

Merton Council

Annual Council Meeting

Membership

The Mayor Krystal Miller

The Deputy Mayor: Councillor John Sargeant

Councillors: Agatha Mary Akyigyina, Stephen Alambritis, Mark Allison, Stan Anderson, Laxmi Attawar, Hamish Badenoch, John Bowcott, Michael Bull, Adam Bush, Tobin Byers, Charlie Chirico, David Chung, Caroline Cooper-Marbiah, Pauline Cowper, Stephen Crowe, Mary Curtin, David Dean, John Dehaney, Nick Draper, Edward Foley, Brenda Fraser, Fidelis Gadzama, Ross Garrod, Suzanne Grocott, Jeff Hanna, Joan Henry, Daniel Holden, James Holmes, Janice Howard, Mary-Jane Jeanes, Abigail Jones, Philip Jones, Andrew Judge, Sally Kenny, Linda Kirby, Abdul Latif, Najeeb Latif, Brian Lewis-Lavender, Gilli Lewis-Lavender, Edith Macauley, Russell Makin, Maxi Martin, Peter McCabe, Oonagh Moulton, Ian Munn BSc, MRTPI(Rtd), Katy Neep, Dennis Pearce, Judy Saunders, David Simpson CBE, Marsie Skeete, Peter Southgate, Geraldine Stanford, Linda Taylor OBE, Imran Uddin, Gregory Patrick Udeh, Peter Walker, Jill West, Martin Whelton and David Williams

Date: Wednesday 4 June 2014

Time: 19:15

**Venue: Council chamber - Merton Civic Centre, London Road,
Morden SM4 5DX**

This is a public meeting and attendance by the public is encouraged and welcomed. For more information about the agenda please contact democratic.services@merton.gov.uk or telephone [020 8545 3361](tel:02085453361).

All Press contacts: press@merton.gov.uk, 020 8545 3181

Annual Council Meeting

4 June 2014

- 1) Apologies for absence
- 2) Declarations of Pecuniary Interest
- 3) Election of Mayor for 2014/ 2015
- 4) Mayor's Appointment of the Deputy Mayor for 2014/2015
- 5) Vote of Thanks to the Retiring Mayor
- 6) Mayor's Appointment of Mayor's Chaplain
- 7) Election of Leader of the Council
- 8) Vote of Thanks to Former Councillors 1 - 6
- 9) Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 2 April 2014 7 - 20
- 10) Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 2 April 2014 21 - 26
- 11) Constitution of Committees and Other Bodies 27 - 44

Note on declarations of interest

Members are advised to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting. If a pecuniary interest is declared they should withdraw from the meeting room during the whole of the consideration of that matter and must not participate in any vote on that matter. If members consider they should not participate because of a non-pecuniary interest which may give rise to a perception of bias, they should declare this, withdraw and not participate in consideration of the item. For further advice please speak with the Assistant Director of Corporate Governance.

Committee: Annual Council

Date: 4 June 2014

Wards: All

Subject: Vote of Thanks to Former Councillors

Lead Officer: Ged Curran – Chief Executive

Contact Officer: Chris Pedlow – Senior Democratic Services Officer (020 8545 3616)
democratic.services@merton.gov.uk

Recommendations:

That, following their retirement from membership of the Council, the Council places on record its sincere appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the Borough by the former Councillors listed in the attached Appendix A and extends to them its grateful thanks for their activities on behalf of the Borough

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report asks Council to place on record its appreciation of the services rendered by the retiring Councillors listed in the Appendix A to this report.

2. DETAILS

- 2.1 In the year of election it is customary for the Council to acknowledge the service of councillors not returning following the election. In particular, the Council is asked to record its sincere appreciation of the valuable service rendered to the Borough by the following former Councillors on their retirement from membership of the Council and extends to them its grateful thanks for their activities on behalf of the Borough.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 3.1 None for the purpose of this report

4. TIMETABLE

- 4.1 This report will be presented to Annual Council on 4 June 2014.

5. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None for the purposes of this covering report.

6. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None for the purpose of this report.

7. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 None for the purpose of this report.

8. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

8.1 None for the purpose of this report.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None for the purposes of this covering report.

10. APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

10.1 Appendix A – List of retiring councillors.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 None for this report.

Councillor	Term/s of Office
Mark Betteridge	May 2006 – 2010 May 2010 – 2014
Margaret Brierly	May 1994 – 2002 May 2002 – 2006 May 2006 – 2010 May 2010 – 2014
Richard Chellew	May 2006 – 2010 May 2010 – 2014
Iain Dysart	May 1994 – 1998 May 1998 – 2002 May 2010 – 2014
Chris Edge	May 2006 – 2010 May 2010 – 2014
Suzanne Evans	May 2010 – 2014
Karin Forbes	May 2006 – 2010 May 2010 – 2014

Samantha George	<p>May 1998 - 2002</p> <p>May 2002 – 2006</p> <p>May 2006 – 2010</p> <p>May 2010 – 2014</p>
Maurice Groves	<p>June 2000 - 2002</p> <p>May 2002 – 2006</p> <p>May 2006 – 2010</p> <p>May 2010 – 2014</p>
Richard Hilton	<p>May 2010 – 2014</p>
Logie Lohendran	<p>May 2010 – 2014</p>
Krystal Miller	<p>May 2006 – 2010</p> <p>May 2010 – 2014</p>
Diane Neil Mills	<p>May 2006 – 2010</p> <p>May 2010 – 2014</p>
Henry Nelless	<p>May 2006 – 2010</p> <p>May 2010 – 2014</p>
Linda Scott	<p>May 2006 – 2010</p> <p>May 2010 – 2014</p>
Rod Scott	<p>May 2006 – 2010</p> <p>May 2010 – 2014</p>

Debbie Shears	May 2002 – 2006 May 2006 – 2010 May 2010 – 2014
Sam Thomas	May 2010 – 2014
Ray Tindle	May 2010 – 2014
Richard Williams	May 2006 – 2010 May 2010 – 2014
Miles Windsor	May 2010 – 2014
Simon Withey	May 2006 – 2010 May 2010 – 2014

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 9

All minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the committee/panel. To find out the date of the next meeting please check the calendar of events at your local library or online at www.merton.gov.uk/committee.

