

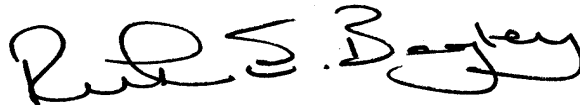
Date of despatch: 23rd January, 2012

To the Members of Slough Borough Council

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend a Meeting of the Council of this Borough which will be held in the The Small Hall, The Centre, Farnham Road, Slough, Berkshire SL1 4UT on **Tuesday, 31st January, 2012 at 7.00 pm**, when the business in the Agenda below is proposed to be transacted.

Yours faithfully



RUTH BAGLEY
Chief Executive

AGENDA

PRAYERS

Apologies for Absence

PAGE

- | | | |
|----|---|--------|
| 1. | Declarations of Interest-Members are reminded of their duty to declare personal and personal prejudicial interests in matters coming before this meeting as set out in the Local Code of Conduct. | |
| 2. | To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council held on 29th November, 2011 and 19th December, 2011 | 1 - 10 |
| 3. | To receive the Mayor's Communications. | |

Public Questions

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 4. | Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9 (if any) | |
|----|---|--|

5. Questions from Members re the Thames Valley Police Authority under Procedure Rule 10.

Recommendations of Cabinet and Committees

[Notification of Amendments required by 10 a.m. on Monday 30th January, 2012]

6. Recommendations from Planning Committee: Public Participation Scheme 11 - 22

Officer Reports

7. Appointments to Committees, Panels and Other Bodies 23 - 26

Member Questions

8. To note Questions from Members under Procedure Rule 10 (as tabled).

MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At a Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at the Town Hall, Slough on Tuesday, 29th November, 2011 at 7.00 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor S K Dhaliwal), in the chair; Councillors Abe (arrived at 7.33 pm), Anderson, Bains, Basharat, Buchanan, Carter, S Chaudhry, Chohan, Coad, Dale-Gough, Dar, Davis, A S Dhaliwal, Dodds, Grewal, P K Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Munawar, O'Connor, Pantelic, Parmar, Plenty, Plimmer, Rasib, Sharif, Small, Smith, Sohal, Stokes, Strutton, Swindlehurst, Walsh and S P Wright

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors P Choudhry, Haines, Long, M S Mann, Qureshi and A S Wright

36. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Basharat, S Chaudhry and Rasib declared a personal interest in that Members of their families are employed by Slough BC.

37. **Minutes of the Council held on 29th September and 19th October, 2011**

The minutes of the proceedings of the Council at its meeting held on 29th September and 19th October, 2011, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

38. **Mayor's Communications**

Remembrance Sunday

The Mayor thanked those Members who attended the Remembrance Sunday and the Armistice Day events arranged throughout the Borough. The efforts made to mark these important occasions were very well received.

Christmas Lights

The Christmas lights were switched on in the Town Square on Thursday, 17th November, signalling the start of the Festive Season in Slough. The enthusiastic crowd enjoyed the entertainment and firework display.

Extraordinary Council meeting

The Mayor advised that she had received a request for an Extraordinary Council meeting to consider Children's Services. She had agreed to call the meeting on Monday 19th December at 7.15 pm, in the Council Chamber, and the agenda would be issued later in the week.

Christmas Celebration Evening

The Mayor would hold a Christmas Celebration Evening on Friday, 9th December and all members were invited. This would be the last civic event to be held in the Town Hall and it is was hoped that all members would join the Mayor in celebrating both Christmas and the conclusion of almost 75 years of Council business being transacted in the Town Hall.

39. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9

None received.

40. Questions from Members re the Thames Valley Police Authority under Procedure Rule 10

None received.

41. Annual Audit Letter 2010/11

The Mayor invited Mr Westwood, the Council's appointed Auditor, to address the Council, and Members asked him a number of questions of detail about the Annual Audit Letter 2010/11. Following completion of the questioning, the Mayor thanked Mr Westwood for his presentation.

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

"That the recommendation as set out in the report be approved and adopted".

The recommendation was put and carried by 24 votes to 0 votes with 9 abstentions.

Resolved- That the report and the recommendations contained therein be accepted and that the Council's Corporate Plan and the appropriate service plans be amended to address the recommendations.

