

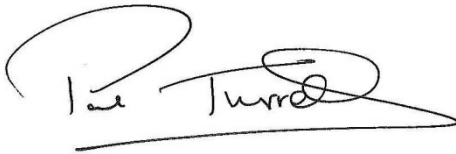
Public Document Pack

18 January, 2022

Dear Councillor

SUMMONS TO A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

I hereby summon you to attend the meeting of the Council to be held on **Wednesday 26 January, 2022 at 7.30pm at the Windsor Building, Royal Holloway University of London, Egham.**



PAUL TURRELL
Chief Executive
01932 425500
Email: paul.turrell@runnymede.gov.uk

A G E N D A

1. **Mayor's Announcements**

2. **Minutes**

To approve and sign, as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 15 July 2021, as circulated by e-mail on 18 January, 2022.

3. **Apologies for Absence**

4. **Declarations of Interest**

If Members have an interest in an item, please record the interest on the form circulated with this Agenda and email it to the Democratic Services Manager by 5pm on the day of 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.

5. **Speaking or Questions from Members of Public Under Standing Order 12**

Any Questions received will be circulated separately with this Summons.

6. **Petitions**

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

7. Questions from Members of the Council under Standing Order 13

Question from Councillor R King to Leader of the Council:

'Can the Leader set out the additional support, not available before the 6th October 2021, his administration is providing to the 5100 residents in Runnymede affected by the £1040 cut to Universal Credit?'

8. Recommendation from Environment and Sustainability Committee 17 November 2021 – Climate Change

To consider the following Minute and recommendation (i) from the Environment and Sustainability Committee held on 17 November, 2021. The full agenda report and related presentation slides were circulated with the agenda for that Committee and are available on the website.

Members received a presentation regarding Climate Change to give them an opportunity to make Officers aware of any issues which were of particular concern to residents and businesses for consideration for inclusion in the strategy. The presentation covered the following areas:

- RBC Climate Change Team – Recent Appointments
- Current Actions
- Parameters and constraints
- Climate Change Strategy Highlights
- Request for Members Input

Some Members expressed their anger and frustration that the promised strategy was essentially a scoping document and strongly felt that the strategy should have progressed further by this stage. The Chairman advised the Committee that Runnymede wanted a serious strategy whereby their aspirations were measurable and full consideration was given on what could actually be delivered. Scope 1, 2 and 3 was a way of categorising the different kinds of carbon emissions an organisation creates in its own operations, and in its wider value chain. The term first appeared in the Green House Gas (GHG) Protocol of 2001 and today, scopes were the basis for mandatory GHG reporting in the UK. Officers advised the Committee that regarding Scope 1 and 2 these were well defined. Scope 3 was not a mandatory requirement.

The Committee discussed in detail the possibilities of moving the Council's DSO fleet to more sustainable fuels for example, biofuel or hydrogen. Whilst Officers were receptive to this, some constraints were highlighted which included the warranties of existing fleets becoming invalid if the fuel type was converted, damage to engines and difficulties in obtaining mechanics to maintain the converted fleet. The necessity for procuring future DSO fleet vehicles running on more sustainable fuels was noted.

The Committee was keen to move ahead with Scope 1 as soon as possible and wanted to look at setting up a community involvement/advisory group to facilitate public engagement in the Climate Change Strategy, with a report on key actions/points and deliverables in this regard being presented to the next meeting of this Committee in January 2022.

The Committee was pleased to note that Phase 3 of the current car parking review would look at installing electric charging points in some of the Council car parks.

Regarding planning, Officers were asked by the Committee to explore the creation of a strategy to only allow Green properties to be approved through local planning procedures. Additionally, Officers were asked to look at Green procurement via the Council's Constitution Member Working Party with feedback being brought back to the Committee as soon as practical thereafter. It was noted that an improved Green Infrastructure SPD in relation to planning was due to be considered at the Planning Committee meeting on 24 November 2021.

The Chairman was thanked for her work locally in relation to Climate Change.

Recommend to Full Council that –

- i) Runnymede Borough Council sets target of 2030 to be net zero; and**

The Committee also RESOLVED that –

- ii) A Community involvement/advisory group be set up to facilitate public engagement in the Climate Change Strategy with a report being brought to this Committee in January 2022 on key actions/points and deliverables**

9. Recommendation from Standards and Audit Committee – 23 November, 2021 Process for the Appointment of External Auditors 2023-2024

To consider the following Minute and recommendation from the Standards and Audit Committee held on 23 November 2021. The full agenda report and any appendices were circulated with the agenda for that Committee and are available on the website.

