



COUNCIL

17 October 2019

To: The Mayor and Members of
WOKING BOROUGH COUNCIL

SUMMONS TO A MEETING

You are hereby summoned to attend an ORDINARY MEETING of the COUNCIL to be held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Gloucester Square, Woking on THURSDAY, THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF OCTOBER 2019 at 7.00 pm to transact the business specified in the agenda overleaf.

RAY MORGAN
Chief Executive

Civic Offices,
Woking

NOTE: Filming Council Meetings

Please note the meeting will be filmed and will be broadcast live and subsequently as an archive on the Council's website (www.woking.gov.uk). The images and sound recording will also be used for training purposes within the Council. Generally the public seating areas are not filmed. However by entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed.



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AGENDA

Prior to the commencement of business, Mr Steve Petch, Pastor of the Welcome Church, Woking will say prayers.

1. MINUTES.

To approve the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 25 July and 12 September 2019, as published.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

3. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS.

4. PRESENTATION BY THE BROOKWOOD CLUB.

In 1919, to celebrate the signing of the Armistice, a national Peace Day was announced and Peace Dinners were held across the Country, including one at Brookwood rifle range. To commemorate the centenary of the dinner, the Brookwood Club recreated the event, holding a 'Peace Afternoon Tea'. Representatives of the Club will present the Mayor with framed photographs of the two events.

5. URGENT BUSINESS.

To consider any business which the Chairman rules may be dealt with under Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests from Members and Officers in respect of any item to be considered at the meeting.

In accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, the Leader of the Council, Councillor D J Bittleston, Councillor A Azad, Councillor D Harlow and Councillor C S Kemp will declare a non-pecuniary interest in any items under which the Thamesway Group of Companies is discussed, arising from their positions as Directors of the Thamesway Group of Companies. The interest is such that speaking and voting are permissible.

In accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, Councillor D J Bittleston will declare a non-pecuniary interest in any items under which the Victoria Square Development is discussed, arising from his position as a Director of Victoria Square Woking Limited. The interest is such that speaking and voting are permissible.

In accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, Councillor D J Bittleston will declare a non-pecuniary interest in any items under which Rutland Woking Limited is discussed, arising from his position as a Director of Rutland Woking Limited. The interest is such that speaking and voting are permissible.

In accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, Councillor G S Cundy will declare a non-pecuniary interest in any items under which the Brookwood Cemetery is discussed, arising from his position as a Director of Woking Necropolis and Mausoleum Limited, Brookwood Park Limited and Brookwood Cemetery Limited. The interest is such that speaking and voting are permissible.

In accordance with Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Chief Executive, Ray Morgan, the Deputy Chief Executive, Douglas Spinks, and the Director of Housing, Louise Strongitharm, will declare a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in any items under which the Thamesway Group of Companies is discussed, arising from their positions as Directors of the Thamesway Group of Companies. The interest is such that speaking is permissible.

In accordance with Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Chief Executive, Ray Morgan, will declare a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in any items under which the Victoria Square Development is discussed, arising from his position as a Director of Victoria Square Woking Limited. The interest is such that speaking is permissible.

In accordance with Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Chief Executive, Ray Morgan, and the Deputy Chief Executive, Douglas Spinks, will declare a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in any items under which Export House is discussed, arising from their positions as Directors of Export House Limited. The interest is such that speaking is permissible.

In accordance with Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Deputy Chief Executive, Douglas Spinks will declare a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in any items under which Brookwood Cemetery is discussed, arising from his position as a Director of Woking Necropolis and Mausoleum Limited, Brookwood Park Limited and Brookwood Cemetery Limited. The interest is such that speaking is permissible.

In accordance with Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the Finance Director, Leigh Clarke, will declare a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in any items under which Dukes Court is discussed, arising from her position as a Director of Dukes Court Owner T S a r l. The interest is such that speaking is permissible.

In accordance with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules, Leigh Clarke (Finance Director) declared a disclosable personal interest (non-pecuniary) in Agenda Item 7 – Petition – Woking Football Club Development – arising from (i) her husband having a small shareholding in Woking Football Club and (ii) a Council appointed director of Kingfield Community Sports Centre Limited. The interest is such that it does not prevent Mrs Clarke from advising Council on this matter.

7. PETITION - WOKING FOOTBALL CLUB DEVELOPMENT. WBC19-026 (Pages 7 - 10)

8. PETITION - ACCESSIBLE TAXI VEHICLES. WBC19-032 (Pages 11 - 16)

9. QUESTIONS.

To deal with written questions submitted by Members under Standing Order 8.1. Copies of the questions and of the draft replies (which are subject to amendment by the Leader of the Council) will be laid upon the table.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE. WBC19-028 (Pages 17 - 20)

To receive and consider recommendations from the Executive.