42. Parliamentary Constituency Boundary Review

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Walsh,

"That the recommendation as set out in the report be approved and adopted".

The recommendation was put and carried unanimously.

Resolved- That the draft response to the Boundary Commission for England's initial proposals for the Slough Constituency, as attached at Appendix A of the report be agreed.

43. Designation of Polling Places - Polling District NC and KA

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Walsh,

“That the recommendations as set out in the report be approved and adopted”.

The recommendations were put and carried unanimously.

Resolved-

- (a) That the designated Polling Place for Polling District NC be Khalsa Primary School, Wexham Road, Slough, Berkshire, SL2 5QR, with immediate effect.
- (b) That the designated Polling Place for Polling District KA be Langley Pavilion, Langley Road, Langley, Slough, Berkshire, SL3 8BS, with immediate effect.

44. Review of the Council's Flag Regulations

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Anderson,

“That the recommendations as set out in the report be approved and adopted”.

The recommendations were put and carried unanimously.

Resolved-

- (a) That the Council's Flag Regulations be amended to allow for:
 - (1) The Union Flag to be flown on all days that the Council is open for business, and other nationally significant occasions that fall on the weekend and public holidays.
 - (2) The Civic Flag (Borough Coat of Arms) to be flown on all days that the Council is open for business.
 - (3) A flag bearing the Slough Borough Council corporate logo to be flown on all days the Council is open for business apart from days of significant English occasions, including weekend and public holidays, when the St. George's Flag be flown in its place.
- (b) That Planning approval be sought as necessary under the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) Regulations 2007 (SI 2007 No 783).

45. Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14

1. REFURBISHMENT OF LASCELLES PARK TENNIS COURTS

It was moved by Councillor Smith,
Seconded by Councillor Dale-Gough,

“This Council resolves to:-

- Formulate plans and set aside funds to refurbish the tennis courts in Lascelles Park and bring all four of them up to a full functioning and safe standard. This work should be completed before next summer’s tennis season.
- The cost should be met out of existing parks and leisure budgets.
- To make these courts fit for purpose and available on the same first-come first-served basis, free of charge basis as at present, to meet the demand of park users including private individuals, organised groups like Boys Brigade, Brownies and Scouts, and nearby schools”.

It was moved as an amendment by Councillor Parmar,
Seconded by Councillor S Chaudhry,

That the motion be amended as follows:-

“This Council resolves to:-

- Continue investing in the borough’s parks consistent with the council’s progress to date; Formulate plans and timetable works (to fit in with the commitments the council has already made to refurbishing Baylis and Upton Court Park) and set aside funds to refurbish the tennis courts in Lascelles Park and bring all four of them up to a fully functioning and safe standard. ~~This work should be completed before next summer’s tennis season.~~
- Explore means of external funding as a priority as The cost should cannot be met out of existing parks and leisure budgets.
- To explore options available to make these courts fit for purpose and available to a maximum number of people in an economically sustainable way ~~on the same first-come first-served basis, free of charge basis as at present,~~ to meet the demand of park users including private individuals, organised groups like Boys Brigade, Brownies and Scouts, and nearby schools”.

The amendment was put and carried by 25 votes to 1 vote with 10 abstentions.

The substantive motion was put and carried by 24 votes to 8 votes with 3 abstentions.

Resolved- This Council resolves to:-

- Continue investing in the borough’s parks consistent with the council’s progress to date; formulate plans and timetable works (to fit in with the commitments the council has already made to refurbishing Baylis and Upton Court Park) to

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refurbish the tennis courts in Lascelles Park and bring all four of them up to a fully functioning and safe standard.

- Explore means of external funding as a priority as the cost cannot be met out of existing parks and leisure budgets.
- Explore options available to make these courts fit for purpose and available to a maximum number of people in an economically sustainable way to meet the demand of park users including private individuals, organised groups like Boys Brigade, Brownies and Scouts, and nearby schools.