The Committee's approval was sought to recommend that the Council took advantage of the Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA), national framework scheme to procure and appoint external auditors for 2023/2024 when the current provider's contract reached the end of its term. The new contract would be for the period 2023/2024 to 2027/2028.

Officers advised that the audit landscape had changed since the last appointment, and the sector faced a number of challenges, brought to light in the Kingman Review commissioned by central Government, which amongst other things recommended the establishment of a new audit regulator, ARGA, to improve audit quality and performance.

There were a number of advantages to using the PSAA route which would make the process less onerous and had a better guarantee of appointing an appropriately registered, experienced and qualified auditor to fulfil its statutory obligations when auditing the Council's Statement of Accounts. This option, as opposed to conducting a local procurement exercise, would also ensure the appointed auditors, of which there were currently nine potential companies for local authorities, were suitably independent and would minimise costs by pooling resources on behalf of participating authorities. Bidders would be required to meet quality standards as stipulated by the PSAA and put forward realistic prices tailored to the authority they chose to bid for under the framework.

The PSAA would commence the formal procurement exercise in early February 2022 and expected to award contracts in August 2022 and then consult with local authorities on the appointment of auditors so that appointments could be made by the statutory deadline of 31 December 2022.

Officers confirmed that since the last report, unfortunately BDO had not yet finalised the accounts audit for 2019/2020. They had to be reviewed by a senior partner to conclude the value for money assessment. This being the case, the issue of the auditor's fee would need to be picked up by the new Assistant Chief Executive in order to conclude the 2019/2020 external audit of the Council's Statement of accounts and to report back to the Committee if any increase in fee was to be recommended for approval by Corporate Management Committee. Officers confirmed there was a full audit trail to evidence future discussions and with the PSAA should arbitration be necessary. In any event it was likely that the fee would be increased in future and could be backdated once a resolution was found.

The Committee fully agreed with the proposed way forward, noting the legal and resource implications.

Recommend to Full Council that –

the Council wishes to opt in to the Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) national auditor appointment scheme

10. Recommendation from Corporate Management Committee – 25 November 2021 - Calendar of Meetings 2022/2023

To consider the following Minute and recommendation from the Corporate Management Committee held on 25 November 2021. The full agenda report and any appendices were circulated with the agenda for that Committee and are available on the website.

The Committee considered the proposed Calendar of meetings for the next Municipal Year which would run from May 2022-May 2023. This item had been on the agenda for the meeting of the Committee on the 14 October 2021 which had been cancelled and accordingly was submitted to this meeting of the Committee for it to make a recommendation.

The schedule of meetings largely followed the usual well established pattern. The opportunity had been taken to try and avoid meetings of Committees, other than Planning Committee, during school holiday periods and to try and avoid meetings at key football World Cup dates and during the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. In view of the small amount of business for the two meetings of Corporate Management Committee in September this year, only one Corporate Management Committee meeting was scheduled for September 2022 which would meet on 22 September 2022.

The proposed Calendar and diary schedule of the Committee dates, as shown at Appendices 'A' and 'B' attached, were recommended to Full Council for approval. The Chief Executive had delegated authority to make ad hoc minor changes to the Calendar of meetings in consultation with the respective Leaders of the political groups, and special meetings of Committees could be arranged where circumstances dictated.

Recommend to Full Council that-

the Calendar of meetings for May 2022 – May 2023, as attached at Appendices 'A' and 'B', be approved.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS – MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/2023

MAY 2022

Mon		BH	9	16	23	30
Tue		3	10	17	24	31
Wed		4	PL	AC	SA	
Thr		BE	12	19	CM	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

JUNE

Mon		6	13	20	27	
Tue		7	14	LC/RC	EG	
Wed		PL	H	15	PL	29
Thr		BH	ES	CS	CM	30
Fri		BH	10	17	24	
Sat		4	11	18	25	
Sun		5	12	19	26	

JULY

Mon		4	11	18	25	
Tue		5	12	SA	26	
Wed		6	PL	20	27	
Thr		OS/CD	C/CT	CM	28	
Fri	1	8	15	22	29	
Sat	2	9	16	23	30	
Sun	3	10	17	24	31	