10a. Notice of Motion - Cllr I Johnson - Heathrow Rail Link EXE19-048

10b. Notice of Motion - Cllr G Cundy - Introduce a planning policy to green new development over 15 storeys EXE19-049

10c. Notice of Motion - Cllr A-M Barker - Fiery Bird Venue/Phoenix Cultural Centre EXE19-050

- 10d. Notice of Motion - Cllr M Ali - Chairmanship of Oversight Panels EXE19-051
- 10e. Notice of Motion - Cllr A-M Barker - Review of Kingfield development stadium capacities EXE19-052
- 10f. Recommendation from Climate Change Working Group - Climate Emergency EXE19-112

11. POLLING DISTRICT REVIEW. WBC19-030 (Pages 21 - 30)

12. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES. WBC19-027 (Pages 31 - 32)

13. NOTICES OF MOTION.

To deal with any motions received in accordance with Standing Order 5.0. Any motions received before the deadline has passed for the receipt of motions will be published and a copy of the list will be tabled at the meeting.

14. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC.

The Mayor will move, and the Deputy Mayor will second:-

"That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of item 15 in view of the nature of the proceedings that, if members of the press and public were present during this item, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A, to the Local Government Act 1972."

Paragraph 3 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

PART II – PRESS AND PUBLIC EXCLUDED

15. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE. WBC19-029 (Pages 33 - 34)

15a. Land Management EXE19-115

AGENDA ENDS

Date Published - 9 October 2019

Note: At the close of the meeting the Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor Mrs Beryl Hunwicks, would like to invite the following to join her in the parlour:-

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor S Hussain, Councillors M Ali, A Azad, T Aziz, A-M Barker, D Bittleston, J Bond, A Boote, M Bridgeman, G Chrystie, K Howard, I Johnson, L Lyons, R Mohammed, L Morales, M I Raja, C Rana and M Whitehand together with Officers attending the meeting.

COUNCIL – 17 OCTOBER 2019

PETITION – WOKING FOOTBALL CLUB DEVELOPMENT

Executive Summary

Woking Borough Council has received a petition against the expansion of Woking Football Club and the development of associated residential accommodation. In accordance with Woking Borough Council's arrangements for petitions, the matter has been referred for consideration by the Council.

Recommendations

The Council is requested to consider the petition and determine accordingly.

Background Papers: Online Petition.

Reporting Person: Ray Morgan, Chief Executive
Email: ray.morgan@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3333

Contact Person: Frank Jeffrey, Democratic Services Manager
Email: frank.jeffrey@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3012

Date Published: 9 October 2019

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 A petition has been received setting out objections to the expansion of Woking Football Club and the construction of associated residential accommodation. The petition has been received through the Council's online e-petition scheme and contains 581 confirmed signatories and 79 unconfirmed signatories.
- 1.2 The number of signatures exceeds the threshold required for a petition to be referred to a meeting of Full Council and accordingly the Petitioner or their nominee has been invited to present the petition at Council.
- 1.3 The petition has been submitted in the following terms:
- 1.4 **“Stop Extreme Proposal for FC Stadium Expansion and over 1,000 New Homes.**
- 1.5 The local area, it's infrastructure and services, simply cannot support this extreme proposal for a 10k capacity stadium (size not required based on current and projected game attendance) and over 1000 flats.
 - Influx of 2k new inhabitants would add unsustainable traffic and parking pressure on already congested local roads.
 - Flat residents will have at least one car. The proposal to only provide 500 car parking spaces for the flats is untenable.
 - Extreme high density flat designs and building heights are not in keeping with local architecture, are visually intrusive, significantly blocking light and privacy for local residents and will significantly alter the character of the local area.
 - Influx of people cannot be supported by local services, such as already oversubscribed schools and doctors surgeries.
 - Stadium will emit immense light and noise pollution for local residents and high levels of transient people in the local area and on the roads.
 - The construction of this development will provide mass disruption on local roads, tremendous noise and environmental pollution for local residents which is undesirable.”
- 1.6 The on-line petition went live on 23 July 2019 and the Petitioner formally asked for it to be closed on 3 September 2019 (it was initially due to run to July 2020).

2.0 Petitions Scheme

- 2.1 As the number of signatories exceeds 400, the petition falls to be debated at full Council. In accordance with the Council's scheme for dealing with petitions, the petitioner has been invited to attend the meeting and present the petition. The presentation of a petition is limited to not more than three minutes, and should be confined to reading out, or summarising, the purpose of the petition, indicating the number and description of signatories, and making supporting remarks relevant to the petition.
- 2.2 Following the presentation, Members will have the opportunity to ask questions of the petitioner. Thereafter, the Council will discuss the petition and determine what action, if any, is to be taken.

3.0 Officer Comments

- 3.1 Woking Borough Council has not yet received a Planning Application for the expansion of the Football Club or the construction of residential units. Should an application be received by the Local Planning Authority, residents will be given the opportunity to submit comments on the proposals. In view of this, the Council is advised to formally receive the petition and agree that the objections raised should be taken into account by the Local Planning Authority should an application as described by the Petition be received.