WAR MEMORIALS

It was moved by Councillor Plimmer,
Seconded by Councillor Stokes,

“This Council resolves to:

- 1) Urgently commission a survey of the town centre war memorial located at the rear of St Mary’s Church to evaluate what work needs to be carried out to restore it to its former glory.
- 2) Commission any work that needs doing to the town centre war memorial as soon as possible and without delay.
- 3) Urgently commission a survey of other war memorials in order to ascertain:
 - a) How many war memorials exist in the borough
 - b) And to evaluate what work needs to be carried out to restore them to their former glory.
- 4) Commission any work that needs doing to these war memorials as soon as possible and without delay”.

It was moved as an amendment by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Munawar,

“This Council resolves to:

- ~~1) Urgently commission a survey of the town centre war memorial located at the rear of St Mary’s Church to evaluate what work needs to be carried out to restore it to its former glory.~~
- ~~2) 1) Commission any work that needs doing to the town centre war memorial to maintain its current condition and safety, in addition to that which has already been carried out since April 2010 and in line with what would be appropriate for a listed historic structure. as soon as possible and without delay.~~
- ~~3) 2) Work with the Civic Society and Slough branch of the Royal British Legion to Urgently commission a survey of other war memorials in order to ascertain:~~
 - a) How many war memorials exist in the borough

b) And to evaluate what work needs to be carried out to restore them to their former glory.

4) 3) Commission any work that needs doing to these war memorials to maintain their current condition and safety, and in line with what would be appropriate for a listed historic structure, in time for the 100th Anniversary of the commencement of World War I, in 2014 as soon as possible and without delay".

5) 4) Endorse the proposal already supported by the Civic Society and The War Memorials Trust that a public subscription campaign be mounted to fund a new War Memorial to be located in a non-denominational location, which recognises the service-men and -women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in all wars up to the current time.

5) Support the establishment of a War Memorial 2014 Committee to investigate the cost, location, design, criteria for the inclusion of names of war dead and funding means of such a memorial as referred in (4).

Councillor Plimmer as mover of the original motion, with the agreement of his seconder, Councillor Coad, indicated that he was prepared to accept the proposed amendment which was agreed by the Council as the substantive motion.

The substantive motion was put and carried unanimously.

Resolved- This Council resolves to:

- 1) Commission any work that needs doing to the town centre war memorial to maintain its current condition and safety, in addition to that which has already been carried out since April 2010 and in line with what would be appropriate for a listed historic structure.
- 2) Work with the Civic Society and Slough branch of the Royal British Legion to ascertain:
 - a) How many war memorials exist in the borough
 - b) And to evaluate what work needs to be carried out to restore them to their former glory.
- 3) Commission any work that needs doing to these war memorials to maintain their current condition and safety, and in line with what would be appropriate for a listed historic structure, in time for the 100th Anniversary of the commencement of World War I, in 2014.
- 4) Endorse the proposal already supported by the Civic Society and The War Memorials Trust that a public subscription campaign be mounted to fund a new War Memorial to be located in a non-denominational location, which recognises the service-men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in all wars up to the current time.
- 5) Support the establishment of a *War Memorial 2014 Committee* to investigate the cost, location, design, criteria for the inclusion of names of war dead and funding means of such a memorial as referred in (4).

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 8.37 pm)

MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At a Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at the Town Hall, Slough on Monday, 19th December, 2011 at 7.15 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor S K Dhaliwal), in the chair;
Councillors Anderson, Bains, Buchanan, Carter, S Chaudhry, Dale-Gough, Dar, Davis, A S Dhaliwal, Dodds, Haines, Long, M S Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Munawar, Pantelic, Parmar, Plenty, Plimmer, Sharif, Small, Smith, Sohal, Stokes, Strutton, Swindlehurst, Walsh and A S Wright

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Abe, Basharat, Chohan, P Choudhry, Coad, Grewal, P K Mann, O'Connor, Qureshi and Rasib

46. Declarations of Interest

Councillor S Chaudhry declared a personal interest in that a Member of his family is employed by Slough BC.

47. Five Member Requisition - To discuss and make recommendations to the Cabinet with regard to the Children's Services department and its current leadership.

It was moved as a recommendation by Councillor Pantelic,
Seconded by Councillor Anderson,

“That in accordance Procedure Rule 27, Council Procedure Rule 16, Rules of debate, Content and Length of speeches, be suspended to allow the Commissioner for Children’s Services to make a presentation to the Council on progress against the Ofsted Report published on 1st June 2011.

