

To all Members of the Council

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Your attendance is requested at a Meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Pippbrook, Dorking on **TUESDAY 4th DECEMBER 2012 at 7.00pm** for the transaction of the business set out in the following Agenda.



Corporate Head
Monday 26th November 2012

The Chairman would like to remind Members that they have the opportunity to ask Officers questions, in respect of issues concerning matters of detail or for further clarification, prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

1. MINUTES

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2012 as a correct record.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members should declare interests that they have with respect to any item on the agenda and state whether they are personal or prejudicial and the nature of the interest.

4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

5. DORKING TOWN AREA ACTION PLAN 2012

To consider the report of the Planning Policy Manager as set out on pages 7 to 12 of the agenda.

The Council is asked to adopt the Dorking Town Area Action Plan (AAP) on 5th December 2012 as part of the Development Plan for Mole Valley.

N.B. The final version of the Area Action Plan is attached separately to this agenda.

6. THE 2013 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES

To consider the report of the Senior Democratic Services Officer as set out at pages 13 to 16 of the agenda.

The Council is asked to decide if it wishes to respond to the Boundary Commission's proposals on future Parliamentary Boundaries and, if so, to determine those comments; and if appropriate to give the ERO in consultation with the Leader the authority to finalise the response to the Boundary Commission.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEES

a) Audit Committee – 27th September 2012

i) Treasury Management - Annual Report and Prudential Indicators 2011/12

The Committee considered a report, on pages 159 to 170 of the agenda that set out a review of the performance of the Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Plan 2011/2012 as agreed by Council on 22nd February 2011.

The Committee noted that the Strategy adopted in the original Treasury Management Strategy Report for 2011/12 approved by the Council on 22nd February 2011 was subject to revision during the year due to Moody's (credit rating agency) on 22nd June downgrading fifteen banks. UK banks RBS, Barclays and HSBC were among the names downgraded (Lloyds were also affected but dealt with separately).

The downgrading had not adversely affected Mole Valley's ability to invest funds, with one exception. The downgrading of Royal Bank of Scotland's (RBS) short-term rating from P-1 to P-2 had meant that this bank was removed from the investment counterparty list. This effectively left the Authority in a state of technical breach with the current Treasury Management Strategy. One of the parameters in the Strategy states that counterparties must have a short-term rating of 'P-1'.

A view was taken that the downgradings had little to do with a worsening of the long term viability of these banks but rather acknowledges central government's policy of diminished financial support. It was concluded that RBS be retained on the counterparty list, recognising that if we were to remove them, it would mean that we would not have enough counterparties to effectively manage our investment portfolio. This could result in lower interest returns for the Council.

For information Moody's short-term ratings are defined as follows;

Prime-1 (P-1) – Best ability to repay short-term debt.

Prime-1/Prime-2 (P-1/P-2) – Best ability or high ability to repay short term debt.

Prime-2 – (P-2) – High ability to repay short term debt.

Such issues have arisen in the past and it was agreed by Council (21/02/12) *'That if any urgent and immediate changes to the Treasury Management (TM) Strategy are required they will be delegated to the Strategic Director (Section 151 Officer) in consultation with the*

Portfolio Holder for Finance and Chairman of Audit Committee. If all are in agreement the TM Strategy and Treasury Management Practices (TMP's) will be modified to reflect this change. Ultimately any change will be ratified at the next available Council meeting after having been considered at the first available meeting of the Audit Committee'.

The appropriate agreement has been given and approval was now required to amend the Treasury Management Strategy to reflect the change in short-term rating for counterparties from P-1 to P-2.

It was noted that Sector, the Council's treasury advisors, would be invited to make a presentation to a future meeting of the Committee to which all Members would be invited to attend.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: (1) That the Prudential Indicators for 2011/2012 and Treasury Management Annual Outturn be approved.

(2) That the amendment to the short-term rating for counterparties from P-1 to P-2 be approved.

Attached at pages 17 to 28 of this agenda is a copy of the report considered by the Audit Committee on 27th September 2012.

The Council is asked to agree the recommendations of the Audit Committee as set out above.

ii) Audit Committee Terms of Reference and Workplan 2012/13

The Committee considered a report, on pages 171 to 177 of the agenda that asked the Committee to endorse or amend the revised Audit Committee Terms of Reference, as appropriate, and recommend these to Council, for inclusion within the Council's constitution, and to endorse or amend the proposed workplan for the Committee for 2012/13, as appropriate.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: That the revised Audit Committee Terms of Reference be approved for inclusion within the Council's constitution.

