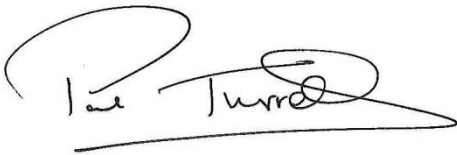


27 November 2019

Dear Councillor

**SUMMONS TO A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

I hereby summon you to attend the meeting of the Council to be held on **Thursday 5 December 2019 at 7.30pm** in the Council Chamber at the Civic Centre, Addlestone.



PAUL TURRELL  
Chief Executive  
**01932 425500**  
Email: [paul.turrell@runnymede.gov.uk](mailto:paul.turrell@runnymede.gov.uk)

**A G E N D A**

1. **FIRE PRECAUTIONS**

The Mayor will read the Fire Precautions, which set out the procedures to be followed in the event of fire or other emergency.

2. **MINUTES**

To approve and sign, as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 17 October 2019, as circulated by e-mail on 27 November 2019.

3. **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

4. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

5. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

If Members have an interest in an item, please record the interest on the orange coloured form circulated with this Agenda and hand it to the Democratic Services Manager at the start of the meeting. A supply of the form will also be available from the Democratic Services Manager at the

meeting. Members are advised to contact the Corporate Head of Law and Governance prior to the meeting if they wish to seek advice on a potential interest.

6. **SPEAKING OR QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF PUBLIC UNDER STANDING ORDER 12**

7. **PETITIONS**

To receive any petitions from Members of the Council under Standing Order No 19.

8. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER STANDING ORDER 13**

a) Councillor Walsh will ask the following question:

*“Can the Leader of the Council commit to supporting local residents in lobbying The Department for Transport in carrying out resurfacing work and noise reduction work on the M25 between Junctions 10 and 11; further that this work is needed for the health and well-being of the 48,000 residents living within a 3 kilometre border either side of the motorway; further that residents, children attending local schools and people who work in the area have been and are currently adversely affected by the ever increasing volume of traffic and continued deterioration of the original concrete surface; and acknowledges that an online petition for drivers and a paper petition for residents has collected a significant number of signatures calling for the resurfacing of the road.”*

b) Councillor Neathey will ask the following question:

*“I obviously thank the Runnymede Foodbank for their work feeding people in need in Runnymede, especially in the run up to Christmas. However, does the Leader of the Council agree with me that the fact that 22,428 emergency meals were given out last year by the Foodbank in the borough is not a sign of the success of the Conservatives in office either locally or nationally?”*

c) Councillor R. King will ask the following question:

*“Given that Conservative Surrey County Council has decided to push ahead with the cuts to fire services, including those at Egham, despite the unanimous opposition from Councillors present when it was discussed and voted on in this chamber, what does the Leader of the Council think RBC’s next step should be in order to protect our residents from these fire service cuts?”*

9. **NOTICES OF MOTION FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER STANDING ORDER 15**

To receive and consider any Notices of Motion from Members of the Council under Standing Order 15. Any Motions received will be circulated separately with this Summons.

10. **MINORITY GROUP PRIORITY BUSINESS**

To consider any item of Minority Group Priority business registered under Standing Order 23. Any item of such business will be circulated separately with this Summons.

11. **RUNNYMEDE COUNCIL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION – CO-OPTION**

**Synopsis of report:**

**To approve the co-option of the Chair of the Runnymede Council Residents' Association (RCRA) as a non-voting member of Housing Committee, for purposes affecting Council housing tenants.**

**Recommendation(s):**

**the Chair of the RCRA be appointed as a non-voting Member of the Housing Committee for the remainder of this Municipal Year with immediate effect.**

**1. Context of report**

- 1.1 The RCRA have been in existence since the Stock Options Appraisal exercise, formed from an amalgamation of the old Tenants' Service Group and the then newly formed group of residents that took part in the stock options consultation.
- 1.2 The RCRA have a formal constitution and appointed Officers, including a Chairman. Mrs Jenny Hill has been the Chair of the RCRA since its inception, and has worked tirelessly in promoting residents' views on all matters of Council policy and procedures. As the Chair of the RCRA she –
- i) attends meetings of the Housing Committee,
  - ii) organises and attends all meetings of the RCRA,
  - iii) is the Chair of the Tenants Committee of the Association of Retained Council Housing,
  - iv) has taken an active role in helping to select contractors for major contracts and staff for key posts,
  - v) has organised responses to Government consultations aimed at tenants and attended seminars on such issues,
  - vi) has supported other residents groups by providing advice and information.

**2. Report**

- 2.1 For many years, the Government have encouraged local authority landlords to involve their tenants in the delivery of services. The RCRA will continue to take a key role in taking this work forward.
- 2.2 Until May 2003, the Tenant's representative was a co-opted non-voting member of the Committee, but Council then determined that the representative could best fulfil the role as an invitee without the need for formal co-option and this has continued to be the case since that date with Jenny Hill fulfilling this role. As an invitee, Jenny Hill can remain and take part in discussion of items in the public part of agenda but for confidential matters she has to withdraw. Following the report of the Housing Regulator and the Council's related Action Plan, and the need to involve Mrs Hill in matters related to procurement matters in future which are often of a confidential nature it is considered appropriate for the Chairman of the RCRA to be appointed as a non-voting member of the Housing Committee, which would allow her to remain for confidential matters. The conditions of the co-option are that the co-optee must be the Chairman of the RCRA, can only participate in matters which relate to social housing and tenancies. The appointment will be confirmed at the start of each Municipal Year at Annual Council.
- 2.3 The Chairman of Housing Committee and the Housing Committee have indicated informal support for this proposal.

3. **Legal implications**

- 3.1 The power to co-opt persons who are not councillors onto committees appointed by the Council, under section 102(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, is set out in section 102(3) of the 1972 Act. The relevant provision is set out in full below:

*A committee appointed under subsection (1) or (1A) above, other than a committee for regulating and controlling the finance of the local authority or of their area, may, subject to section 104 below, include persons who are not members of the appointing authority or authorities or, in the case of a sub-committee, the authority or authorities of whom they are a sub-committee,*

- 3.2 By virtue of section 13(1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, any co-opted member of a committee appointed under section 102(1) of the 1972 Act shall, for all purposes, be treated as a non-voting member of that committee.

4. **Equalities**

- 4.1 Officers are of the opinion that there are no specific equality issues relating to this item.

**(To resolve)**

**Background papers**

None.

12. **PRESS AND PUBLIC TO BE EXCLUDED BY RESOLUTION**

To consider any items so resolved at the meeting.