Following the presentation the debate to return to normal debate rules as set out in Procedure Rule 16 other than the Commissioner for Children’s Services being entitled to reply to points raised during debate without prejudice to her entitlement to speak generally in the debate on any recommendations/ amendments”.

The recommendation was put and carried by 20 votes to 7 votes with 1 abstention.

The Commissioner for Education and Children’s Services made a presentation to Council.

Recommendation 1

It was moved as a recommendation by Councillor Stokes,

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Seconded by Councillor Strutton,

“This Council resolves to appoint an all-Party working party to recommend an improvement Action Plan designed to secure the services of an effective Chair of the Slough Local Safeguarding Children Board (SLSCB), attract more senior representatives to membership of the SLSCB, improve member attendance at meetings and introduce effective scrutiny and review procedures to improve the co-operation and performance of inadequate Partners”.

The recommendation was put and lost by 8 votes to 20 votes with 1 abstention.

Recommendation 2

It was moved as a recommendation by Councillor Stokes,
Seconded by Councillor Buchanan,

“This Council resolves to ask the Director of Children’s Services and the Lead Member for Children’s Services to issue a report to all Councillors indicating what reassurances have been given to the Minister’s officials, and also what steps have been taken to “understand the issue”, to improve partner working relationships, to strengthen the LSCB, to appoint a Chair for the LSCB and to facilitate and encourage more member involvement in all Child Protection Policies and practices to safeguard vulnerable children”.

The recommendation was put and lost by 8 votes to 20 votes with 1 abstention.

Recommendation 3

It was moved as a recommendation by Councillor Stokes,
Seconded by Councillor Haines,

“This Council resolves to ask the Director of Children’s Services and the Lead Member for Children’s Services to consider the implications of Thames Valley Police inadequacies in relation to child protection policies and practices, to sue their best endeavours to ensure that the Slough Local Safeguarding Children Board initiates a thorough scrutiny of Thames Valley Police effectiveness in protecting vulnerable children and then issue a report to all Councillors indicating what conclusions they have drawn and what measures for improvement have been formulated”.

The recommendation was put and lost by 9 votes to 20 votes with 1 abstention.

Recommendation 4

It was moved as a recommendation by Councillor Stokes,
Seconded by Councillor Smith,

“This Council resolves to ask the Government to reflect on the current inappropriate recruitment and selection procedure which permits a Children’s Services Officer to take the lead in the appointment and then the dismissal of the Chair of Local Safeguarding Children Board and also to:

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Ask the Government to consider the introduction of an independent and more efficient recruitment procedure (possibly through the Appointments Commission) which would enable the appointment of a competent Chair who would feel secure to pursue a constructive and investigative role free from political pressure and interference.

The recommendation was put and lost by 9 votes to 20 votes with 1 abstention.

Recommendation 5

It was moved as a recommendation by Councillor Stokes ,
Seconded by Councillor Plimmer,

“This Council resolves to ask the Lead member for Children’s Services to report on the form and the outcome of her “morale boosting” session for front line staff”.

The recommendation was put and lost by 8 votes to 20 votes with 2 abstentions.

Recommendation 6

It was moved as a recommendation by Councillor Dale-Gough,
Seconded by Councillor Stokes,

“This Council resolves that in future, any improvement plans that should be drawn up by Education and Children’s Services will trigger the creation of a working party with equal numbers of representatives from each side of the chamber who will work with the relevant offices to draw up the improvement plans, monitor the progress and implementation of those plans”.

The recommendation was put and lost by 9 votes to 20 votes with 1 abstention.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.15 pm and closed at 9.15 pm)

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SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Council **DATE:** 31st January 2012

CONTACT OFFICER: Shabana Kauser, Senior Democratic Services Officer
(For all Enquiries) (01753) 87011

WARD(S): All

PART I
FOR DECISION

RECOMMENDATION OF PLANNING COMMITTEE – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SCHEME

1. **Purpose of Report**

To advise the Council of the recommendation of the Planning Committee on 11th January 2012 to amend the Public Participation Scheme (PPS).

2. **Recommendation**

The Council is requested to RESOLVE: That the Public Participation Scheme be amended, as set out in Appendix A, to allow objectors to speak on an application when Officers are recommending refusal.