REPORT ENDS

COUNCIL – 17 OCTOBER 2019

PETITION – ACCESSIBLE TAXI VEHICLES

Woking Borough Council has received a petition seeking to retain a mixed fleet of taxi vehicles, allowing drivers to operate in both saloon and DDA compliant vehicles.

In accordance with Woking Borough Council's arrangements for petitions, the matter has been referred for consideration by the Council.

Recommendations

The Council is requested to consider the petition and determine accordingly.

Background Papers: Online Petition.

Reporting Person: Ray Morgan, Chief Executive
Email: ray.morgan@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3333

Contact Person: Frank Jeffrey, Democratic Services Manager
Email: frank.jeffrey@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3012

Date Published: 9 October 2019

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 A petition has been received which seeks to retain a mixed fleet and allow drivers to operate in both saloon and DDA compliant vehicles. The petition has been received through the Council's online e-petition scheme and contains 460 confirmed signatories and 94 unconfirmed signatories. Further signatures in the form of a paper petition were received at the Council offices on the afternoon of the day the agenda for Council was published (9 October 2019).
- 1.2 The number of signatures exceeds the threshold required for a petition to be referred to a meeting of Full Council and accordingly the Petitioner or their nominee has been invited to present the petition at Council.
- 1.3 The petition has been submitted in the following terms:

“Petition to retain a mixed fleet and allow drivers to operate in both saloon and DDA compliant vehicles.

We the undersigned petition Woking Borough Council to retain a mixed fleet and allow drivers to operate in both saloon and DDA compliant vehicles.

Woking Borough Council has a policy which would do away with a mixed fleet of both wheelchair-accessible vehicles and saloon cars.

The proposed Wheelchair-accessible taxis are not necessarily disability-friendly. People with arthritis, multiple sclerosis, fractured limbs and elderly people etc. cannot get in or sit down in the taxi, or, can do so only with extreme discomfort. We need a taxi fleet which caters to everyone's needs and is truly inclusive.

Environmentally as well, this is a poor policy. This policy runs contrary to the council's recent declaration of a climate emergency, as wheelchair-accessible vehicles are much more polluting. From a safety point of view the proposed vehicles are less safe in instances.

The high cost of purchasing, running costs and maintaining these vehicles would impact drivers' livelihoods and will have a negative effect on the Hackney trade overall.”

- 1.4 The on-line petition went live on 24 September 2019 and closed on 3 October 2019.

2.0 Petitions Scheme

- 2.1 As the number of signatories exceeds 400, the petition falls to be debated at full Council. In accordance with the Council's scheme for dealing with petitions, the petitioner has been invited to attend the meeting and present the petition. The presentation of a petition is limited to not more than three minutes, and should be confined to reading out, or summarising, the purpose of the petition, indicating the number and description of signatories, and making supporting remarks relevant to the petition.
- 2.2 Following the presentation, Members will have the opportunity to ask questions of the petitioner. Thereafter, the Council will discuss the petition and determine what action, if any, is to be taken.

3.0 Officer Comments

- 3.1 Woking Borough Council adopted a Policy on 29 November 2007 requiring all Hackney Carriages to be wheelchair accessible by the March 2020.

- 3.2 It was resolved that all new taxi licences issued after April 2008 must be suitable for wheelchair accessible vehicles, but that those drivers whose existing vehicles were not wheelchair accessible, would be permitted to continue using their saloon cars (and replacing them like for like) up until 31 March 2020. Between 2008 and 2012 the exact details of the wheelchair requirements were amended. As a result of this the current policy on wheelchair accessible vehicles was finalised and agreed in 2012. The drivers have been aware since November 2007 that they have until 31 March 2020 in which to bring their vehicles in line with the policy. In adopting the policy in 2007, the Council noted the potential financial impact on drivers of the introduction of the Policy and therefore allowed for a transition period of 13 years.
- 3.3 One of the main reasons for the introduction of the policy was to ensure compliance with section 32 of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 which states that all Hackney Carriages must be wheelchair accessible. It should be noted that although this section was contained within the legislation it has not been enacted. Instead, the Government advised Local Authorities to be proactive on the matter. Section 160 of the Equality Act 2010 now replicates section 32 of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. To date, this section remains inactive. However, it should be noted that in April 2017, section 167 of the Equality Act 2010 (pertaining to a list of wheelchair accessible vehicles) went live (having sat in limbo for years, much like this section), thus giving the Local Authorities evidence that the relevant sections of the act relating to taxis and wheelchairs have not totally fallen by the wayside, and they are still in the peripheral vision of the Government to be switched on at some point in the future. During the consultation process various disability groups were consulted in respect of the proposed policy.
- 3.4 The primary aim of the policy is to make the vehicles accessible to wheelchair users. If there is an issue with access/egress with vehicles due to the step height, this can be resolved with the introduction of a step height requirement within the vehicles specification which would make the vehicles more accessible to all and still cater for wheelchair users. This can be achieved without the introduction of a mixed fleet and loss of wheelchair accessible vehicles. It is not considered that wheelchair accessible taxis are unsafe or pose a danger to the travelling public.
- 3.5 The introduction of a mixed fleet is not a simple resolution to the issues raised by the drivers. Should the Council seek to introduce a mixed fleet then policy would need to be adopted to regulate the same. A ratio of saloon to hackney vehicles would need to be agreed together with criteria for allocating saloon vehicles to drivers. It is also necessary to ensure that a black market for the saloon vehicles is not created. It should also be noted that should the s160 of the Equality Act 2010 be activated, a mixed fleet policy would be in breach of the Act and all Hackney Vehicles that are not wheelchair accessible would need to be replaced.
- 3.6 The drivers have been working towards compliance to the policy for many years and numerous drivers have purchased vehicles in compliance with the current policy. To seek to change the policy now would be an unnecessary step backwards.
- 3.7 The Council is looking forward towards the proposed introduction of electric or hybrid wheelchair accessible taxis. The Council sought to work with a specialist company to establish whether or not the introduction of electric or hybrid wheelchair accessible taxis would be a viable possibility for all parties. In order to undertake the assessment the Council needed the assistance of the Hackney Drivers. The trial would involve a box being fitted into the Hackney Vehicles to collect data which would be accessible by both the driver and the Council. This trial was offered at no cost to the driver. The data provided would advise the driver whether or not it would be financially beneficial to them (based on their work habits) to invest in an electric vehicle. It would also assist the Council in identifying where, for example, to place electric charging points etc. Unfortunately, despite on the Council's best efforts, only two drivers volunteered to be part of the trial, as such the Council was unable to proceed. Following the declaration of the climate emergency, the importance of considering