COUNCIL
2 APRIL 2014
(19.15 - 21.30)

PRESENT

Councillor Krystal Miller,(Mayor)
Councillor John Sargeant (Deputy Mayor),
Councillor Agatha Mary Akyigyina,
Councillor Stephen Alambritis, Councillor Mark Allison,
Councillor Stan Anderson, Councillor Laxmi Attawar,
Councillor Mark Betteridge, Councillor John Bowcott,
Councillor Margaret Brierly, Councillor Richard Chellew,
Councillor David Chung, Councillor Caroline Cooper-Marbiah,
Councillor John Dehaney, Councillor Nick Draper,
Councillor Iain Dysart, Councillor Chris Edge,
Councillor Suzanne Evans, Councillor Karin Forbes,
Councillor Brenda Fraser, Councillor Samantha George,
Councillor Suzanne Grocott, Councillor Maurice Groves,
Councillor Jeff Hanna, Councillor Richard Hilton,
Councillor James Holmes, Councillor Janice Howard,
Councillor Mary-Jane Jeanes, Councillor Philip Jones,
Councillor Andrew Judge, Councillor Linda Kirby,
Councillor Gilli Lewis-Lavender, Councillor Logie Lohendran,
Councillor Edith Macauley, Councillor Russell Makin,
Councillor Maxi Martin, Councillor Peter McCabe,
Councillor Diane Neil Mills, Councillor Oonagh Moulton,
Councillor Ian Munn, Councillor Henry Nelles,
Councillor Dennis Pearce, Councillor Judy Saunders,
Councillor Linda Scott, Councillor Rod Scott,
Councillor David Simpson, Councillor Debbie Shears,
Councillor Peter Southgate, Councillor Linda Taylor,
Councillor Sam Thomas, Councillor Ray Tindle,
Councillor Gregory Udeh, Councillor Peter Walker,
Councillor Martin Whelton, Councillor David Williams,
Councillor Richard Williams and Councillor Miles Windsor

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

Apologies were received from Councillors David Dean, Geraldine Stanford and Simon Withey

The Council send their condolences to Councillor Dean on the death of his mother.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 2)

No Declarations were made

Councillor Henry Nelles asked that it be recorded that in relation to item 11 – Section 106, Education Contributions, that he was a Governor at Pelham Primary School, however this did not affect his ability to vote on the item,

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING - 5 MARCH 2014 (Agenda Item 3)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2014 were agreed as a correct record.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE (Agenda Item 4)

The Mayor:

As this is my last meeting I will be holding a thank you event for everyone who has helped and supported me throughout the year, on 1st July at the Polka Theatre.

Some sad news, just to note, the death of former Merton Park Councillor Neville Beddoe and I am going to invite Councillor Southgate to say a few words.

Councillor Southgate:

Thank you Madam Mayor for allowing me a moment to pay tribute to former Councillor Neville Beddoe. He died on Saturday in the Royal Marsden, of a recently diagnosed inoperable brain tumour. He was one of the three pioneers that founded the Merton Park Independents, when he was elected in 1990 alongside Bridget Smith and Dese Child. These three established a very strong franchise for the Independence right from the outset. Those of us who now represent Merton Park Ward have a very considerable debt them. Following in their footsteps has been the easy part compared to starting the Group from scratch. He served two terms as a Councillor for Merton Park until 1998 and then joined the Conservatives and became councillor for Raynes Park. Ward until 2002.

My colleague Iain Dysart who served contemporaneously with Neville from 1998 to 2002, described him as a genuine thinker, who was always in courteous in Council. These tributes were echoed at our residents meeting last night where he was described as a kind and gently unassuming man, always happy to help others

Our condolences go to his wife Ann and two children Matthew and Sarah. I'll keep Group Offices informed as to the funeral arrangements once they are known.

Councillor David Williams:

I was Leader of the Conservative Group when Neville was a Conservative Councillor. He was a man of integrity and honesty. He never held any office responsibility in the Council. He served his constituents in Merton Park and Raynes Park faithfully over the 12 years, where there weren't allowances being paid of more than a few hundred pounds. He did it because he believed in community service. He had great integrity

and honesty. He wouldn't stand in Merton Park as a Conservative because he would not change Party and stand against his former colleagues. How times have changed. We need more Neville Beddoe. We should honour his memory.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS (Agenda Item 5)

The questions and replies are available on the web page for this meeting.

6. COUNCILLORS' ORDINARY PRIORITY QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS (Agenda Item 6)

The questions and replies are available on the web page for this meeting.

7. (a) STRATEGIC THEME: COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS (Agenda Item 7a)

The questions and replies are available on the web page for this meeting.

7. (b) STRATEGIC THEME: MAIN REPORT (Agenda Item 7b)

RESOLVED: That the report is agreed

7. (c) STRATEGIC THEME: MOTIONS: CONSERVATIVE (Agenda Item 7c)

The motion was moved by Councillors Debbie Shears and seconded by Margaret Brierly.

The Labour amendment, as set out in item 19e was moved by Councillors Mark Williams and seconded by Peter McCabe.

The amendment was then put to the vote and was carried – votes in favour 32, and votes against 24

The substantive resolution was agreed.

RESOLVED:

This Council continues to welcome the transfer of Public Health functions to local authorities such as Merton.

A year on from this change, this Council recognises the opportunities and benefits for the health of the Borough's residents of having the Director of Public Health in a senior managerial role within the council. Since the transition of Public Health to local authorities in April 2013 and the visible involvement of the Director of Public Health

and her team across council departments, the profile of Public Health has been raised and is beginning to have an influence on how council services could be delivered or targeted to improve health outcomes.

However, this Council notes that, despite strong and clear recommendations from the Government and organisations such as the Faculty of Public Health, but in line with many other Local Authorities, Merton's Director of Public Health reports partly to the Director of Community and Housing for the purposes of day to day management, oversight and support and routinely to the Chief Executive on policy matters, regularly attends the Corporate Management Team and has direct access to Members. This is the arrangement in many other Councils including our neighbours LB Sutton.

This Council believes that, in order to maximise the potential of the changes to Public Health, it is important to ensure greater influence is exerted by the Director of Public Health, particularly given that, according to the latest Annual Residents' Survey, the vast majority of Merton residents (87%) are unaware of the Council's new responsibilities.

Council notes that Merton receives a relatively low allocation of public health grant and that it is therefore important to ensure that this funding is not disproportionately directed towards management costs and that our small team of public health professionals is instead allowed to focus on doing the work on the frontline rather than overburdening them with attendance at additional management meetings that do not necessarily relate to public health.

Therefore this Council resolves to reaffirm its strong commitment to improving the health of Merton residents, and especially of those in the east of the Borough who often suffer more greatly from health inequalities and therefore a lower life expectancy, by requesting that the Cabinet and Chief Executive regularly review reporting lines for the Director of Public Health to ensure we maximise the impact on our residents of our relatively low public health funding.

7. (d) STRATEGIC THEME MOTION: LABOUR (Agenda Item 201)

The motion was moved by Councillors Stephen Alambritis and seconded by Stan Anderson.

The UKIP amendment as detailed in item 19a was moved by Councillors Suzanne Evans and Richard Hilton

The UKIP amendment was the put to a vote and was lost – via a clear majority

A roll-call was called on the substantive motion

Voting in Favour:

Councillors Agatha Mary Akyigyina, Stephen Alambritis, Mark Allison, Stan Anderson, Laxmi Attawar, Mark Betteridge, Richard Chellew, David Chung, Caroline Cooper-Marbiah, John Dehaney, Nick Draper, Suzanne Evans, Brenda Fraser, Jeff Hanna, Richard Hilton, Philip Jones, Andrew Judge, Linda Kirby, Edith Macauley, Russell Makin, Maxi Martin, Peter McCabe, Ian Munn, Dennis Pearce, Judy Saunders, Rod Scott, Sam Thomas, Gregory Udeh, Peter Walker, Martin Whelton and Richard Williams. (31)

Voting Against:

John Bowcott, Margaret Brierly, Chris Edge, Samantha George, Suzanne Grocott, Maurice Groves, James Holmes, Janice Howard, Gilli Lewis-Lavender, Logie Lohendran, Oonagh Moulton, Diane Neil Mills, Henry Nelles, Debbie Shears, David Simpson, Linda Taylor, Ray Tindle, David Williams, and Miles Windsor (19)

Not Voting:

Councillors Iain Dysart, Karin Forbes, Mary-Jane Jeanes John Sargeant Linda Scott, and Peter Southgate (6)

The Mayor declared the motion to be carried.