3. **Community Strategy Priorities**

The administrative and procedural changes have no direct impact on the Community Strategy.

4. **Other Implications**

(a) **Financial**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

(b) **Risk Management**

There are no significant risks.

(c) **Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications**

There is no legal obligation to allow public participation at planning committees. The Council has agreed a Scheme to allow public participation at meetings and this forms part of the Constitution.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

Any Scheme and/or proposed changes to it should ensure absolute equality between applicant and objectors.

(e) Workforce There are no workforce implications.

5. **Supporting Information**

- 5.1 At its meeting on 6th October the Member Panel on the Constitution considered the Public Participation Scheme. The Panel had been asked by the Council to consider the following proposal that Councillor Smith had put at the Council meeting on 26th July 2011:

‘Objectors should be enabled to address the Planning Committee if officers are recommending "refusal", where the proposed development is in a Conservation Area, or in the Greenbelt, or where the objectors are statutory consultees, including Parish Councils.’

Public Participation Scheme (PPS)

- 5.2 The PPS is set out in the Constitution within the Planning Code of Conduct.
- 5.3 The PPS currently allows certain people/groups the opportunity to speak about a planning application if the application is recommended for **approval** by officers and is to be determined by the Planning Committee.
- 5.4 The Scheme states that in the case of a planning application that is recommended for **refusal** the applicant has recourse to the statutory appeal process.

Consideration by the Member Panel on the Constitution

- 5.5 Members discussed the speaking rights at Planning Committee and the proposal moved by Councillor Smith. Members were advised that, whilst there was no legal requirement to allow public participation at Planning Committees, any scheme should ensure absolute equality between applicant and objectors.
- 5.6 Whilst Councillor Smith’s proposal suggested that objectors should be able to address the Committee if an application was recommended for refusal in certain circumstances, the Panel considered that speaking rights [in accordance with the scheme] should be extended to all applications submitted to Committee whether for approval or refusal to ensure equity for all.
- 5.7 The Panel recommended that the Scheme be amended to allow objectors to speak on an application when officers are recommending refusal. The proposed amendments to the Scheme are marked with Track changes in the attached Appendix.

Consideration by the Planning Committee

5.8 On 11th January 2012, Members of the Planning Committee considered the proposed changes to the Public Participation Scheme.

5.9 Subject to a number of minor amendments to the scheme, the Planning Committee resolved that the Public Participation Scheme be amended to allow objectors to speak on an application when officers are recommending refusal.

6. Conclusion

That Council consider the recommendation approved by Planning Committee on 11th January 2012 to amend the Public Participation Scheme to allow objectors to speak on an application when officers are recommending refusal.

7 Appendices Attached

'A' - Public Participation Scheme – incorporating proposed amendments.

8. Background Papers

Agenda and Minutes – Council 26th July 2011

Member Panel on the Constitution – 6th October 2011

Agenda and Minutes – Planning Committee 25th October 2011 & 11th January 2012

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APPENDIX A

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SCHEME

- 9.1 Applications for planning permission are determined by either Officers acting under the Council's Scheme of Delegation or by Members who form the Planning Committee. Each application is subject to a public consultation/notification exercise which includes local residents and other bodies inviting comment in writing on the application before it is determined.
- 9.2 The ~~Council gives the~~ following will be allowed an opportunity to address, ~~in certain circumstances, Members of~~ the Planning Committee ~~at the meeting~~ before Members take their decision:-
- (a) Objectors (subject to para 4 of the explanatory leaflet set out in Appendix B)
 - (b) Parish Council representatives
 - (c) The applicant (or his agent) (where an objector has registered to speak)
 - (d) Ward Councillors or other appropriate elected representatives raising material planning issues on behalf of those they represent.
- 9.3 The Public Participation Scheme will only apply to applications which are to be determined by the Planning Committee. They do not apply to any matter where the Planning Committee is considering enforcement of any kind. Applications to be determined under Officer Delegated Authority are not subject to the requirements of this code.

The Public Participation Scheme will operate in accordance with the explanatory leaflet attached as Appendix B to this Code of Conduct.

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SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

What happens about my Objection to a Planning Application?