Petition – Accessible Taxi Vehicles

such a policy has become a priority. It is anticipated that a draft policy will be brought to the Licensing Committee for consideration early in the next municipal year.

REPORT ENDS

COUNCIL – 17 OCTOBER 2019

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE

Executive Summary

The Council is invited to consider the recommendations from the meeting of the Executive held on 10 September 2019. The recommendations as set out in the reports of the Executive are outlined below. A paper setting out the decisions of the Executive will be tabled at the meeting of Council.

EXECUTIVE – 10 SEPTEMBER 2019

10a. NOTICE OF MOTION – CLLR I JOHNSON – HEATHROW RAIL LINK

The Executive has been asked to consider the following Notice of Motion:

“That this Council:

- 1) Notes the UK Government’s invitation in May 2019 for market-led proposals for a new rail link connecting Heathrow Airport from the south and Waterloo and Surrey/Hampshire and this Council’s long-term aspiration for a direct rail link to Heathrow Airport;
- 2) supports action to benefit the environment by minimising traffic and pollution by transferring journeys from road to rail;
- 3) welcomes the initiative of Heathrow Southern Railway to propose a project involving a direct rail link from Woking to Heathrow Airport including significant sections via tunnels to minimise environmental impact; and
- 4) asks the Council to write to the Member of Parliament for Woking to press the Secretary of State for Transport to expedite the process of approving a project and selecting a preferred developer, and to advise members when this has been done.”

10b. NOTICE OF MOTION – CLLR G CUNDY – INTRODUCE A PLANNING POLICY TO GREEN NEW DEVELOPMENT OVER 15 STOREYS

The Executive has been asked to consider the following Notice of Motion:

“This Council should introduce a policy at the earliest opportunity whereby any new planning application for development over 15 storeys should have at least 20% of its total surface area as living wall, garden terrace or roof garden. Where the Council has ownership, control or interest this policy should be adopted prior to formal policy introduction as a matter of internal policy.”

10c. NOTICE OF MOTION – CLLR A-M BARKER – FIERY BIRD VENUE/PHOENIX CULTURAL CENTRE

The Executive has been asked to consider the following Notice of Motion:

“This Council supports the work of the Fiery Bird Venue/Phoenix Cultural Centre CIC and calls for a permanent space to be found for this project in Woking Town Centre.”

10d. NOTICE OF MOTION – CLLR M ALI – CHAIRMANSHIP OF OVERSIGHT PANELS

The Executive has been asked to consider the following Notice of Motion:

“The democratic system works best with checks and balances and distributed decision making as opposed to centralized and single source authority. As such it’s important that the chairs of the over sight panels including but not limited to Victoria Square and Sheerwater are elected by the councillors who are the members of the respective panel and shall as a recommendation not be the relevant portfolio holders. This serves democratic practices best.

Following the approval of this motion immediate election for the chairs of the oversight panels shall be held for the current year (irrespective of any past decisions) and there after every year follow the same pattern as the rest of the committees of the council for election of the chair.

This shall apply to existing and future panels.

In view of the recent meeting of Victoria Square, I request that this motion be determined by the full council now and not referred to the executive.”

10e. NOTICE OF MOTION – CLLR A-M BARKER – REVIEW OF KINGFIELD DEVELOPMENT STADIUM CAPACITIES

The Executive has been asked to consider the following Notice of Motion:

“Council notes that a capacity of 5000 is sufficient for a football team to compete in League Two. Council calls on officers to assess the effect on current proposals for development at Kingfield of stadium capacities at various levels between 6000 and 8000.”