AUGUST

Mon	1	8	15	22	BH	
Tue	2	9	16	23	30	
Wed	3	10	17	24	31	
Thr	4	11	18	25		
Fri	5	12	19	26		
Sat	6	13	20	27		
Sun	7	14	21	28		

SEPTEMBER

Mon		5	12	19	26	
Tue		CMLG	13	SA	LC/RC	
Wed		PL	ES	H	PL	
Thr	1	8	CS	CM	29	
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	
Sat	3	10	17	24		
Sun	4	11	18	25		

OCTOBER

Mon		3	10	17	24	31
Tue		4	11	EG	25	
Wed		5	12	PL	26	
Thr		OS/CD	CM	C	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	

NOVEMBER

Mon		7	14	21	28	
Tue	1	LC/RC	15	SA	29	
Wed	2	PL	H	23	PL	
Thr	3	CS	ES	CM		
Fri	4	11	18	25		
Sat	5	12	19	26		
Sun	6	13	20	27		

DECEMBER

Mon		5	12	19	BH	
Tue		6	13	20	BH	
Wed		7	14	PL	28	
Thr		OS	C	CM	22	29
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	
Sat	3	10	17	24	31	
Sun	4	11	18	25		

JANUARY 2023

Mon		BH	9	16	23	30
Tue		3	10	17	SA	31
Wed		LC/RC	H	PL	25	
Thr		CS/CT	ES	CM	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

FEBRUARY

Mon		6	13	20	27	
Tue		7	14	EG	CMLG	
Wed	1	PL	15	22		
Thr	OS/CD	C	16	CM		
Fri	3	10	17	24		
Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	5	12	19	26		

MARCH

Mon		6	13	20	27	
Tue		7	14	21	28	
Wed		PL	H	LC/RC	PL	29
Thr		C	ES	CS	CM	OS/CD
Fri	3	10	17	24	31	
Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	5	12	19	26		

APRIL

Mon		3	BH	17	24	
Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	PL	19	26	
Thr		6	13	CM	C	
Fri		BH	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	

MAY

Mon		BH	8	15	22	BH
Tue		2	9	16	23	30
Wed		3	PL	AC	SA	31
Thr		BE	11	18	CM	
Fri		5	12	19	26	
Sat		6	13	20	27	
Sun		7	14	21	28	

LEGEND

- AC** - Annual Council
- BE** - Borough Election
- CT** - Cabrera Trust Management Committee (2.30pm)
- CMLG** - Chertsey Meads Management Liaison Group
- C** - Council
- CD** - Crime and Disorder Committee
- CM** - Corporate Management Committee
- CS** - Community Services Committee
- EG** - Englefield Green (at Cricket Pavilion)
- ES** - Environment and Sustainability Committee
- H** - Housing Committee
- JC** - Runnymede and Surrey Joint Committee
- LC** - Licensing Committee
- OS** - Overview & Scrutiny Select Committee
- PL** - Planning Committee (6.30pm)
- RC** - Regulatory Committee
- SA** - Standards and Audit Committee
- BH** - Bank Holiday

- All meetings of Council and Committees commence at 7.30 p.m. and are held in the Council Chamber at the Civic Centre, Addlestone, unless otherwise stated.
- The Council Meeting on 9 February 2023 is held primarily to approve the Council Tax.

COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS MAY 2022- MAY 2023

All meetings start at 7.30pm except for Planning Committee which starts at 6.30pm. Meetings will held at the Civic Centre unless otherwise stated.

May 2022

- 5 Borough Election
- 11 Planning Committee
- 18 Annual Council
- 25 Standards and Audit Committee
- 26 Corporate Management Committee

June 2022

- 1 Planning Committee
- 8 Housing Committee
- 9 Environment and Sustainability Committee
- 16 Community Services Committee
- 21 Licensing Committee
- 21 Regulatory Committee
- 22 Planning Committee
- 23 Corporate Management Committee
- 28 Englefield Green Committee

July 2022

- 7 Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee
- 7 Crime and Disorder Committee
- 13 Planning Committee
- 14 Council
- 14 Cabrera Trust AGM
- 19 Standards and Audit Committee
- 21 Corporate Management Committee

August 2022

No meetings scheduled

September 2022

- 6 Chertsey Meads Management Liaison Group
- 7 Planning Committee
- 14 Environment and Sustainability Committee
- 15 Community Services Committee
- 20 Standards and Audit Committee
- 21 Housing Committee
- 22 Corporate Management Committee
- 27 Licensing Committee
- 27 Regulatory Committee
- 28 Planning Committee