This information explains how your objection is dealt with and how the application is determined. Your views on planning applications are always considered when planning decisions are made

1. I have objected. What happens next?

1.1 Planning officers will consider whether:

- the application should be recommended for approval as it stands
- it should be amended to resolve your objection, or
- it should be refused

1.2 Your written objection may be made by email or by letter. Your written objection will not normally be replied to or acknowledged. If the application is to be referred to the Planning Committee you will be notified when the Agenda is prepared to give you the opportunity to register if you wish to speak on your objection. The deadline for receipt of requests to speak at a Planning Committee shall be no later than three clear working days prior to the day of the meeting. If exceptionally an application is taken to Planning Committee as a late urgent item you will be informed. If there is not three working days for the submission of your request discretion may be exercised to relax the procedure.

1.3 If you have submitted a petition in response to a planning application your petition will be noted for the purposes of the Public Participation Scheme and, in the event that the application is to be determined by the Planning Committee, the petition organiser/main contact will be advised of their right to speak at the meeting.

[Note: The submission of a petition does not mean that the planning application will automatically be referred to the Planning Committee.]

2. Who Makes the Decision?

Most planning applications are dealt with at officer level under a Scheme of Delegation. In this circumstance the application will not be reported to the Planning committee for determination. In certain circumstances, as set out in the Scheme of Delegation, the application will be determined by the Planning Committee. Any comments received will be summarised in a report when the application is presented.

3. Can I see the officer's report before the Planning Committee Meeting?

Yes. The agenda and reports will be available ~~at the Town Hall~~ five working days before the meeting. An additional paper (The Amendment Sheet), containing information received after the reports have been written and prior to the meeting, will be circulated at the meeting.

4. Can I speak at the Planning Committee Meeting?

Slough Borough Council has a public participation scheme that allows for speaking about a planning application ~~if the application is recommended for approval by officers and that~~ is to be determined by the Planning Committee. You may speak if:-

- (a) you have made a written objection or lodged a petition and
- (b) registered to speak.

~~In the case of a planning application that is recommended for refusal the applicant has recourse to the statutory appeal process.~~

5. Can a member of the public speak about any application on the Agenda?

No. Members of the public can only speak if they have objected in writing to an application and registered to speak, in line with the Public Participation Scheme.

6. How much time will be allowed for speakers?

A total of four minutes per site/application will be allocated to hear the views of all objectors, four minutes for Parish Councils and four minutes for the applicant/agent. The Chair of the Planning Committee can in exceptional circumstances extend the time limit for all parties and his decision will be final.

7. What happens if there are a number of objectors wishing to speak?

7.1 The time limit remains the same and objectors will be encouraged to present a joint objection or appoint a spokesperson, as this is often the most effective use of the time available. In order to agree the best approach, objectors may contact the Planning Committee Clerk for details of others wishing to speak. The telephone and fax numbers and the e-mail address can be found in the Notice of Objection form which accompanies this leaflet. In some cases the Parish Council or a Residents' Association may be willing to represent objectors.

7.2 The Council needs to strike a balance between providing the opportunity for people to be heard and ensuring that the applications are dealt with efficiently, within a meeting of reasonable length. This is why there is a time limit on speakers.

8. Can someone else speak on my behalf?

Yes. You could ask a friend, relative or professional adviser to speak for you.

9. How do I present my objection?

The Committee may only consider relevant planning issues. Please limit your comments to matters such as:-

appearance and character of development
traffic generation, highway safety and parking
overshadowing, overlooking and loss of privacy
noise, disturbance and other loss of amenities
layout and density of buildings
relevant planning policies

Please avoid matters that cannot be considered by the Committee such as:-

boundary disputes, covenants or other property rights
personal remarks (e.g. the applicant's motives)
reduction in property values
loss of private view over the land

If you would like to check what issues are relevant, please contact the appropriate planning officer in the Department of the Green and Built Environment. Advice is given free of charge at present but is subject to review.

You may be asked to pay a fee for specific advice from a Planning Officer in accordance with any charging scheme the Council may introduce.

If you have any questions or documentary evidence eg letters, maps, photographs etc in support of your objection they must normally be submitted to the appropriate planning officer at least 72 hours before the meeting. This will allow any such documents to be verified and to be given proper consideration by the Committee. Documents or questions submitted outside this deadline can only be considered in exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the Chair.