RESOLVED:

This Council is appalled that the Conservative MP for Wimbledon, Mr Stephen Hammond, voted in favour of Clause 119 of the Care Bill which allows the Secretary of State, as the person who makes the final decision on hospital closures, to bypass local opposition to a hospital closure even if the hospital is performing well. Council notes that the sign heralding the promised £219m redevelopment of the hospital has recently been taken down and is concerned that by voting in favour of Clause 119 Mr Hammond has betrayed local people and the campaign to save St Helier Hospital.

This Council calls on the Leader of the Council to write to Mr Hammond outlining the Council's deep disappointment that he voted in favour of new powers which, where another local hospital was in financial difficulty, could allow St. Helier to be downgraded or closed despite the wishes of local people.

8. REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY FORUMS (Agenda Item 15)

(a) RAYNES PARK COMMUNITY FORUM (Agenda Item 15a)

Councillor Gilli Lewis-Lavender presented the report, which was received by the Council.

(b) MITCHAM COMMUNITY FORUM - 25 MARCH 2014 (Agenda Item 15b)

Councillor Ian Munn presented the report, which was received by the Council.

(c) MORDEN COMMUNITY FORUM - 20 MARCH 2014 (Agenda Item 15c)

Councillor Maurice Groves presented the report, which was received by the Council.

(d) WIMBLEDON COMMUNITY FORUM - 18 MARCH 2014 (Agenda Item 15d)

Councillor Henry Nelles presented the report, which was received by the Council.

Councillor Nelles asked that his thanks and best wishes be recorded and passed on to John Hill who had been the supporting officer for the Wimbledon Community Forum for a number of years, as he will no longer be in that role.

9. NOTICES OF MOTION - CONSERVATIVE MOTION (Agenda Item 8)

The motion was moved by Councillors David Simpson and Henry Nelles.

Three amendments were moved on the motion.

The Liberal Democrats' amendment as set out in item 19b was moved by Councillors Iain Dysart and Mary-Jane Jeanes.

The UKIP amendment as set out in item 19c was moved by Councillor Richard Hilton and Rodd Scott.

The Labour amendment as set out in item 19f was moved by Councillor Judy Saunders and Nick Draper.

The Mayor put each of the amendments in turn to the vote:

The Liberal Democrats' amendment was put to the vote and was lost – votes in favour 21, votes against 30.

The UKIP amendment was put to the vote and was lost – via a clear majority.

The Labour amendment was put to the vote and was carried – votes in favour 30, votes against 23.

The substantive resolution was agreed.

RESOLVED:

That Council notes that:

- * According to the latest Annual Residents' Survey, feeling safe in your local area is by far the most important factor for the health and wellbeing of residents in Merton;
- * Over half of residents (52%) feel that this could be improved;
- * Satisfaction with how the area looks is also an important factor for health and wellbeing with around one third of local people feeling this could be improved;

- * 44% of residents remain concerned about anti-social behaviour in the borough and 41% about people being drunk and rowdy; and
- * The majority (64%) of violent crime in the UK occurs in the evening or at night and one fifth of all violent incidents take place in or around a pub or club.

That Council recognises that Merton has a vibrant night time economy with a wide range of restaurants, theatres and bars, which attract many visitors to the borough as well as encouraging residents to support local businesses in town centres and local parades. Whilst the majority of licensed premises behave in a responsible manner and with due respect to their neighbours, there are however on going issues with anti-social behaviour, noise nuisance and littering, often connected to binge drinking and exacerbated by the proliferation of ever later licences permitted under the previous government's 24-hour licensing laws. Council notes with disappointment that the current government decided not to implement minimum alcohol pricing and have also not implemented the provision in the 2011 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act which would have made public health an objective in licensing applications.

That Council believes that Merton's residents deserve to live in peace in their own homes; that residents and visitors all deserve a safe and clean environment, in which to enjoy an evening out in the borough; and that the Council has a responsibility, in conjunction with the police, to tackle the problem of alcohol fuelled crime and anti-social behaviour where it blights the lives of local communities.

That Council therefore welcomes the new powers introduced by the government as part of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 to enable local communities to tackle this antisocial behaviour by making it easier for the police and councils to deal with pubs, clubs and bars which contribute to the problems of late night drinking, but notes that the Licensing Committee considered early morning restriction orders (EMRO) and the late night levy at their meeting on 28 February 2013 and, based in part on advice from the police, agreed that they should not be introduced at the present time.

That Council believes that government should introduce further powers to combat the proliferation of betting shops which can lead to increased crime and higher levels of gambling addiction in often poorer communities, by allowing local authorities to clamp down on unsustainable levels of conversions to betting shops.

That Council particularly welcomes:

- * Merton's implementation of a borough-wide Controlled Drinking Zone in July 2013 in order to allow police to tackle alcohol related anti social behaviour
- * Cabinet's decision in January 2014 to implement a six month pilot of an all year round out of hours noise pollution service. The council looks forward to reviewing the evidence to assess whether the service provides value for money for our residents.
- * The Cabinet Member's decision to focus additional resources on litter enforcement by working with a specialist environmental crime enforcement organisation whose officers will work alongside our own enforcement team to tackle the behaviour of those dropping litter on our streets.

* The Leader's recent letter to the Secretary of State Eric Pickles in support of the London Borough of Hackney's proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act to allow local authorities the power to clamp down on the proliferation of betting offices by changing their planning use class.

That Council commits to continue delivering a better balance in future between the thriving night time economy in Merton and the need for all licensed premises to respect their neighbours by ensuring that alcohol-related problems, including anti-social behaviour, littering and noise, are properly addressed. As such, this Council resolves to call on the administration to:

A) Clamp down on any licensed premises which break the terms of their licences through firmer enforcement of the rules;

B) Ask the Licensing Committee if they would like to review their February 2013 decision relating to powers under the 2011 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act, bearing in mind the advice from the police that Merton "would not profit from a late night levy"; that there are already two cumulative impact zones in place in Wimbledon; that the police "do not have the evidence from crime statistics in Wimbledon Town Centre to request an EMRO at the present time" and that the police believe an EMRO "would most likely have a detrimental effect on businesses in the Town Centre.";

C) Monitor the performance of the new litter enforcement regime in Merton which will deploy specialist environmental crime enforcers to catch and prosecute those who blight our communities, including late at night outside bars and clubs where required; and

D) Monitor the results of the pilot all year round out of hours noise pollution enforcement service introduced in January 2014 to provide reassurance and comfort to residents whose sleep is disturbed by inconsiderate neighbours.

10. NOTICE OF MOTION - LIBERAL DEMOCRATS' MOTION (Agenda Item 9)

The motion was moved by Councillors Iain Dysart and Mary-Jane Jeanes.