October 2022

- 6 Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee
- 6 Crime and Disorder Committee
- 13 Corporate Management Committee

- 18 Englefield Green Committee (at Cricket Pavilion)
- 19 Planning Committee
- 20 Council

November 2022

- 8 Licensing Committee
- 8 Regulatory Committee
- 9 Planning Committee
- 10 Community Services Committee
- 16 Housing Committee
- 17 Environment and Sustainability Committee
- 22 Standards and Audit Committee
- 24 Corporate Management Committee
- 30 Planning Committee

December 2022

- 1 Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee
- 8 Council
- 15 Corporate Management Committee
- 21 Planning Committee

January 2023

- 4 Licensing Committee
- 4 Regulatory Committee
- 5 Community Services Committee
- 5 Cabrera Trust Management Committee
- 11 Housing Committee
- 12 Environment and Sustainability Committee
- 18 Planning Committee
- 19 Corporate Management Committee
- 24 Standards and Audit Committee

February 2023

- 2 Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee
- 2 Crime and Disorder Committee
- 8 Planning Committee
- 9 Council
- 21 Englefield Green Committee (at Cricket Pavilion)
- 23 Corporate Management Committee
- 28 Chertsey Meads Management Liaison Group

March 2023

- 1 Planning Committee
- 2 Council
- 8 Housing Committee
- 9 Environment and Sustainability Committee
- 15 Licensing Committee
- 15 Regulatory Committee
- 16 Community Services Committee
- 22 Planning Committee
- 23 Corporate Management Committee
- 30 Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee
- 30 Crime and Disorder Committee

April 2023

- 12 Planning Committee
- 20 Corporate Management Committee
- 27 Council

May 2023

- 4 Borough Election
- 10 Planning Committee
- 17 Annual Council
- 24 Standards and Audit Committee
- 25 Corporate Management Committee

11. Recommendation from Corporate Management Committee – 25 November 2021 - Further Loan Agreement for RBC Investments (Surrey) Ltd

To consider the following Minute and recommendation from the Corporate Management Committee held on 25 November 2021. The full agenda report and any appendices were circulated with the agenda for that Committee and are available on the website.

By resolution of the Committee, the press and public were excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this matter under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the discussion would be likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Part 1 of the Act.

The Committee considered a report containing a proposal that the Council enter into an agreement to provide a further loan to RBC Investments (Surrey) Ltd (RBCI). RBCI was a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) that had been set up to acquire and manage residential investment property for letting in the private rented sector. RBCI provided funding to the Council's other two SPVs, RBC Services (Addlestone One) Limited and RBC Heat Company Limited, if they required it. The Corporate Management Committee exercised the function of shareholder of RBCI.

The Magna Square (formerly known as Egham Gateway) development report presented to the Committee in February 2020 set out the agreement for RBCI to take on private residential units in the new development. This was required in order for the residential units to be let as Private Rented Sector units with Assured Shorthold Tenancies. In order to achieve this, a new loan agreement was required to enable the company to buy the units from the Council.

The valuations and anticipated market rents agreed by the Committee were currently being reviewed to ensure that the original assumptions were still viable for RBCI to take on the loan. Should there be a need to review any of these details a further report would be brought to a future meeting of the Committee. However, it was anticipated that the loan amount set out in the report should be sufficient.

The method of calculation of the loan rate as set out in section 2 of the report and the Legal Implications of the loan were noted by the Committee. The Committee agreed that the rate of interest set out in the report was appropriate. The Committee noted the approximate amount of interest per annum which would be generated for the General Fund once all the units had been transferred across and recommended to Full Council the execution of the loan facility agreement.

Recommend to Full Council that –

a loan facility agreement to be executed between the Council and RBC Investments (Surrey) Ltd be approved for the purchase of residential units in the Magna Square development up to the sum reported to be repaid over a time period as reported.

12. Notices of Motion from Members of the Council under Standing Order 15

1. Labour and Co-operative Party motion submitted by Cllr R King: A review and study into a selective licensing scheme for the Englefield Green, Egham Town, Egham Hythe and Thorpe Lea area.