Attached at pages 29 to 35 of the agenda is a copy of the report considered by the Audit Committee on 27th September 2012.

The Council is asked to agree the recommendation of the Audit Committee as set out above.

b) Licensing Committee – 10th October 2012

Gambling Act 2005: Statement of Principles

The Committee considered the draft 'Statement of Principles' with revisions as set out on pages 1 to 24 of the agenda (Appendix A), and have made no comments, amendments or additions to it.

The Senior Licensing Officer drew Members' attention to a couple of typographical errors on pages 2 and 23 of the draft report.

RESOLVED: That the draft Statement of Principles goes out on consultation with those consultees as detailed in Paragraph 5.7 of the report, and at the conclusion of the consultation period to be returned by the 13th November 2012, the draft policy, after consideration of the responses to the consultation period will be recommended to the Council for adoption on the 4th December 2012.

Attached at pages 37 to 88 of the agenda is a copy of the report, current policy and amended draft policy considered by the Licensing Committee on 10th October 2012

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: The Council is asked to consider the final document and agree that it be adopted by the Council for the next three years, subject to any further additions that may need to be included during that period.

8. LEADER'S STATEMENT

The Leader will speak to the Council for up to 5 minutes.

9. REPORTS OF PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

To receive reports from Portfolio Holders.

10. QUESTIONS TO MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

A total of up to two questions can be put to each Portfolio Holder (for a period of up to 15 minutes whichever is the shorter). Questions are to be received by the Corporate Head with responsibility for Democratic Services by no later than 10am on the working day immediately prior to the meeting.

11. MOTIONS

Motion 4/2012

The following motion was submitted by Councillor Margaret Cooksey:

'This Council notes that:

- Over 500 people are killed or seriously injured on Surrey's roads every year;
- Since 2006 when Surrey County Council resolved to extend the implementation of 20mph zones to a greater number of local residential streets, only three schemes have been introduced – none in Mole Valley.

This Council recognises that:

- Lowering the normal residential speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph would make roads safer.
- The Government has relaxed the requirement that local speed reductions below 30mph have to be accompanied by expensive traffic calming measures. As a result, the relatively small cost of changing speed limits (e.g. new signage) pays for itself many times over by preventing costly accidents.

This council welcomes the recent actions of Surrey County Council in introducing advisory speed reductions in the immediate vicinity of some schools, but notes that this excludes other areas in which children's and vulnerable adults' footfall is high, and also the common routes in which children might walk or cycle to school

This Council resolves:

- That reducing the number of road deaths and serious accidents should be a priority;
- To support local requests to Surrey County Council for 20mph limits in residential roads where residents show clear support;

- To request that all roads within new residential developments in Mole Valley have 20mph limits.'

Motion 5/2012

The following motion was submitted by Councillor Stephen Cooksey:

'This Council notes that the Government has initiated a national consultation on its proposals to extend permitted development rights in the following areas. It is proposing to:

- Increase the size limits for the depth of single-storey domestic extensions from 4m to 8m (for detached houses) and from 3m to 6m (for all other houses), in non-protected areas, for a period of three years.
- Increase the size limits for extensions to shop and professional/financial services establishments from 50m² to 100m², and allow the building of these extensions up to the boundary of the property (except where the boundary is with a residential property), in non-protected areas, for a period of three years.
- Increase the size limits for extensions to offices from 50m² to 100m², in non-protected areas, for a period of three years.
- Increase the size limits for new industrial buildings within the curtilage of existing industrial premises from 100m² to 200m², in non-protected areas, for a period of three years.
- Remove some prior approval requirements for the installation of broadband infrastructure for a period of five years.

This Council

- Does not accept that the requirement for planning permission is preventing the building of well-designed extensions with acceptable impact on neighbours and the local environment;
- Believes that the proposal will lead to unacceptable extensions in environmental and townscape terms and create unnecessary tensions between neighbours;
- Notes that many extensions to industrial and commercial buildings have consequences for issues such as parking in our town centres which will be ignored if the requirement for planning permission is removed
- Concludes that the Government's proposals will encourage poorer quality extensions which risk permanently damaging the environment of our towns and villages.
- Resolves to respond to the Government's consultation setting out a reasoned case for rejecting its proposals.'

12. URGENT ITEMS

To consider any items which the Chairman considers to be urgent.

If you require a copy of this agenda, any of the reports within it or a large print version of the agenda, please telephone Victoria Foreman on 01306 879355 or e-mail: victoria.foreman@molevalley.gov.uk