Two amendments were moved on the motion

The Labour amendment as set out in item 19f was moved by Councillor Judy Saunders and Nick Draper

The Conservative amendment as set out in item 19d was moved by Councillors Miles Windsor and Ray Tindell

The Labour amendment was put to the vote and was clearly carried.

The Conservative amendment then was put to the vote and was clearly carried.

The substantive resolution was agreed.

RESOLVED:

That Council notes that:

One planet living is a vision of a sustainable world in which people everywhere can enjoy a high quality of life within the productive capacity of the planet.

If everyone in the world lived as we do in the UK we would need three planets to support us.

We need to reduce our impact - our Ecological Footprint - by two thirds to a sustainable and globally fair level.

Merton Council's draft Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (2014-2017) sets out how the council and the wider borough can take action on climate change and is to be adopted by full council pending the recommendations of the council's Scrutiny Review of Climate Change and the Green Deal.

This Council recognises that:

A local eco-organisation BioRegional has developed, with WWF, a One Planet Living framework to help individuals and organisations live and work within a fair share of our planet's resources, although there are costs involved in working with BioRegional.

This framework identifies ten guiding principles covering:

- Zero carbon
- Zero waste
- Sustainable transport
- Sustainable materials
- Local and sustainable food
- Sustainable water
- Land use and wildlife
- Culture and heritage
- Equity and local economy
- Health and happiness

However the costs and benefits of the programme are as yet unclear.

That Council recommends that we consider the costs and benefits to local residents of:

- Adopting the principle of One Planet Living in Merton
- Inviting BioRegional to work with us to develop a One Planet Merton framework to complement the recommendations, from the 2013-14 Scrutiny •Task Group Review on Climate Change and the Green Deal, which will be considered by Cabinet in June

- Monitoring the work of the Council against those principles
- Working with residents, our partners, the business community, and the voluntary and community sector to enable the principles to be rolled out across the borough as part of the updated Climate Change Strategy for 2014-17 due to be adopted later this year

That Council requests the Cabinet investigate this opportunity in conjunction with the recommendations from the Scrutiny Task Group Review on Climate Change and the Green Deal and report back to full Council by the end of 2014 on whether to progress towards One Planet Living in Merton and, if agreed, annually thereafter.

11. FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH - PROPOSED CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES (Agenda Item 10)

RESOLVED:

That Council agrees to the adoption of criteria and procedures recommended by the General Purposes Committee in relation to nominations for the award of the freedom of the borough. (A copy of the agreed criteria and procedures are attached as Appendix A to these minutes)

12. SECTION 106 EDUCATION CONTRIBUTIONS (Agenda Item 11)

RESOLVED:

That the Council authorises the allocation of £1,134,483 of S.106 funding, outlined in Appendix A to the report being financial contribution received by the Council towards educational purposes, to the council's schools expansion programme.

13. TO CONFIRM ARTICLE 4 (NON-IMMEDIATE) TO REMOVE PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS FOR THE CONVERSION OF OFFICES TO RESIDENTIAL USES IN WIMBLEDON TOWN CENTRE AND MERTON'S INDUSTRIAL ESTATES. (Agenda Item 12)

RESOLVED:

That the Council:

A). adopts the Non-immediate Permanent Article 4 Direction to remove permitted development rights for the conversion of offices (B1a Use Class) to residential use (C3 Use Class) for Wimbledon town centre and the industrial estates at Willow Lane, Garth Road, South Wimbledon (Morden Road), Durnsford Road, Dundonald Road, Plough Lane and Prince George's Road (Colliers Wood).

B. notes that the Article 4 Direction, will come into force on 03 April 2015.

14. ADOPTION OF MERTON'S COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)
INITIAL STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE LIST (Agenda Item 13)

RESOLVED:

That the Council adopts Merton's Community Infrastructure Levy initial Strategic Infrastructure List (Reg 123 List) in order to continue to secure developer contributions, once Merton's CIL is in place from 01 April 2014.

15. REVIEW OF POLLING PLACES (Agenda Item 14)

RESOLVED:

A). That the Council agrees the designation of St Barnabas Church as the polling place for polling district GB in Graveney Ward.

B). That the Council agrees the designation of the Scout Hall, Mitcham Park as the polling place for polling district ED in Cricket Green Ward.

C). That the Council agrees the designation of the Cricket Pavilion, John Innes Recreation Ground as the polling place for polling district RA in Merton Park Ward.

D). That the Council agrees the designation of Abbotsbury Primary School as the polling place for polling district BC in St Helier Ward.

16. CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND RELATED MATTERS
(Agenda Item 16)

RESOLVED:

That the Council notes the changes to membership of committees approved under delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council.

17. PETITIONS (Agenda Item 17)

No petitions were presented.

18. BUSINESS FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
(Agenda Item 18)

RESOLVED: That the main theme for the next ordinary meeting of the Council to be held on 9 July 2014 shall be Sustainable Communities with a focus on street scene.

Freedom of the Borough Criteria and Procedure

Criteria

- Freedom of the Borough is a high honour which should only be awarded in exceptional circumstances where the prospective recipient is an individual or organisation of distinction and has rendered eminent services to the borough.
- Candidates should have a strong and continuing connection with and commitment to Merton or have made a major contribution to national life and in doing so have enhanced the reputation of the borough.
- Candidates should have made a substantial contribution to the borough in any area of activity, which could include:
 - artistic and cultural endeavours
 - business, economic growth and prosperity
 - charitable work
 - improvement to the built and natural environment
 - religious and spiritual life
 - sports activities
 - civic service
- The award may be granted posthumously.

Procedure

- Nominations for persons or organisations to be granted Freedom of the Borough, may be made by any serving Member of the Council to the Monitoring Officer on the appropriate form. The Member should first raise the matter for discussion within their political group.
- Once a nomination is received, the Monitoring Officer will check that sufficient information has been provided on the form and will pass it to the General Purposes Committee for consideration.
- The Monitoring Officer will write to all councillors at least once during the four yearly municipal cycle, preferably at or near the midpoint, to draw their attention to the opportunity to make nominations
- The General Purposes Committee may establish a small working group to informally assess nominations and the likelihood of meeting the 2/3 criteria. The working group would report back to the General Purposes Committee in regard to any nominee who it believed would meet the criteria and achieve sufficient support at Council.

- General Purposes Committee shall report to Council and, should Council accept the nomination, a Special Meeting of Council would then be called to pass the resolution as required by Section 248 of the Local Government Act 1972.

This page is intentionally left blank

All minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the committee/panel. To find out the date of the next meeting please check the calendar of events at your local library or online at www.merton.gov.uk/committee.