10. When and where are the meetings held?

Applications are dealt with by the Planning Committee, which meets at 6.30 p.m. You will be advised by letter or e mail of the date of the meeting if the application you have objected to is to be considered by the Committee and the location of the meeting. ~~Meetings are held in the Council Chamber, Bath Road, Slough. Directions to the meeting room will be given in the reception area at the Bath Road entrance to the Town Hall. There is disabled access. Car parking is available on site.~~

11. Who is on the Committee and who else will be there?

The Committee is made up of elected Councillors. Council Officersstaff attend to advise the Committee and make a formal record of the meeting. Other Councillors may be present to speak on applications within their Ward, but they cannot vote. Any member of the public or applicant may attend to listen to the debate and the Media is usually present.

12. What is the order of business at the meeting?

The Chair of the Planning Committee will normally amend the order of business on the Agenda and deal firstly with those applications where people have expressed a wish to speak under this Scheme.

13. What is the order of speaking for each application?

The Chair will announce the application.

A planning officer will give a short introduction.

The Chair will invite objectors to speak

The Chair will invite the applicant or agent to respond

The Chair will invite the Ward Councillor(s) to speak

The Chair will invite the Parish Council representative to speak.

Committee members may ask questions of the speakers and seek clarification of particular points from officers.

The Committee will then discuss the application and make a decision. This may be to:-

approve the application
refuse the application
defer consideration eg for further information or amendments, or
defer consideration for a site visit by a panel of Councillors.

14. What happens if an application is deferred for a Site Visit?

If, before the meeting, a councillor asks for a site viewing and the application is not discussed, you will be invited to speak at a subsequent meeting when the item will be considered. If, after hearing the objectors, the Committee decides to view a site, you will not be invited to speak again. **You will be given only one opportunity to speak on an application.**

15. Can Objectors speak at a Site Visit?

No. The site visit is private and its purpose is to observe characteristics of a site and its relationship to the surroundings. Representations on the merits of the application will not be discussed.

16. Can an application be approved by the Committee if it is recommended for refusal?

Yes the Committee (ie the Members elected by the public) can disagree with the officer's recommendation. ~~and if this does occur there will be no opportunity to speak under this Scheme before the decision is made~~

17. What happens after the decision is made?

The applicant/agent will be sent the notice of decision. Objectors/supporters can view the decision on the Council's website. www.slough.gov.uk or inspect the Planning Register at the Planning Office. Where an application has been refused, the applicant can appeal to the Planning Inspectorate. You will be advised of any such appeal, your original comments will be forwarded to the Inspectorate and you will be asked for any further comments. Where an application has been granted, there is no opportunity for objectors to appeal.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SCHEME

OBJECTOR WISHING TO SPEAK

Location:

Proposal:

Application Reference:

I confirm that I would like the opportunity to address the meeting in the event of the above mentioned application being reported to Committee.

Objector's

Name

Address

Telephone No:

Signed

Please return to:

Democratic Services Officer - Planning
Resources and Regeneration
St Martin's Place Slough Borough Council
Town Hall
Bath Road
Slough
SL1 3UQ

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SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Council

DATE: 31st January 2012

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WARD(S): All

PART I
FOR DECISION

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, PANELS AND OTHER BODIES

1 **Purpose of Report**

To appoint to vacancies on Committees and Panels and make appointments to other bodies.

2. **Recommendations**

The Council is requested to Resolve:

- (a) That the appointment of Cllr P K Mann as Commissioner for Opportunity and skills with effect from 23rd December be noted and that appointments be made to consequential vacancies as follows:

Standards Committee [1 Labour Vacancy]
Health Scrutiny Panel [1 Labour Vacancy]
Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel [1 Labour Vacancy]
[Nominations to follow]

- (b) That the individuals listed in Paragraph 5.7 of the report be appointed to the Independent Appeals Panel to hear appeals from parents in respect of school exclusion and admission appeals.

- (c) That appointments be made to vacancies on the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) as set out in paragraph 5.11.

