

PETITION – THE HOE VALLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

Executive Summary

The Council has received a petition requesting the Council to recognise the Hoe Valley Neighbourhood Forum and area at its Council meeting on 25 July 2019 or earlier. 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:

RESOLVE That the petition and the comments of the Petitioner should be taken into consideration by the Council during the determination of the Designation of the Hoe Valley Neighbourhood Forum and Hoe Valley Neighbourhood Area which appears elsewhere on the agenda.

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

Background Papers: None.

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 A petition has been received requesting the Council to recognise the Hoe Valley Neighbourhood Forum and area at its meeting on 25 July 2019 or earlier. The petition consists of both a paper submission and an online e-petition submitted through the Council's website. The petition as a whole contains 630 signatures, comprising 458 paper signatories and 172 electronic 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:

“We the undersigned petition Woking Borough Council to Recognise the Hoe Valley Neighbourhood Forum and area at its council meeting on 25th of July or earlier if possible.

The residents of Hoe Valley Neighbourhood Forum within the Hoe Valley Ward area, submitted an application to be formally recognised by Woking Borough Council in December 2018. This has been the subject of a full public consultation locally and there was overwhelming support for the forum. Residents are concerned at what seems to be an unreasonable delay after they were told by WBC in February that the Forum would be approved in April.”

- 1.4 The on-line petition ended on 16 June 2019 and the paper petition was received earlier in May 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 It is recommended that this petition and the comments of the Petitioner should be taken into consideration by the Council during the determination of the following item on the agenda, the Designation of the Hoe Valley Neighbourhood Forum and Hoe Valley Neighbourhood Area.

REPORT ENDS