COUNCIL
2 APRIL 2014
(21.30 - 21.40)

PRESENT

Councillor Krystal Miller, (in the Chair),
Councillor John Sargeant, Councillor Agatha Mary Akyigyina,
Councillor Stephen Alambritis, Councillor Mark Allison,
Councillor Stan Anderson, Councillor Laxmi Attawar,
Councillor Mark Betteridge, Councillor John Bowcott,
Councillor Margaret Brierly, Councillor Richard Chellew,
Councillor David Chung, Councillor Caroline Cooper-Marbiah,
Councillor John Dehaney, Councillor Nick Draper,
Councillor Iain Dysart, Councillor Chris Edge,
Councillor Suzanne Evans, Councillor Karin Forbes,
Councillor Brenda Fraser, Councillor Samantha George,
Councillor Suzanne Grocott, Councillor Maurice Groves,
Councillor Jeff Hanna, Councillor Richard Hilton,
Councillor James Holmes, Councillor Janice Howard,
Councillor Mary-Jane Jeanes, Councillor Philip Jones,
Councillor Andrew Judge, Councillor Linda Kirby,
Councillor Gilli Lewis-Lavender, Councillor Logie Lohendran,
Councillor Edith Macauley, Councillor Russell Makin,
Councillor Maxi Martin, Councillor Peter McCabe,
Councillor Diane Neil Mills, Councillor Oonagh Moulton,
Councillor Ian Munn, Councillor Henry Nelles,
Councillor Dennis Pearce, Councillor Judy Saunders,
Councillor Linda Scott, Councillor Rod Scott,
Councillor David Simpson, Councillor Debbie Shears,
Councillor Peter Southgate, Councillor Linda Taylor,
Councillor Sam Thomas, Councillor Ray Tindle,
Councillor Gregory Udeh, Councillor Peter Walker,
Councillor Martin Whelton, Councillor David Williams,
Councillor Richard Williams and Councillor Miles Windsor

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

Apologies were received from Councillors David Dean, Geraldine Stanford and Simon Withey

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 2)

No Declarations were made

3. FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH (Agenda Item 3)

The Mayor invited each of the Political Group Leaders to speak upon the Motion

Councillor Alambritis- –

It is with great pleasure I was asked by this Council to write to Andy Murray, to Virginia Wade, to Ann Jones and to Mrs Mortimer with regard to an offer of Freedom of the Borough. That was done on the 18 December 2013. The response from Angela Barrett nee Mortimer was 'I shall be delighted and honoured to be honoured Freeman of Merton'. Virginia Wade's response, 'Thank you it is a very nice invitation and will be in touch and it is an affirmative. Ann Jones 'Delighted to accept this titled of honoured Freeman of the Borough of Merton' and through Andy Murray's office, another acceptance of the offer.

With regard to this, it with great pleasure the honour is bestowed upon them and not us. With regard to Andy Murray this is in recognition of being a British Winner of the Men's Singles Tennis Championship in the Wimbledon Grand Slam event in 2013. It also for being a gold and silver medallist in London 2012 Olympic tennis event played here in Merton. Andy Murray has brought significant reputational benefits to Merton as a place to visit and a good place to live, work and play. As well as enhancing Merton's reputation, he has also made a major contribution to the development of British tennis and has raised the profile of here in Merton, and across the land.

With regards to our three great Wimbledon Women's champions, it something we wanted to put in place, something we wanted to correct, something we want to look to be, a Council that is steeped in equalities and therefore with great pleasure they are also offered Freedom of the Borough, for their great achievement and also for their work on tennis throughout the Borough ever since then.

Councillor Moulton –

It is a great honour as Leader of the Conservative Group to be seconding the motion, before this Special Meeting and to confer the honour of Freedom of the Borough on these great winners of British Singles Tennis Championships at Wimbledon.

Firstly to Andy Murray for recognition for winning the Men's Singles Tennis Championship in 2013 at Wimbledon, and for being the inspirational Men's Olympic Singles gold medallist and Doubles silver medallist at the London 2012 Olympics that was held at Wimbledon. His contribution to the development of British tennis and a role model for up and coming sports men and women as been really huge across our Borough and has raised the profile and reputation of Merton in so doing.

We also seek to bestow the honour of Freedom of the Borough upon Virginia Wade, Ann Hayden Jones and Angela Mortimer as British winners of the Ladies single tennis Championships at Wimbledon in 1977, 1969 and 1961 respectively. They have all brought significant reputational benefits to Merton and made major contributions to the development and profile of the sport, and particularly for tennis for British players

and for women in all sport. On behalf of the Conservative Group I'm delighted to second this motion.

Councillor Evans –

I can't play tennis for toffee and I never could or will be able to. But long before I even dreamed of living in Wimbledon, let alone representing the area as a local Councillor, I was completely head over heels in love with the Wimbledon tennis tournament. My passion for it started when I was a child and has never diminished. Normally my mother would find me with my nose in a book but for those two weeks during Wimbledon tennis fortnight she could not turn me away from the television. The earliest players I remember and my heroes were the feisty John McEnroe, the slightly edgy flippant and irrepressively manly Ilie Nastase, the positively heavenly Andre Agassi who made all the girls swoon and the astonishingly cool Martina Navratilova and of course the elegantly and charming Virginia Wade, who had an understated poise that belied her inexorable determination. It's her who I see in my mind's eye when I imagine the lady's single champion raising that magnificent silver salver.

But oddly enough my first visit to centre court took place in October at a time where no-one was playing and the silent empty court which exuded trial, battle and conquest, that left me spellbound. There is a magic about that space even the professional players know there is something especially powerful about winning on the hallowed grass courts of Wimbledon. When they lift the trophy there, it somehow is especially meaningful. I'm told the gentlemen's trophy has inscribed on it the words 'I am the All England Lawn Tennis Club single handed champion of the World' It's that kind of sentiment that made Britain great, so when a Great Britain wins a singles title it is all the more glorious for them and for us. The honour we give tonight to Angela, Ann and Virginia is long overdue and for Andy who broke a 77 year jinx, it is an absolute must. I am proud to support them all as Honorary Freeman of the Borough, as are my colleagues.

Councillor Southgate –

I guess it is true to say that lawn tennis and the Borough have been inseparable, really since the late 19th Century. The first championships of the All England Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club played on the original ground by the railway in Wimbledon in 1877. It is interesting to see that tennis gained the upper hand as by 1899 it became the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club.

As a child who, I lived in Wimbledon Park I can remember a warm summers evening the sounds of the applause would travel across the lake until the fading light stopped play. There was a sense of excitement about that living so close to event that you knew was being followed across the world. That sense of excitement never really elapses. You might say that you have left it rather a long time to honour these four great players who have done so much for British tennis and help to make Wimbledon the foremost international tournament which it is today. But we are putting that right now and from a personal note the moment I saw Andy Murray win the gold at the Olympics, I just knew Wimbledon would finally be within his grasp and so it proved

to be last summer. All four of these players do deserve this as it the highest honour we can bestow on them.

Councillor Dysart –

It gives me great pleasure to associate the Lib Dem group with this motion. Knowing that Fred Perry had been the last British Men's Wimbledon winner I had hoped but not expected to see another men's victory in my life time. It seemed that a few notably 'tiger' Tim Henman might be there or thereabouts, but no further. However that glorious sunny Sunday afternoon will remain in our memories. Andy Murray showed the hunger guts, willpower and sheer determination to succeed to win, not unlikely some politicians. It was such a proud moment and just for the following day Merton was renamed as Murraytown. He had recent form triumphing at the 2012 Olympics which the sun also made an appearance despite taking more holidays that year I recall and the US Open a few months later. So who said this country no longer produced tennis winner.

