

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

For a virtual/remote meeting to be held on Monday, 8 March 2021 at 7.30 pm

Members of the Policy and Resources Committee:-

Councillors:

Sarah Nelmes (Chair)
Stephen Giles-Medhurst
Paula Hiscocks
Chris Lloyd
Reena Ranger
Andrew Scarth

Matthew Bedford (Vice-Chair)
Roger Seabourne
Phil Williams
Steve Drury
Alison Wall

*Joanne Wagstaffe, Chief Executive
Monday, 1 March 2021*

“The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 made under the Coronavirus Act 2020 enable Council / Committee meetings to be held in a virtual format and enables remote attendance.

The meeting will start at 7.30pm and will be virtual / remote, in that they will be conducted at no specific location and all participants are at various locations, communicating via audio and online.

The Council welcomes contributions from Members of the public to its discussion on agenda items at Planning Committee meetings. Contributions will be limited to one person speaking for and one against each item for not more than three minutes. Please note that in the event of registering your interest to speak on an agenda item but not taking up that right because the item is deferred, you will automatically be given the right to speak on the item at that next meeting of the Committee. Details of the procedure are provided below:

Members of the public wishing to speak will be entitled to register and identify which application(s) they wish to speak on from the published agenda for the remote meeting. Those who wish to register to speak must do so by notifying the Committee team by e-mail (CommitteeTeam@threerivers.gov.uk) 48 hours before the meeting. The first 2 people to register on any application (1 for and 1 against) will be sent a link so that they

can join the meeting to exercise that right. This will also allow the Committee Team to prepare the speaker sheet in advance of the remote meeting to forward to the Chair of the meeting.

In accordance with The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 any matters considered under Part 1 business only of the meeting may be filmed, recorded, photographed, broadcast or reported via social media by any person.

Recording and reporting the Council's meetings is subject to the law and it is the responsibility of those doing the recording and reporting to ensure compliance. This will include the Human Rights Act, the Data Protection Act and the laws of libel and defamation.

Please note that the meeting is being held virtually. The business of the meeting will be live streamed at –

<https://aisapps.sonicfoundry.com/AuditelScheduler/Player/Index/?id=15ca51e2-2a12-40d2-968d-12a8d21c9864&presID=190135e1f7dd43349e063ca4b6bace431d>

The Committee virtual meeting protocol can be viewed below:

[protocol-for-virtual-committee-meetings-sept-2020-3](#)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. MINUTES

(Pages 7
- 16)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 25 January 2021.

3. NOTICE OF OTHER BUSINESS

Items of other business notified under Council Procedure Rule 30 to be announced, together with the special circumstances that justify their consideration as a matter of urgency. The Chair to rule on the admission of such items.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest.

Policy

5. ADOPTION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION MODEL COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT 2020

(Pages
17 - 36)

The Local Government Association (LGA) has developed a Model Councillor Code of Conduct 2020, in association with key partners and after extensive consultation with the sector. This is part of its work on supporting all tiers of local government to continue to aspire to high standards of leadership and performance. It is a template for Councils to adopt in whole and/or with local amendments. All Councils are required to have a local Councillor Code of Conduct. It is not mandatory for all Councils to have the same code.

6. NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK AND NATIONAL MODEL DESIGN CODE - DRAFT RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION PROPOSALS (Pages 37 - 52)

The Government is undertaking a [consultation](#) on proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the National Model Design Guide. This is a technical consultation seeking views on:

- Proposed changes to the NPPF based on the recommendations of the Building Better Building Beautiful Commission
- Proposed changes to the NPPF to strengthen environmental policies, including those arising from the government's review of flood risk with Defra
- Proposed minor changes to the NPPF to clarify policy in order to address legal issues
- Proposed changes to remove or amend out of date material
- A proposed update to reflect a recent change made in a Written Ministerial Statement about retaining and explaining statuses
- Clarification on the use of Article 4 Directions
- The new National Model Design Code

This report provides a summary of the proposed changes and seeks Members' views on the draft response set out in Appendix 1.

7. CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2021-2026 (Pages 53 - 166)

Three Rivers District Council heard the climate change motion on Tuesday 21 May 2019 at Council, which was put forward by the Leader, Cllr Sara Bedford and Councillors: Stephen Giles-Medhurst, Chris Lloyd, Alex Michaels, Sarah Nelmes, Andrew Scarth and Dominic Sokalski.

The motion asked for the details of the strategy to be brought for consideration by the Council. It requested the Council to work with partners in the public and private sectors and engage with residents and businesses to gain their input and support when developing the strategy.

The motion commits the Council to use all practical means to reduce the impact of council services on the environment and use planning regulations and the Local Plan to cut carbon emissions. It also calls for help from the Government to provide the support and resources needed to progress the action plan.

A draft Climate Change Strategy was presented to the LEC Committee on 7th October 2020 which was recommended by the Committee for public consultation. The Consultation was formally completed on 30 November 2020.

This report presents the revised Climate Emergency and Sustainability Strategy, (attached at Appendix A) which includes new ambitions in relation to climate change and sustainability, our achievements so far, and how we can lead, enable and engage individuals and businesses to adopt pro-environmental behaviours to reduce their environmental impacts. The

associated action plan will be developed and used by officers to deliver the strategy once agreed.

- 8. GREATER LONDON BOUNDARY CHARGE** (Pages 167 - 170)
- This report is presented to Members providing details on the possible implementation of a Greater London Boundary Charge, based on the current information being reported.
- 9. CORPORATE FRAMEWORK AND FINAL SERVICE PLANS 2021-2024** (Pages 171 - 348)
- To receive the Corporate Framework and the following final service plans for recommendation to Council:
- Legal
 - Committee
 - Elections
 - Finance
 - Corporate Services
 - Customer Service Centre
 - Revenue and Benefits
 - Property Services
 - Economic Development and Sustainability (only with regard to the Local Plan)

Resources

- 10. BUDGET MONITORING - MONTH 10 (JANUARY)** (Pages 349 - 392)
- Budget monitoring report is a key tool in scrutinising the Council's financial performance. It is designed to provide an overview to all relevant stakeholders. It is essential that the council monitors its budgets throughout the year to ensure that it is meeting its strategic objectives and that corrective action is taken where necessary.
- This report seeks approval to a change in the Committee's 2020 - 2024 medium-term revenue financial plan. The report shows the Council's overall consolidated medium term financial plan for both revenue and capital.
- 11. WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 393 - 398)
- To receive the Committee's work programme.
- 12. OTHER BUSINESS - if approved under item 3 above**
- 13. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

If the Committee wishes to consider the remaining item in private, it will be appropriate for a resolution to be passed in the following terms:-

"that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined under paragraph X of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act. It has been decided by the Council that in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public

interest in disclosing the information.”

(Note: If other confidential business is approved under item 3, it will also be necessary to specify the class of exempt or confidential information in the additional items.)

14. IT SERVICES CONTRACT AWARD

To receive a report.

15. LOCAL PLAN SUB COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

To receive a report

1. OTHER BUSINESS - IF APPROVED UNDER ITEM 3 ABOVE

To receive any declarations of interest.

General Enquiries: Please contact the Committee Team at committeeteam@threeivers.gov.uk