10f. RECOMMENDATION FROM CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP – CLIMATE EMERGENCY

The Executive is requested to:

RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL That

- (i) the Climate Change Working Group’s recommended public definition of carbon neutrality, set out below, be adopted and published on the Council’s website:

“On 25 July 2019, the Council pledged to become carbon neutral by 2030. It will reduce to zero any greenhouse emissions associated with its own estate and operations. Where any remaining emissions cannot be avoided, the Council will offset these through projects such as tree planting and maintain trade in renewable energy, thereby eliminating its contribution to climate change”;

- (ii) the Climate Change Working Group’s recommended definition of the Council’s estate and operations - comprising all Council owned assets (as set out in paragraph 3.8 of the Climate Change Working Group Report at Appendix 1) - be adopted;
- (iii) the Climate Change Working Group’s recommended baseline year of 2018/19 for monitoring emissions be adopted;

Recommendations of the Executive

- (iv) in the longer term, the Council will develop plans for borough-wide emissions and adaptation actions to address the climate and ecological emergency, in so far as it is able to influence activities beyond its direct control, with the aim of carbon neutrality by 2050; and
- (v) the Planning Committee, having regard to the Parking Standards Supplementary Document, be requested to exercise its discretion wherever possible to permit zero or minimal parking provision in Woking Town Centre developments.

The Council has the authority to determine the recommendations set out above.

Background Papers: None.

Reporting Person: Ray Morgan, Chief Executive
Email: ray.morgan@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3333

Contact Person: Frank Jeffrey, Democratic Services Manager
Email: frank.jeffrey@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3012

Date Published: 9 October 2019

REPORT ENDS

COUNCIL – 17 OCTOBER 2019

POLLING DISTRICT REVIEW

Executive Summary

The Council is responsible for the designation of polling districts and polling places within the Borough. A full review of all polling district and polling place arrangements was carried out in 2018, and reported to Council in October 2018. In July 2019, Officers received representations to re-visit the polling district arrangements for Mount Hermon and Goldsworth Park, to increase the accessibility for electors in these areas to their polling place. No other requests were received.

This report sets out two proposals: the creation of a new polling district, Mount Hermon Central (H3), with a new polling place of the United Reformed Church on White Rose Lane, in the Mount Hermon Ward; and the expansion of the Brockhill polling district (C4), which was created in 2018, to increase the number of electors voting at the Generation Centre off Denton Way, in the Goldsworth Park Ward.

If agreed, the revised arrangements will be incorporated in the revised register published on 1 December 2019.

Recommendations

The Council is requested to:

RESOLVE That

- (i) a new polling district 'H3 – Mount Hermon Central' be created, containing the streets set out in paragraph 2.3 of this report;
- (ii) the designated polling place for Mount Hermon Central be the United Reformed Church, White Rose Lane, Woking; and
- (iii) the C4 – Brockhill polling district be renamed 'Goldsworth Central' and be expanded to contain the streets set out in paragraph 3.3 of this report.

The Council has the authority to determine the recommendations set out above.

Background Papers: None.

Reporting Person: Ray Morgan, Chief Executive
Email: ray.morgan@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3333

Contact Person: Charlotte Griffiths, Electoral Services Manager
Email: charlotte.griffiths@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3215

Date Published: 9 October 2019

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 A review of the Parliamentary polling districts and polling places was carried out in the autumn of 2018, and reported to Council in October 2018.
- 1.2 In July 2019, Officers received representations for the polling district provision in Mount Hermon and Goldsworth Park to be reviewed, with the view to designate polling places that were more accessible for electors in these areas.
- 1.3 All Councillors were contacted in August 2109, to ascertain if there were any other areas that could be review. As no further representations were received, this report sets out proposals to revise the polling district arrangements for the Mount Hermon and Goldsworth Park Wards.

2.0 Mount Hermon

- 2.1 There are currently two polling districts in the Mount Hermon ward, H1 - Mount Hermon West and H2 - Mount Hermon East. The designated polling places are St Mary of Bethany Church for Mount Hermon West and St Dunstan's Church for Mount Hermon East.
- 2.2 Representations were received to the effect that electors in the middle of the ward often had difficulty accessing these two polling places, and a central polling place would be ideal, which could result in an increased turnout at elections in the ward.
- 2.3 As such, Officers have investigated the possibility of creating a third polling district, H3 - Mount Hermon Central, which is set out at Appendix 1. The streets that are proposed to be allocated to this polling district are:

- Barrens Close – All properties
- Barrens Park – All properties
- Bylands – All properties
- Calluna Court – All properties
- Fairview Avenue – All properties
- Fairview Close – All properties
- Fircroft Close – All properties
- Fircroft Court – All properties
- Greenheys Place – All properties
- Guildford Road – Sandringham Court, Southview Court, Thacker Mews, Even Nos 2 – 10b; Odd Nos from 1 – 11
- Heathside Crescent – All properties, including Copper Beach House, Holly Lodge and Oak House
- Heathside Road - Abingdon Court and Mountside Place
- Hill View Court – All properties
- Hill View Road – All properties including Beechvale, Bell Court, Queen's Court, The Orchards
- Marcus Court - All properties
- Holbreck Place - All properties
- Ockenden Close – All properties
- Ockenden Gardens – All properties
- Ockenden Road – All properties
- Oriental Road – The Exchange; Somerset House
- Park Court - All properties
- Park Drive – All properties including Highdene, Meadside, Pinehurst and Westview
- Park Place – All properties
- Radstone Court – All properties
- Ravenswood Court – All properties
- Rosewood – All Properties
- St Andrews Gate – All properties
- Station Approach – Centrium, Eastgate
- The Birches – All properties
- Wendela Close – All properties
- White Rose Lane – Wildbank Court, Even Nos 2 – 46; Odd Nos 1 – 59, Brummell, Bucklebury, Farthings, Giverny, High Barn, Lanesway, Lindos, Park Gate, Seymours, Squirrels Leap, Storrs Hill Cottage, Summer Place, The Timbers, Toad Hall, Town House, Wealdens, Westbourne, Wetherby, White Roses, York Mews

Polling District Review

- 2.4 Officers visited the United Reformed Church on White Rose Lane, and there are suitable facilities here for the Church to be used as a polling place.
- 2.5 The effect of the new polling district arrangement on the existing polling districts are set out below:

Polling District	Polling Place	Current Electorate (01/09/19)	Proposed Electorate (01/09/19)
Mount Hermon West (H1)	St Mary of Bethany Church, Mount Hermon Road	3,913	2,685
Mount Hermon East (H2)	St Dunstan's Church, Shaftesbury Road	3,713	3,267
Mount Hermon Central (H3)	United Reformed Church	n/a	1,667

- 2.6 Two polling stations are still be required at both the St Mary of Bethany and St Dunstan's polling places, in order to comply with Electoral Commission polling station electorate ratios. It is also likely that the decrease in the total number of electors at each venue may reduce the risk of lengthy queues at these polling places on polling day.

3.0 Goldsworth Park

- 3.1 One change introduced after the 2018 review was to allocate the residents of Brockhill to the Goldsworth South Polling Station, the Generation Centre.
- 3.2 Officers were requested to investigate the possibility of more electors being allocated the Generation Centre to vote, focusing on the southern part of the Goldsworth West polling district.
- 3.3 Officers have investigated the request and have developed a proposal to expand the C4 - Brockhill polling district and rename it 'Goldsworth South'. A plan of the proposed revised polling district is set out at Appendix 2 and consists of the following streets:

- Ainsdale Way – All properties
- Atkins Close – All properties
- Brockhill – Clifton Court – All properties
- Cranfield Court – All properties
- Denvale Walk – All properties
- Greythorne Road – All properties
- Hamble Close – All properties
- Hamble Walk – All properties
- Helford Walk - All properties
- Knightswood – All properties
- Martindale Road – All properties
- Muirfield Road – All properties
- Prestbury Court – All properties
- Rosewarne Close – All properties

- 3.4 The impact of the new polling district on the existing polling districts is set out below:

Polling District	Polling Place	Current Electorate (01/09/19)	Proposed Electorate (01/09/19)
Goldsworth West (C1)	TS Dianthus, Wishbone Way	3,661	2,995
Goldsworth Central (C2)	Generation Centre, Denton Way	1,274	1,274
Goldsworth East (C3)	Salvation Army Church Hall, Sythwood	2,004	2,004
Brockhill/Goldsworth South (C4)	Generation Centre, Denton Way	43	665

- 3.5 There is sufficient space at the Generation Centre for the additional electors to vote at this polling place. However, as the electors in the proposed Goldsworth South polling district will be in a different County Electoral Division, there will be a requirement for an additional polling station to be set up when elections to Surrey County Council are held.
- 3.6 The proposals will not have an impact on the polling place arrangements for the other polling districts in the Ward, as two polling stations will still be required at the TS Dianthus polling place to comply with the Electoral Commission's electorate ratios for polling stations.

4.0 Implications

Financial

- 4.1 There will be an additional cost for polling place hire and polling station staff for the new polling district in Mount Hermon.
- 4.2 There will be an increase in staffing costs for County elections if the polling district arrangements for Goldsworth Park are amended.

Human Resource/Training and Development

- 4.3 There are no human resource/training and development implications.

Community Safety

- 4.4 There are no community safety implications.

Risk Management

- 4.5 There are no community safety implications.

Sustainability

- 4.6 The proposed amendments will increase the number of electors within walking distance to their respective polling place.

Equalities

- 4.7 The proposed amendments will make the polling places more accessible for electors to cast their vote.

