveller sites and additional consultation scheduled for summer 2022. At that stage, only one specific site allocation for four pitches had been identified, at Diamond Ridge

Woods, Old Dean, and was included as a site allocation. The importance of identifying sufficient Gypsy and Traveller sites to ensure the Local Plan was found sound at examination was noted. Members were encouraged to work with their fellow ward councillors and the County Councillor for their area to identify options for small sites within their wards. The Leader undertook to write to all councillors about this matter.

RESOLVED that

- (i) the Draft Surrey Heath Local Plan: Preferred Options (2019 – 2038) and associated Mapping booklet, attached at Annex 1 and 2 to the agenda report, be agreed for a period of 8 weeks consultation from March to May 2022;**
- (ii) the Interim Sustainability Appraisal, attached at Annex 3 to the agenda report, be agreed for a period of 8 weeks consultation from March to May 2022; and**
- (iii) minor changes to the draft Local Plan and Mapping booklet be agreed by the Head of Planning in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and People.**

Note: In accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, Councillor Rodney Bates declared

- (i) a pecuniary interest in relation to a reference to Gordon's School at page 242 of the agenda as he had occasional paid employment at the School as an exam invigilator; and
- (ii) a non-pecuniary interest in relation to a reference to the land at Pine Ridge Golf Course in at page 537 of the agenda as he was a community trustee of Frimley Fuel Allotments.

101/E Local Development Scheme

The Executive was informed that the timetable for producing the Local Plan was set out in the Local Development Scheme. The Council was required to produce and update this document to outline future planning documents it would be producing.

The next stage of public consultation would be on the Draft Local Plan, as agreed earlier that meeting. The LDS also set out the plans for a further consultation on Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople site allocations in Summer 2022.

RESOLVED that the Surrey Heath Local Development Scheme (LDS) attached at Annex 1 to the agenda report, covering the period 2022 – 2025 be agreed and published on the website.

102/E Review of Parking Fees and Charges

The Executive considered the feedback from the Performance & Finance Scrutiny Committee, which had considered a call-in of its decision on 25 January 2022 regarding Car Parking Tariffs. It was noted that the Committee had recommended that changes to the fee structures at the Borough Council owned car parks should go ahead, as set out in the report considered on 25 January 2022, with the exception of those proposed for Wharf Road car park and Chobham car park.

Members discussed the Committee's recommendation that a decision on changing the fee structure at Wharf Road to be delayed to enable officers to:

- a. consult with ward councillors, local businesses and residents in the immediate vicinity of the car park.
- b. Monitor the capacity and usage of car park.

The Committee's recommendations were reviewed and, although the recommendations had been unanimous, it was recognised that ward councillors had expressed differing views on tariffs for Wharf Road car park at that meeting. It was indicated that it was not standard practice to undertake consultations where parking charges were to be introduced. Members also expressed a lack of clarity on what would be achieved by the monitoring capacity and usage of the car park given the need to generate some income to help offset the cost of running this car park.

The Committee had also recommended that a decision on changing the fee structure at Chobham car park be delayed to enable officers to:

- a. Consult with Natural England, and other organisations as appropriate, on the impacts that the changes might have on the SSSI.
- b. Explore the possible use of SANG contributions to offset the costs of running the Chobham car park.

The Executive was informed that, since the Committee's meeting, Natural England had confirmed in writing that the retention of an hour's free parking would allay any concerns they may have about changes to the tariffs. It was confirmed that, in the event that Natural England altered its position, the decision would be reviewed. The proposals for monitoring any displacement from the SANG to Chobham Common were discussed. It was proposed to monitor this using Chobham car park ticket sales, but further options for monitoring the effect on the SSSI at Chobham would be considered with officers. Using CIL monies to offset the costs of running Chobham car park was not considered appropriate because CIL money had not been allocated for this purpose.

RESOLVED to endorse its decision at minute 87/E on 25 January 2022 on the review of parking fees and charges.

Chairman