- (d) That Councillor Swindlehurst be nominated to the Board of Development Initiative Slough Housing Ltd. (DISH)

- (e) That Councillor P K Mann be appointed to South East Employers

3. **Community Strategy Priorities**

Effective, transparent and equitable democratic and decision making processes are an essential pre-requisite to the delivery of all the Council's priorities.

4. **Other Implications**

The recommendations within this report meet legal requirements and the requirements of Code of Practice on School Admission Appeals and the Regulations governing school exclusion appeals in respect of the independence of

panel members. Any financial implications have been reflected within the approved budget. There are no Human Rights Act implications.

Costs relating to training for appeal panellists will be met from the Democratic Services budget. For the purposes of a Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) check, panellists fall within the volunteers' category and as such no charge has been incurred in completing a check.

5. **Supporting Information**

5.1 A number of vacancies have arisen on Council Committees and Panels.

Scrutiny Panels and Standards Committee

5.2 The Leader of the Council appointed Councillor P K Mann as Commissioner for Opportunity and Skills in place of Council or Matloob with effect from 23rd December 2011.

5.3 A member of the Executive cannot sit on an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or its Panels or the Standards Committee and a vacancy has therefore arisen on the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel, Health Panel and Standards Committee as a result of Councillor Mann's appointment to the Cabinet.

5.4 Nominations for these vacancies have been sought from the Leader of the Council and will be reported to the Council.

School Admission and Exclusion Appeals

5.5 The Council at its Annual Meeting on 19th May, 2011 approved the appointment of a number of individuals to serve on the independent appeal panels from parents in respect of school exclusion and admission appeals.

5.6 It is a requirement of the School Admission Appeals Code that Local Authorities must advertise for additional panellists every three years. In accordance with this requirement, an advert was placed in the Slough Express and Slough Observer on 23rd September 2011.

5.7 Interviews were held during week commencing 14th November 2011 for prospective panel members. It is recommended that the following individuals be appointed to the Independent Appeal Panel:

- Mrs S Baig
- Mr D Bryce
- Mrs P Christian
- Miss J Coakley
- Mr H Gahir
- Ms R Mohan
- Mrs T Khan
- Mrs P Prescott
- Ms L Shekiluwa

5.8 In accordance with best practice, a Criminal Record Bureau check has been carried out in relation to all new panellists.

- 5.9 Relevant training regarding the School Admissions Code and School Admission Appeals Code will be provided to panellists.

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

- 5.10 The Members of the SACRE are appointed by the Council and a number of vacancies currently exist for appointments to represent religions as follows:

Sikhism (2 Vacancies), Islam (4 vacancies).

- 5.11 The Committee and Chair have worked together to seek nominations to fill these vacancies and an approach has been made through the Slough Muslim Communication Forum. The Council is requested to approve appointments as follows

Sikhism

Hardip Singh Sohal - Governor of Khalsa School
[1 vacancy remains]

Islam

Julie Siddiqi - An-Nisa Slough Muslim Women's Group / Islamic Society of Britain
Zubayr Abbas-Bowkan - Slough Weekend Islamic School (SWIS)
Imam Moulana Saeed Ziaee - Imam, Diamond Road Mosque
Zara Choudhary - KHIDMA (community group/charity)

The nominees represent a good mix of backgrounds, ages and interests and are keen to do what they can to raise awareness and understanding of the different faith groups within the SACRE and schools in general whilst at the same time recognising the diversity within the communities they represent.

Development Initiative Slough Housing LTD (DISH)

- 5.12 DISH was established in the late 1980s in response to the Government's requirement that more homes for rent be built by bodies other than local councils, with rents at economic levels. The Board Members are currently Councillor Anderson, Councillor Haines and the Chief Executive. The Council is asked to approve the nomination of Councillor Swindlehurst as an additional Board Member.

South East Employers

- 5.13 The Council appoints two Members and two deputies to the South East Employers and has agreed that the appointments comprise the Commissioner for Opportunity and Skills and Chair of Employment & Appeals Committee. Councillor Matloob and Bains were appointed by the Council in May 2011. Councillor Matloob has since resigned as he is no longer Commissioner and the Council is requested to resolve that Councillor P K Mann be appointed.

6. Background Papers

Council Constitution

Further details regarding school appeal Panel Members available on request from Democratic Services.

School Admission Appeals Code.

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