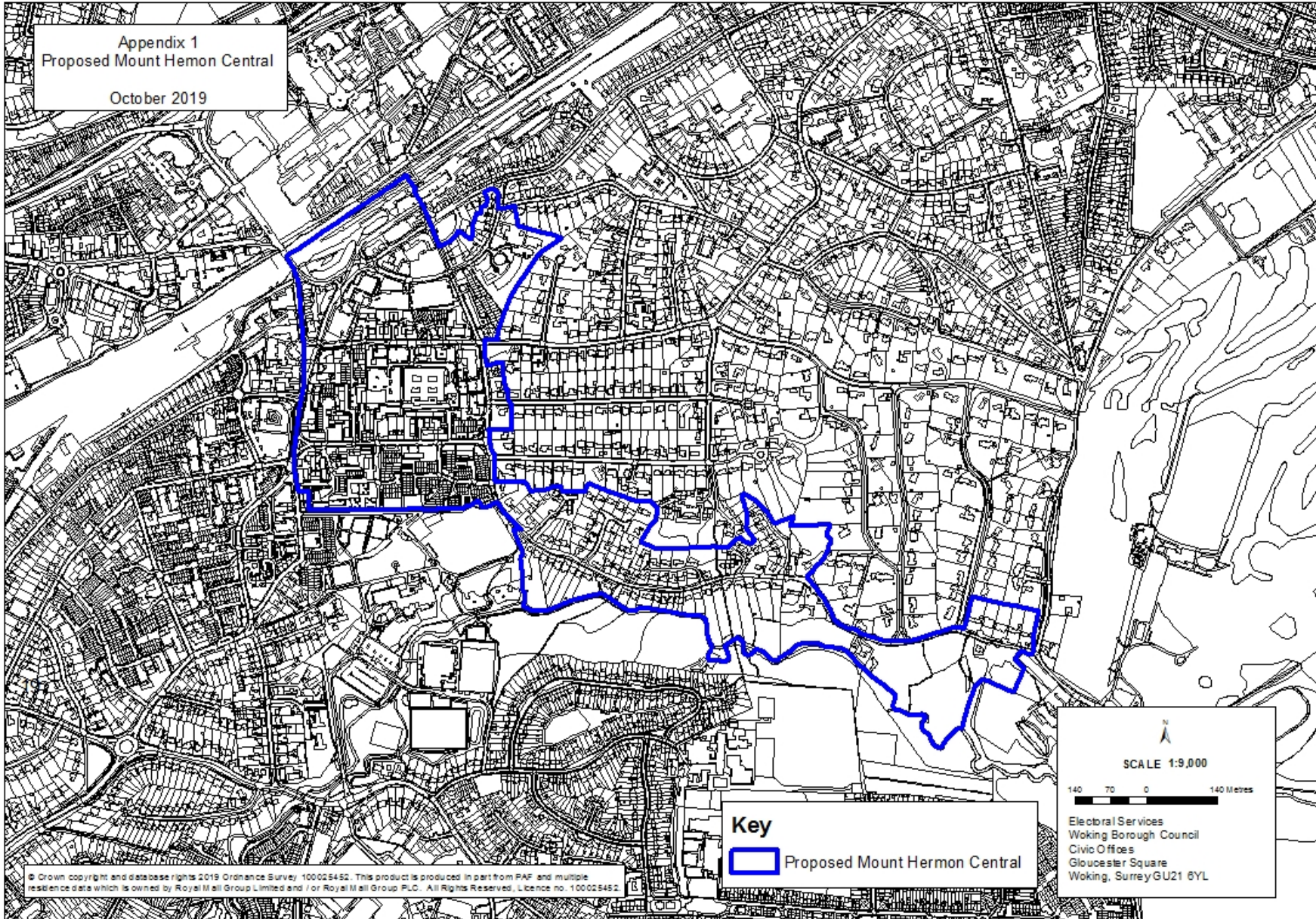
Safeguarding

- 4.8 There are no safeguarding implications.