How fitting that Virginia Wade won Wimbledon in the Queen's Silver Jubilee Year in 1977. I can recall our school middle class begging to be let home early to watch the final, but being refused. But there was plenty to talk about the next day at least. We asked the teacher whether Ms Wade would come to the school again to sign autographs, though we were naturally told she would be far too busy. Ann Jones and Angela Mortimer are before my time but I know they hold a dear place in British tennis. I believed Ann Jones still commentates. Soon we'll be asking when will we have our next Ladies Champion, currently it stands at 37 years and counting. Hopefully we won't have to wait as long as we did for the Men's. Congratulations to all named in this motion, who thoroughly deserve this accolade and who made our residents and our country extremely proud.

The Mayor then called for a vote on the Motion and reminded the Council that under Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, it requires more than a two thirds majority of Members passing the motion for the Honorary Freeman to be bestowed.

The vote was carried, unanimously.

The substantive resolution was agreed.

RESOLVED:

That, by virtue of the power vested in it by Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council does admit Andy Murray, Virginia Wade, Ann Haydon-Jones and Angela Mortimer as Freeman of the London Borough of Merton in recognition of their achievements in winning a singles title at Wimbledon.

This honour is bestowed on Andy Murray in recognition of his being a British Winner of the Mens Singles Tennis Championship at the Wimbledon Grand Slam event in 2013. Andy Murray has brought significant reputational benefits to Merton as a place to visit and a good place to live, work and play. As well as enhancing Merton's

reputation, he has also made a major contribution to the development of British Tennis and has raised its profile.

This honour is bestowed on Virginia Wade in recognition of her being a British Winner of the Ladies Singles Tennis Championships at the Wimbledon Grand Slam event in 1977. Virginia Wade, has brought significant reputational benefits to Merton as a place to visit and a good place to live, work and play. As well as enhancing Merton's reputation, she has also made a major contribution to the development and profile of British Tennis and raised the profile of both Tennis and Women in Sport.

This honour is bestowed on Ann Haydon-Jones in recognition of her being a British Winner of the Ladies Singles Tennis Championships at the Wimbledon Grand Slam event in 1969. Ann Haydon-Jones, has brought significant reputational benefits to Merton as a place to visit and a good place to live, work and play. As well as enhancing Merton's reputation, she has also made a major contribution to the development and profile of British Tennis and raised the profile of both Tennis and Women in Sport.

This honour is bestowed on Angela Mortimer in recognition of her being a British Winner of the Ladies Singles Tennis Championships at the Wimbledon Grand Slam event in 1961. Angela Mortimer, has brought significant reputational benefits to Merton as a place to visit and a good place to live, work and play. As well as enhancing Merton's reputation, she has also made a major contribution to the development and profile of British Tennis and raised the profile of both Tennis and Women in Sport.

This page is intentionally left blank

Committee: Annual Council

Date: 4 June 2014

Wards: All

Subject: Constitution of Committees and Other Bodies

Lead officer: Paul Evans – Assistant Director of Corporate Governance

Contact Officer: Chris Pedlow – Senior Democratic Services Officer (020 8545 3616)
democratic.services@merton.gov.uk

Recommendations:

That the Council:

- A.
 - i) approves the constitution of committees, sub-committees and scrutiny bodies set out in Appendix A (to follow) and;
 - ii) agrees the allocation of seats, chair and vice-chair positions and the appointment of members to those seats; Appendix A (to follow)
- B.
 - i) approves the constitution of consultative forums and other bodies set out in Appendix B(to follow) and
 - ii) agrees the appointment of members to those seats; Appendix B (to follow)
- C. agrees the allocation of seats and appointment to the outside organisations as detailed in Appendix C (to follow)
- D. agrees the terms of reference of consultative and other bodies for which the Council is responsible as set out in Appendix D,
- E. if known, notes the appointment made by the Leader of the Deputy Leader and his/her respective portfolio, appointments to the Cabinet including their respective portfolios; and, if appointments are made, Assistant Cabinet members including their areas of responsibility (Appendix E to follow if the detail is known);
N.B. the Leader's appointments will be reported to a subsequent Council meeting in the event that the Leader is not in a position to report to this meeting;
- F. notes that, in respect of the Mayor of Merton's Charitable Trust, Councillor David Williams and former Councillor Krystal Miller have resigned with effect 5 June 2014 and secondly that the Council note the appointment of the incoming Mayor and Deputy Mayor as trustees from 5 June 2014; and
- G. agrees to delegate to the Planning Applications Committee the authority to appoint a non-voting co-opted member if this is deemed appropriate.

1. Purpose of report and executive summary

- 1.1 This report recommends that Council establish committees, sub-committees, scrutiny panels (Appendix A), together with other consultative bodies (Appendix B) for the year 2014-15, allocates the seats on those bodies to political groups represented on the Council in accordance with the statutory proportionality rules and agrees to the appointment of the groups' nominees;
- 1.2 The report recommends that the Council agrees the allocation of seats on outside organisations and agrees to the appointment of the political groups' nominees (Appendix C);
- 1.3 The report recommends the terms of reference of consultative and other bodies for which the Council is responsible (Appendix D) and the interim arrangements for the joint health scrutiny committee.

2. Alternative options

- 2.1 The Council must appoint at least one Overview and Scrutiny Committee, a Licensing Committee and a Health and Wellbeing Board. All other committees are constituted at the discretion of the Council.
- 2.2 The Council must allocate seats on the committees and sub-committees set out in Appendix B in accordance with statutory proportionality rules (with the exception of the Health and Wellbeing Board). All other seats may be allocated to groups at the Council's discretion.
- 2.3 The Council must establish a Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education and appoint members to it. The establishment of all other bodies set out in Appendix B is within the Council's discretion as are the terms of reference set out in Appendix D.
- 2.4 Participation in the outside organisations and allocation of seats set out in Appendix C is within the Council's discretion except where indicated as being within the executive leader's discretion.

3. Consultation undertaken or proposed

- 3.1 Political groups have been invited to make their appointments to the seats allocated to them. The Council must agree to appoint members nominated by the political groups to the seats allocated to those groups. The complete list of nominations will be circulated at the earliest opportunity.

Timetable

- 3.2 The constitution of the committees set out here is for the year 2014-2015 and takes immediate effect. Unless otherwise indicated all of these bodies will be established until the next annual meeting of the Council. The Council may review the committees it has established at any time. The Council must review the allocation of seats to political groups when there is a change in the political balance of the Council.

4. Legal and statutory implications

- 4.1 The Local Government Act 2000 makes provisions with respect to the function and procedures of local authorities. The Merton Constitution has been produced having regard to the provisions of the Act, Statutory Instruments and guidance from Central Government. The proposals within this report comply with the statutory requirements.
- 4.2 The Local Government Act 1972 contains provisions on the discharge of functions, meetings and proceedings of local authorities and access to information.
- 4.3 The Housing and Local Government Act 1989 contains provisions concerning the political balance on committees, the duty to allocate seats to political groups, and the duty to give effect to allocations.
- 4.4 The Licensing Act 2003 requires the Council to appoint a Licensing Committee.
- 4.5 The statutory requirement to have voting co-opted members for certain issues has been complied with by having 2 Church and 2 Parent Governors on the Overview and Scrutiny Commission (and the relevant education Panel).
- 4.6 The Council is under a statutory duty to review the representation of different political groups on the Council at its annual meeting. The purpose of the legislation is to ensure that a 'political balance' is secured on council committees, sub-committees etc. so as to reflect the overall political composition of the Council.
- 4.7 Once the review has been completed there is a second statutory duty to make a determination as to political representation. This requirement to allocate seats must be made in accordance with the following statutory principles:
 - a) All of the seats are not to be allocated to the same political group.
 - b) The majority of the seats go to the political group with a majority on the full Council.
 - c) Subject to the above two principles, the number of seats on the total of all the ordinary committees of the Council allocated to each political group must bear the same proportion to the proportion on the full Council.
 - d) Subject to the above three principles, the number of seats on each ordinary committee of the Council allocated to each political group must bear the same proportion on the full Council.