This Motion is being brought forward by Councillor Robert King of the Labour and Co-operative Party because decent homes should be a right for all residents, no matter of their income, personal circumstances, or household size. Whilst decent homes are needed across the Borough, Englefield Green, Egham Town, Egham Hythe and Thorpe Lea areas have significant types of housing pressures not seen elsewhere in Runnymede. A significant number of privately rented properties in these areas being in poor condition, number of streets they are in facing

particular types of antisocial behaviour not seen elsewhere in the Borough and that housing migration from outside Runnymede is particularly acute.

This Council Notes:

- (1) The significant pressures faced by tenants of privately rental homes in Runnymede, not only due to the cost of renting compared to wage levels but also due to the range in the quality and size of homes on the private rent stock (hence being referred to as PRS market).
- (2) The lack of information and knowledge many tenants face when understanding their rights when in a PRS home and the complexities of legal processes to resolve disputes between landlord and tenant.
- (3) The challenges model PRS landlords, who follow good practice, face when differentiating themselves in the market and finding correspondingly model tenant.
- (4) That the market in the South East of England for PRS, faces considerable information asymmetries, is not a “free” market for buyers of housing capital and therefore a market which faces significant negative externalities not presently resolved by central government.
- (5) That intervention to correct externalities in all markets, here PRS market, produces, if effectively administered, a net gain for both buyers, sellers, and government authorities.
- (6) The wider powers granted to it by the Housing Act of 2004.
- (7) The powers specifically granted to it by section 80 of the 2004 Act, designated for selective licensing specific areas within a local authority’s boundaries.
- (8) The restriction on the authority, seeking any future licensing scheme, and the appropriateness of licensing the entire authority’s private stock at present.
- (9) The options given for any authority under the general approval proviso of 2015, houses in multiple occupation and selective licensing of other residential accommodation (England).

This Council Resolves that:

- (1) A study of the local housing stocks be conducted in the areas discussed above, with a report to be produced, detailing, but not limited to:
 - a. The number, size and type of dwellings.
 - b. Whether each dwelling is owner occupied, rented or vacant.
 - c. Where the property is rented, to identify whether it is as a single unit or HMO.
 - d. The number of tenant complaints raised to the authority’s housing officers in the past 10 years, and the type of action taken to resolve with landlords.
- (2) Review the most appropriate way to grade the quality of rental properties, using the Decent Home Standard, and how this fits most appropriately into the local setting.
- (3) Assess an initial randomised sample of the areas rental stock and review each unit according to the aforementioned quality standards.
- (4) An initial findings report be present to members of Housing Committee and circulated to all Councillors, by the 9th of March 2022 meeting, which will include:
 - a. The key findings of the above

- b. The options for the authority improving PRS housing standard through Section 80 of the Act
 - c. The resources needed to implement a selective license scheme in the area
 - d. The PRS quality improvements which could be achieved by licensing properties
- (5) A reference back report be presented to Full Council by the 28th of April, highlighting the report, the options recommended by Housing Committee and a final decision whether a selective licensing scheme should be pursued in the areas mentioned.
- 2. Liberal Democrat motion submitted by Cllr S Whyte: Runnymede Borough Council (RBC) to promote The Great Big Green Week in September 2022.**

Motivation:

This Motion is being brought forward by the Runnymede Liberal Democrat Group to promote greener living for residents and business' in Runnymede.

The Council Notes:

1. The Great Big Green Week took place across the country from **18 September to 26 September 2021**. It was the largest national campaign for climate and nature ever seen in the UK.
2. The planet faces a huge challenge to reduce carbon emissions and reduce global warming.
3. We are seeing the impacts of extreme weather events caused by climate change here in the UK and across the globe.
4. Over 4500 events celebrated were organised in communities to tackle climate change and protect green spaces.
5. The events that were organised included: Promotion of public transport at reduced cost, car free days, promotion of grow your own, walking & cycle events, recycling advice, nature documentary screenings, food prep workshops to limit food waste.
6. Many Local Authorities, led by different political groups, supported community events including Horsham (Conservative), Gloucestershire (Conservative), Preston (Labour), Luton (Labour), Watford & Three Rivers (LibDem), St.Albans (LibDem), Middlesbrough (Independent), Brighton & Hove (Green)

The Council Believes That:

1. At a time when there is great pressure to show how serious Local Authorities are about addressing climate change and promoting environmental sustainability, that signing on to The Big Green week 2022 RBC would demonstrate its commitment.
2. The Big Green Week will encourage residents and businesses from all areas across the Borough, to think about how they can contribute to a smaller carbon footprint and will leave a legacy going forward.
3. This event would provide a valuable opportunity as a communication vehicle for delivering messages on key areas of the borough's activity, such as improving insulation, recycling, vehicle idling, etc.
4. With the imminent appointment of a Climate Change Officer it is the right time to engage with the Great Big Green Week national initiative.

