

To all Members of the Council

### **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

Your attendance is requested at the meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Pippbrook, Dorking on **TUESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015 at 7.00pm** for the transaction of the business set out in the following Agenda.

*AME Griffiths*

←

Corporate Head of Service  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015

**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 approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for absence.

**3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

To receive any disclosures of interests from Members (either disclosable pecuniary interests or non-pecuniary interests) in relation to any items included on the agenda for this meeting in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct.

**4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## 5. RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEES

- (i) Standards Committee - 29<sup>th</sup> October 2014 - Mole Valley District Council's Independent Person Protocol and re-appointment of Independent Persons

'The Committee received a report that asked it to consider the protocol for the Independent Persons and to recommend its adoption by the Council subject to any amendments the Committee wished to make, and recommend to Council the re-appointment of the three Independent Persons for a period of four years from the Annual Council meeting in May 2015.

There was some discussion amongst Members regarding the change to the appointment of the Independent Persons from three to four years; it was confirmed by Officers that this would be in line with the other local authorities in Surrey who used the same Independent Persons for consultation in connection with an allegation that a Member had breached the Code of Conduct.

[N.B. The protocol for the Independent Persons will be included in the updates to the Constitution which Council will be asked to approve at its meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2015 and, therefore, the Council is not being asked to approve the protocol at this meeting.]

### **RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:**

**That the three Independent Persons be re-appointed for a period of four years from the Annual Council meeting in May 2015.'**

The report considered by the Standards Committee is set out at pages 5 to 6 of the agenda. The attached report does not include the protocol for the Independent Persons as this will be submitted to the Council's next meeting as part of the updates to the Constitution.

**The Council is asked to accept the recommendation of the Standards Committee.**

- (ii) Audit Committee – 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014 - Treasury Management Mid Year Monitoring Report 2014/15

'The Committee received a report which asked it to note the Treasury Management Mid Year Monitoring Report for the period ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014, and commend the report to Council, making any relevant recommendations and observations as Members saw fit.

The report outlined the performance of the Treasury Management function of the Council for the six months ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014. It provided an update on the economic conditions affecting Treasury Management decision making and looked ahead to future reporting requirements.

Members noted that the Council continued to be debt-free and that there had been no breaches of treasury management activities. Investments in the CCLA property fund were also doing very well.

Members were pleased to note the report, and felt that in future reports it would be useful to have more information about the UK property market as opposed to international financial information, as that was likely to affect the Council's investments to a greater extent. Members noted that Capita would be attending the next meeting of the Audit Committee to talk about the CCLA in more detail.

## **RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:**

- (1) To note that the Audit Committee received the Treasury Management Mid Year Monitoring Report 2014/15 for the period ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014.**
- (2) That the Treasury Management Mid Year Monitoring Report 2014/15 be approved.'**

The report considered by the Audit Committee is set out at pages 7 to 22 of the agenda.

**The Council is asked to accept the recommendations of the Audit Committee.**

## **6. AIRPORTS COMMISSION – CONSULTATION ON SHORTLISTED RUNWAY SCHEMES**

To receive the report of the Corporate Head of Service as set out at pages 23 to 87 of the agenda.

**The Council is asked to consider the report to be submitted to the Executive on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015 and to recommend a response to the Commission's consultation.**

## **7. LEADER'S STATEMENT**

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

## **8. REPORTS OF EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

To receive reports from Executive Members.

## **9. QUESTIONS TO MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE**

A total of up to two questions can be put to each Executive Member (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 this meeting.

## **10. MOTIONS**

### **(1) Motion 5/2014**

Motion 5/2014 was submitted by Councillor Stephen Cooksey at the meeting of the Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014. The Council agreed to refer the motion to the Scrutiny Committee for consideration. The motion was included on the agenda for the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015, but was not considered at that meeting. Motion 5/2014 is therefore referred back to the Council.

“Council notes:

- a) the strong and enthusiastic participation shown by the people of Scotland in a remarkable democratic process leading to the Referendum on 18 September;
- b) the resulting increased discussion on the devolution of powers from central government in Westminster and Whitehall.

Council believes:

- I. That power should be devolved to the people in all parts of the United Kingdom;
- II. That England is currently ruled over by an over-centralised state that fails to reflect localities and regions;
- III. That concentrating more power to English MPs in Westminster is not the only answer for English devolution and that passing power down to the local areas of England is essential.

Council therefore calls for:

Mole Valley's MPs, the Leader of the Council and the Executive to lobby for urgent major devolution of power, including tax raising and spending, from central government to the regions, counties, boroughs and districts and cities of England.

And that such lobbying should emphasise:

that the devolution of powers and finance to English councils be carried out in ways that enhance and strengthen local democratic bodies. This must include agreement that it shall be for local people and communities to decide their form of democratic leadership without having a specific model imposed (for example directly elected Mayors) in return for more powers;

a recognition that English devolution must include both large cities and county areas, as the many councils not within city regions must also gain greater powers and finance in order to build successful and prosperous futures."

The Council is asked to decide whether it wishes to accept or reject the motion.

## 11. 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 Joanne Hargreaves on 01306 879331 or e-mail: [joanne.hargreaves@molevalley.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.hargreaves@molevalley.gov.uk)

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