5. Appendices – the following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report

- 5.1 Appendix A – Committees and sub-committees to be constituted and allocation of seats to political groups

- 5.2 Appendix B – Consultative and other bodies to be constituted and allocation of seats to political groups
- 5.3 Appendix C – Allocation of seats on outside organisations.
- 5.4 Appendix D - Terms of reference of consultative and other bodies established by the Council
- 5.5 Appendix E – Executive Leader’s appointments to his Cabinet and their respective portfolios. (*subject to availability*)

Terms of Reference of Consultative and other
Bodies

Contents

Conservation and Design Advisory Panel	3
Corporate Parenting Board	4
Joint Consultative Committee with Ethnic Minority Organisations	6
School Standards Panel	7
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education	8
Pension Fund Investment Advisory Panel	12
South West London Joint Waste Management Committee	13
Street Management Advisory Committee	14

Conservation and Design Advisory Panel

Membership: Open Membership including 5 Merton Councillors

Constituted by: Council

Powers and Duties determined by: Council

Authority: Article 10 of the Constitution

Functions

- a) To promote good design and conservation in the urban environment.
- b) To advise on matters concerning the care, maintenance and enhancement of the Borough's built heritage, including Conservation Areas Management plans and character appraisals, Urban Villages, Urban Centres, Town Centres and other areas containing heritage assets.
- c) To advise on the preservation of buildings of special architectural or historic interest, both on the Statutory List and the Local List.
- d) To advise on archaeological matters.
- e) To advise on Parks and Gardens issues.
- f) To advise on the Conservation Area and archaeological implications of Development briefs, Planning briefs, Design briefs and Statements.
- g) To advise on design and conservation based area regeneration initiatives and schemes, and review their implementation.
- h) To provide urban design advice on major road proposals, major traffic management schemes, and policy for street materials, signage and street furniture in the Borough, and landscaping work within the public domain.
- i) To advise on the designation and review of Conservation Areas, Areas of Distinctive Quality, and other built heritage designations, and on additions and deletions to the Local List of Buildings.
- j) To advise on the preparation and review of the Local Development Framework documents and Supplementary Planning documents, in relation to Conservation Areas, archaeology, Listed and Locally Listed Buildings, building design and Urban Design matters.
- k) To advise on any other matters, not mentioned above, which may be referred to the Advisory Panel by the Director of Environment and Regeneration, in consultation with the Chair of the Panel, on the grounds that it would be beneficial to the Council to seek the views of the Panel on the matter concerned.

Corporate Parenting Board

Membership: See Section 4 below

Constituted by: Council

1. Overall purpose of the Group

To ensure a structured and effective approach to corporate parenting in Merton that supports good outcomes and high aspirations for, and actively engages with the views of, children and young people.

2. Focus of the Group

The Group will support achievement in, and monitor progress against, the five outcomes for the following children and young people:

- Young people in residential care
- Children and young people in foster care
- Children placed for adoption
- Young people (up to 24 years) who are care leavers
- Disabled children and young people who receive short break services
- Education of children and young people in public care
- Health needs of children and young people in public care
- Children in need, including those in need of safeguarding
- Young people in custody
- Young people in Merton schools but under the care of other local authorities
- LBM Children placed out of the Borough in schools out of the Borough
- Unaccompanied young people

3. Aims and objectives of the Group

- 3.1. Provide strategic direction
- 3.2. Ensure quality and impact
- 3.3. Engage stakeholders
- 3.4. Maximise resources

4. Membership

The Group has an independent Chair and a total of 13 members. These members include; 2 elected members and 2 members of the CYPSP, 2 further members representing the leadership of Merton's Corporate Parenting activity (LAC team

managers), 3 members with specific Corporate Parenting expertise (Early years, Virtual School Headteacher and Participation Officer), and 4 key leaders from health, voluntary sector, the community and other key services . Essential occasional attendance will be required from other areas of the Council e.g. Housing, Regeneration, Planning, Adult Services, FE and Youth Services.

A wide group of young people will be involved – representatives at separate meetings at least 6 times per year. Representation will be from a range of young people which varies and evolves throughout the year. All young people will be supported by our LBM Participation Officer and a group will meet in advance of every meeting to prepare their own agenda items. These meetings will also respond to requests and enquiries from the Corporate Parenting Strategic Governance Group.

5. Reporting

Regular reporting (monthly), Exceptional reporting (only as required), Quarterly reporting, biannual reports and annual reporting will be required;

Joint Consultative Committee with Ethnic Minority Organisations

Membership: 5 Merton Councillors and representatives of Community Organisations

Constituted by: Council

Powers and Duties determined by: Council

Authority: Section 76 Race Relations Act 1976 and Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and Article 10 of the Constitution

Functions

- a) To advise and make recommendations upon strategic policy issues relating to:
 - (i) Issues of local concern to the ethnic minority communities
 - (ii) Provision of Council services and resources, with reference to the needs of local ethnic minority communities
 - (iii) The elimination of discriminatory practices and racial prejudice in the delivery of Council services
 - (iv) The promotion of equal opportunities and good relations between different groups
 - (v) Applications for financial grant from Merton Council, Central Government, EC and other external funding organisations in aid of projects affecting local ethnic minority people.
- b) To contribute to and monitor the Council's Equality and Diversity Statement and Policy and the Race Equality commitments of the Corporate Equality Scheme

Members' School Standards Panel

Membership: 3 members one of whom shall be Chair

Constituted by: Council

Powers and Duties determined by: Council

Authority: Article 10 of the Constitution

Functions

- a) The Panel will meet half termly
- b) OFSTED Inspection Reports
 - (i) Receive all OFSTED Inspection reports and discuss the outcomes with the head teacher, the chair of the governing body and one other representative governor.
 - (ii) Support each school's governing body in the development of an appropriate, relevant and effective action plan in response to the inspection report.
 - (iii) Request the Chief Inspector to write to the chair of the governing body to summarise the meeting, and where appropriate, to follow up on the implementation of the school's action plan where the OFSTED report indicates that the school is performing below expected levels in significant aspects. In such a case the school will be allocated to the appropriate category as set out in the Support and Monitoring Framework.
- c) Support and Monitoring Framework
 - (i) Receive a termly oral report from the Chief Inspector of the outcomes of the half-termly Phase Group meetings, including a list, confidential between the MRP and the Chief Inspector, of the performance levels of all schools.
 - (ii) Receive all monitoring reports from schools undergoing support and monitoring at level D, and confirm decisions made by the School Improvement Group (SIG).
 - (iii) Receive all monitoring reports from schools at level E of the Support and Monitoring Framework and confirm decisions made by the Schools Improvement Group. The final report will go to the Cabinet Portfolio holder for a decision on further action with a recommendation from the Panel.
- d) Formal Warning Notices
 - (i) Recommend to Cabinet Portfolio holder the issue of a Formal Warning Notice to a governing body where the governing body refuse to take the necessary action to address serious weakness. In some circumstances, this may need to be carried out in the form of urgency under delegated powers.