The Council Resolves that:

- A report should be prepared and submitted to the Environment & Sustainability Committee with a range of proposals and costings to be considered.
- Runnymede Borough Council will seriously consider taking part in The Great Big Green Week in 2022.

Links to more details of The Great Big Green week can be found here [Great Big Green Week The need for action on climate change is urgent - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

13. 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.

14. Englefield Green Committee

The lease provides that the Members of the Committee are to be the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and the Councillors representing the two Englefield Green Wards, together with 'two other persons to be selected by the lessees [i.e. the Council] from amongst the occupying tenants of the several houses from round the Green set out in the Schedule hereto and of such other houses (if any) around the Green as may from time to time be fixed or appointed by the lessor [i.e. the Crown Estate] but in making such selections the lessees shall have regard to the wishes of the general body of such occupying tenants which may be conveyed to the lessees in writing or be ascertained by the lessees in such way as they may consider expedient'.

As regards the residents representatives, for many years the Council's practice has been to write to all the 'qualifying tenants' identifying whether the existing appointees are willing to continue to serve and inviting any other nominations. The process for ascertaining residents' wishes is not a vote. If 'the general body' of qualifying residents expresses wishes, the Council must take those wishes into account. This means that it must fairly and properly consider the wishes. Having done so, it must use its judgment to make its own decision.

Council at its meeting on 19 May 2021 reappointed Nigel Bromilow and appointed Alistair Buchanan to replace Andrew Panter. Unfortunately, Mr Buchanan had to resign shortly after his appointment owing to work commitments. Following the resignation, Officers conducted a canvass of all qualifying properties but no nominations were received by the deadline of 16 July 2021. However, a late nomination has recently been received from Mr Stephen Brisby the occupier of Crown House. The nomination came in late because Mr Brisby was out the country at the time of the canvass. A copy of the nomination is circulated separately with this Summons.

RECOMMENDATION:

To consider the appointment of Mr Stephen Brisby as replacement residents' representative on the Englefield Green Committee.

(To resolve)

Background papers - Crown Lease for Englefield Green

15. Press and Public to be Excluded by Resolution

To consider any items so resolved at the meeting.

COUNCIL MEETING

26 JANUARY 2022

ITEM 5 ON SUMMONS

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC UNDER STANDING ORDER 12

Question from Steve Ringham, a local resident:

I recently surveyed residents in Addlestone for their views on local issues. The number one issue, reported by 60%+ of respondents in the School Lane area, was actually a raft of issues caused by parents dropping off, and collecting their children around the Jubilee High School in School Lane. Complaints include

- Inconsiderate / problem parking - blocking junctions creating hazards to pedestrians and nuisance to residents from blocked private drives
- Excessive engine idling - creating air quality and environmental issues
- Bad / inconsiderate driving - causing congestion and excessive emissions
- Litter

What power does the Council have to address these issues to improve the situation for residents, in terms of safety, air quality, neighbourhood quality of life and respect to property?

Question from Deb Long, a local resident:

Runnymede council recently issued for tender a contract for £5.8m to "replace existing aged gas fired central heating boilers and to upgrade existing central heating systems to tenanted domestic properties within its ownership ... in the Borough of Runnymede, Surrey." But UK housing stock is the least energy-efficient in Europe so that better boilers are only part of the solution to reducing housing emissions as well as costs. A third of Runnymede's own social housing stock is rated E or F.

So many council tenants in Runnymede, as well as private residents in the borough and elsewhere in much of the country, are experiencing rapidly-rising energy costs on top of general cost-of-living inflation. Given that more efficient heating is only part of the solution to lower bills and lower emissions, what else is the council doing to improve the energy efficiency of it's housing stock?

Question from Aileen Owen Davies, a local resident:

I would like to know what changes you are making to the council procedures and protocols which will enable you to make better progress in combatting climate change. We are now in a Climate Crisis situation caused in large part by the lack of action during the past years. The urgency is becoming greater as Global Warming accelerates faster.