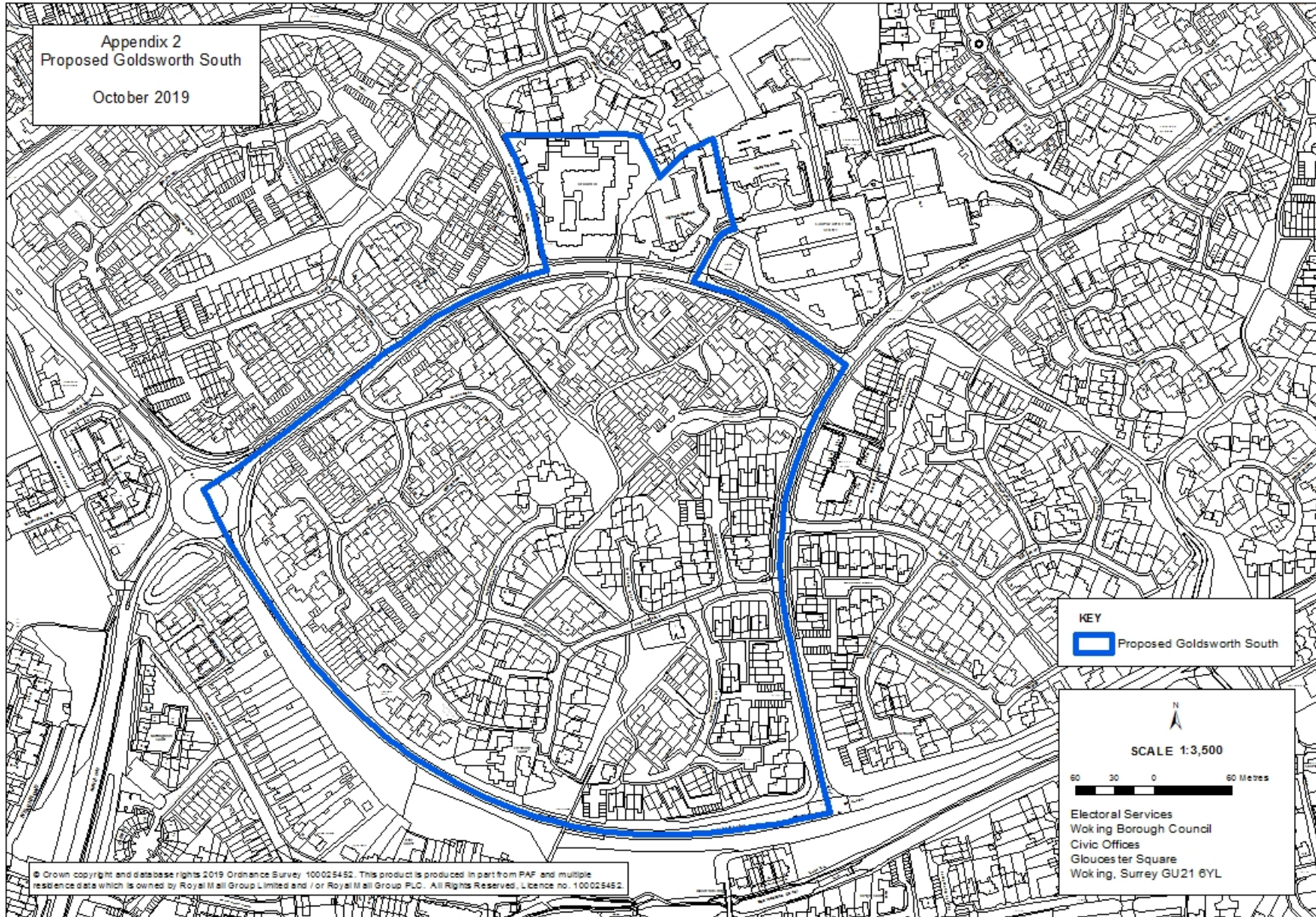
5.0 Conclusions

- 5.1 The suggested amendments to the existing polling district arrangements can be accommodated and if agreed will be implemented when the electoral register is re-published on 1 December 2019.

REPORT ENDS



Appendix 2
Proposed Goldsworth South
October 2019



KEY
Proposed Goldsworth South

SCALE 1:3,500
60 30 0 60 Metres

Electoral Services
Woking Borough Council
Civic Offices
Gloucester Square
Woking, Surrey GU21 6YL

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COUNCIL – 17 OCTOBER 2019

APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Executive Summary

Following the local Elections in May 2019, two vacancies arose amongst the appointments to outside bodies made through the Surrey Leaders' Group. The Council is invited to nominate Members to fill the posts.

The positions are:

The South East Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association (3 year appointment)

Deals with the operation requirements of all reserve forces in Surrey. The role of the representative on the County Committee is to provide a point of communication between the Borough and District Councils and their communities and to advise on local matters. The representative has the right to attend meetings and will receive papers. The representative is entitled to speak at meetings.

Meets: Twice a year. June and October/November,

Time: Evening

Venue: Territorial Army Centre, Redhill

The Surrey Civilian Military Partnership Board (3 year appointment) – The successful nominee would act as the deputy for Councillor Tom Gracey.

This body relates to the Community Covenant for Surrey, a voluntary statement of mutual support between the local civilian community and its local armed forces community. It reviews the work of the signatories of the Surrey Community Covenant and oversees and takes responsibility for the administering of Ministry of Defence Community Grants. The Board has asked for a Borough/District Member nominee to act as a Deputy for Councillor Gracey (Runnymede Borough Council).

Meets: Minimum twice a year, in March and October

Time: 10am to 12noon

Venue: The meetings are held at military bases or Reserve Centres across the County. An annual Conference is held at Pirbright in February.

Nominations have been sought from all Borough and District Authorities. Any Members nominated for either position will need to complete a CV. The appointments will be confirmed at a meeting of the Leaders' Group on 20 November. Both appointments will be for three years.

Recommendations

The Council is invited to nominate Councillors to the positions on the South East Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association and the Surrey Civilian Military Partnership Board.

The Council has the authority to determine the recommendation set out above.

Background Papers: None.

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Date Published: 9 October 2019

REPORT ENDS

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