- (ii) Recommend to Cabinet Portfolio holder the appointment of additional governors where a governing body does not comply with a Formal Warning Notice, and/or the suspension of a school's delegated budget.

Standing Advisory Council On Religious Education

Membership:

See section 3 below

Constituted by: Council

Powers and Duties determined by: Section 390 of the Education Act 1996

Authority: Section 390 of the Education Act 1996

The Council shall be called the Merton SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education).

It is established under Section 3.90 – 3.97 of the Education Act 1996 as amended.

1. Role and functions

- a) To advise the LA on such matters concerned with school worship and with Religious Education according to an Agreed Syllabus as the LA may request or as the SACRE may see fit.
- b) These matters might include methods of teaching and choice of materials to deliver the Agreed Syllabus.
- c) To evaluate how well the Agreed Syllabus supports the provision of Religious Education provision in schools.
- d) To receive, and determine whether an application from a Head Teacher to vary the requirement for worship of a broadly or mainly Christian character, is appropriate for the whole school or for groups of pupils.
- e) To publish an annual report on the work of SACRE and to circulate this to Headteachers, to QCDA and to the appropriate Council Committee and senior officers in Children Schools and Families Department.
- f) To set up a Statutory Conference at any time if, in the opinion of SACRE, it becomes necessary to review the Authority's agreed syllabus and to do so at least every five years.
- g) To advise, if requested, on matters arising from the Authority's Complaints Procedures under Section 23 of the Education Reform Act 1988.

2. Officers

- a) The Director of Merton's Children, Schools and Families Department, or such other senior officer/s as s/he may designate, shall attend and participate in discussions in the SACRE as professional adviser/s and make appropriate arrangements to support the administration of the SACRE and its meetings.

3. Membership

- a) In accordance with the provisions of the Education Reform Act 1988 (Section 11(4)): The SACRE is to comprise four groups representing:
Committee A
Such religions and belief groups as, in the opinion of the Council, will appropriately reflect the principal religious and belief traditions in the Borough of Merton.
Committee B
The Church of England.
Committee C

Such associations representing teachers as, in the opinion on the Local Authority, ought, having regard to the circumstances of the borough, to be represented.

Committee D

The Local Authority.

- b) The Authority may, after appropriate consultation with the denomination/association concerned, remove a member of the SACRE, if in the opinion of the Authority, that member ceases to be representative of the denomination or belief group s/he was appointed to represent.

4. Term of office of members

Members of Group D (elected members) shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of Merton Council.

5. Vacancies

- a) A member appointed to fill a vacancy shall hold office only for the unexpired term of office of the member in whose place s/he is appointed.
- b) Any vacancy occurring within three months of the expiration of the term of office of a member need not be filled.
- c) The validity of proceedings of the SACRE or of the members of the SACRE of any particular category shall not be affected:
 - I. By a vacancy in the office of any member of the Council; or
 - II. On the grounds that a member of the Council appointed to represent any denomination or associations does not at the time of the proceedings represent the denomination or associations in question.

6. Deputies

Only named deputies may attend or vote in place of a member.

7. Chair and Vice-Chair

- a) The Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected annually by the SACRE members following nomination at the first SACRE meeting of the council year. Nominations should be made to the clerk prior to the start of the meeting.
- b) If there is more than one nomination for each position then a secret ballot will take place. In the event of a tie the previous chair has the casting vote.
- c) In the case of no nominations an executive group consisting of a member of each committee shall be set up.

8. Voting

- a) SACRE
Each representative group shall be entitled to one vote on any question to be decided by the whole SACRE, totalling four votes in all. Decisions made by the SACRE require a majority vote.
- b) Representative Groups
Decisions made within each representative group, including how to cast that group's vote on any question to be determined by the whole SACRE, require a majority vote.

9. Co-options

- a) The SACRE may co-opt further members if it is felt that the existing members do not adequately reflect the principal belief groups and/or religious traditions of the area, or for particular purposes and such length of time as representative groups on the SACRE shall decide.
- b) Such co-opted members may participate fully in the discussion of the SACRE but may not vote or participate in the co-option of others.

10. Quorum

A quorum shall consist of one third of the members and which must include representation from each of the four committee groups.

11. Frequency of meetings

- a) The SACRE shall normally meet at least once in every school term. It is for each of the four constituent groups to determine whether it wishes to meet on an ad hoc basis outside meetings of the full Council.
- b) The chair may call an extraordinary meeting if this agreed at a preceding quorate meeting.

12. Notice of meetings

At least five clear working days before each meeting of the SACRE the clerk shall send notice to every member setting out the business to be transacted. Items for the agenda may be submitted by any of the four groups, and such items should be sent to the Clerk not less than 14 days before a meeting.

13. Minutes

The minutes of each meeting shall be sent by the Clerk to each member as soon as practicable after a meeting. The minutes shall be confirmed and signed at the next meeting.

14. Submission of resolutions to the Cabinet

The Clerk shall submit to the following meeting of the Cabinet any resolution of the SACRE addressed to that Committee.

15. Availability of papers to the public

All papers of the SACRE shall be available on the local authority's website, except in relation to any matter deemed by the SACRE to be confidential.

Pension Fund Investment Advisory Panel

Membership: Voting - 3 Councillors. Non-voting - Chief Finance Officer (or delegate), Treasury Services Manager, Staff Side Representative, Pensioner Representative)

Constituted by: Council

Powers and Duties determined by: Council

Authority: (Section 102(4) Local Government Act 1972)

Functions

- a) To establish, in consultation with relevant advisors, appropriate investment policy for the Pension Fund, and to advise General Purposes Committee accordingly
- b) To advise officers on the exercise of their delegated powers concerning the management and investment strategy of the Pension Fund and to report to and advise General Purposes Committee as appropriate.
- c) To monitor the performance of the Pension Fund relative to its objectives, benchmarks and targets, and to prompt remedial action as necessary
- d) To review the draft Annual Report and Accounts for the Pension Fund, and provide comments to the General Purposes Committee and Audit Committee in respect of the investment matters reported therein.

South West London Joint Waste Management Committee

Membership: 2

Constituted by: Cabinet

Powers and Duties determined by: Cabinet

Authority: Cabinet

Functions:

To advise the Cabinet on the Development of the Joint Waste Development Plan Document

Street Management Advisory Committee

Membership: 6 Councillors

Constituted by: Cabinet

Powers and Duties determined by: Cabinet/Cabinet Member for Environment and Regeneration

Authority: Cabinet

Functions:

To advise the Cabinet Member for Environment and Traffic Management on any matter that the Cabinet Member refers to the Committee for consideration.