

County Council

Date: Tuesday 15 December 2020

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Microsoft Teams

Membership

Councillor Alan Cockburn (Chair), Councillor Peter Gilbert (Vice-Chair), Councillor Helen Adkins, Councillor Jo Barker, Councillor Margaret Bell, Councillor Parminder Singh Birdi, Councillor Sarah Boad, Councillor Mike Brain, Councillor Peter Butlin, Councillor Les Caborn, Councillor Mark Cargill, Councillor Jonathan Chilvers, Councillor Jeff Clarke, Councillor John Cooke, Councillor Andy Crump, Councillor Yousef Dahmash, Councillor Corinne Davies, Councillor Nicola Davies, Councillor Neil Dirveiks, Councillor Judy Falp, Councillor Jenny Fradgley, Councillor Bill Gifford, Councillor Daniel Gissane, Councillor Clare Golby, Councillor Seb Gran, Councillor Colin Hayfield, Councillor John Holland, Councillor John Horner, Councillor Andy Jenns, Councillor Kam Kaur, Councillor Keith Kondakor, Councillor Jeff Morgan, Councillor Maggie O'Rourke, Councillor Bhagwant Singh Pandher, Councillor Anne Parry, Councillor Dave Parsons, Councillor Caroline Phillips, Councillor Wallace Redford, Councillor David Reilly, Councillor Clive Rickhards, Councillor Howard Roberts, Councillor Kate Rolfe, Councillor Jerry Roodhouse, Councillor Andy Sargeant, Councillor Izzi Seccombe, Councillor Dave Shilton, Councillor Jill Simpson-Vince, Councillor Dominic Skinner, Councillor Heather Timms, Councillor Adrian Warwick, Councillor Alan Webb, Councillor Chris Williams, Councillor Pam Williams and Councillor Andrew Wright

Items on the agenda: -

1. General

(1) Apologies for Absence

(2) Members' Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-pecuniary Interests

(3) Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 13 October 2020.

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(4) Chair's announcements

(5) Public Speaking

To note any requests to speak on any item on the agenda in accordance with the Council's Public Speaking Scheme (see note at end of the agenda).

2. Warwickshire County Council Preparations for EU Transition 25 - 38

This report to Council sets out the ways in which Warwickshire County Council has been preparing for European Union Transition.

3. Education (Schools) Capital Programme 2020/21 39 - 50

This report recommends proposals for allocating resources in the Education (Schools) Capital Programme to specific projects set out in Section 3. Some of the proposals include funding from developer contributions. (The proposals and recommendations are due to be considered by Cabinet on 10 December 2020. Any updates from that Cabinet meeting will be presented to Council).

4. Emscote Road Corridor Improvements 51 - 68

Following consideration by Cabinet in November 2020 this report concerning improvements to the Emscote Road Corridor in Warwick is presented to Council.

5. Appointment of Chair of Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Local Pensions Board 69 - 72

The current Chair of the Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Local Pensions Board has notified the County Council that he wishes to step down from his position. This report seeks the Council's approval to the appointment of his successor.

6. Notices of Motion

To consider the following motions submitted by members in accordance with Standing Order 5:

(1) Eco Schools

This Council is committed to tackling Climate Change and has declared it as a priority. Council also committed itself to work in line with the UN Sustainable Development goals of which Education is one part.

Council recognises that schools and education are a critical part of tackling climate change. It also recognises that the Eco Schools programme needs reinvigoration across Warwickshire with the ambition that all schools can achieve green flag status.

Council requests:

1. That a survey takes place of all schools across Warwickshire about their progress in achieving Eco School status, to include

a question about what support they need.

and

2. That the findings are reported to the Climate Change group and Portfolio Holder with recommendations on what actions need to be taken.

Proposer: Councillor Jerry Roodhouse

Seconder: Councillor Jenny Fradgley

(2) Student Finance

During the pandemic government financial support has been extended to businesses and workers. A number of Councillors have been contacted by Warwickshire students and their parents with concerns that students have received no financial help as such and have, in the vast majority of cases, received a service which is far from that which is normally provided by our university system. As a consequence, and taking into account the financial wellbeing of students living and/or being educated in Warwickshire this Council urges our national government, by means of a letter to the relevant Government Minister, to remove all interest payments on loans provided for the 2020 / 21 academic year and that no interest should be charged at any point in the future for loans covering the current academic year.

Proposer: Councillor Dave Parsons

Seconder: Councillor Corinne Davies

(3) Support for Care leavers

Warwickshire County Council has responded extremely well to the increased pressures thrown up by the pandemic, not least in the Children and Families Service area where we have seen how two of our care-experienced young people, now employed by the Council, have been awarded national prizes for their outstanding work with other young people.

As the principal corporate parent, this Council wishes to record its thanks to everyone involved with our young people in care and requests the Chief Executive to write a thank you letter to the Children in Care Council acknowledging their efforts at this difficult time.

Proposer: Councillor Jeff Morgan

Seconder: Councillor Pam Williams

(4) Universal Credit

This council notes:

The £20 increase to the basic rate of Universal Credit (and the tax credit equivalent) announced by the Chancellor on 20th March as part of his pandemic response package reflected the reality that the level of benefits were not adequate to protect the swiftly increasing number of households relying on them as the crisis hit. They have had a positive effect on the lives of thousands of local claimants who are better able to pay for life's essentials such as food, clothing and utilities.

The local economy has also benefited from the increase in benefit levels as claimants spend their money locally thereby supporting local businesses and jobs.

Next April the Government plans to cut the benefit level for millions of claimants by ending this time limited increase

This council resolves to:

1. Write to the Chancellor, Rishi Sunak and to the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson demanding that the £20 increase to Universal Credit is made permanent and extended to claimants on legacy benefits.
2. Work with other local government organisations to collectively pressure the government to make the £20 increase to Universal Credit permanent.

Proposer: Councillor Neil Dirveiks

Seconder: Councillor Helen Adkins

7. Member Question Time (Standing Order 7)

A period of up to 40 minutes is allocated for questions to the Leader, Cabinet Portfolio Holders and Chairs of Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

8. Any Other items of Urgent Business

To consider any other items that the Chair considers are urgent.

Monica Fogarty
Chief Executive
Warwickshire County Council
Shire Hall, Warwick

To download papers for this meeting scan here with your camera



Disclaimers

Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members are required to register their disclosable pecuniary interests within 28 days of their election or appointment to the Council. A member attending a meeting where a matter arises in which s/he has a disclosable pecuniary interest must (unless s/he has a dispensation):

- Declare the interest if s/he has not already registered it
- Not participate in any discussion or vote
- Must leave the meeting room until the matter has been dealt with
- Give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the meeting

Non-pecuniary interests must still be declared in accordance with the Code of Conduct. These should be declared at the commencement of the meeting

The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web

<https://democracy.warwickshire.gov.uk/uuCoverPage.aspx?bcr=1>

Public Speaking

Any member of the public who is resident or working in Warwickshire, or who is in receipt of services from the Council, may speak at the meeting for up to three minutes on any matter within the remit of the Committee. This can be in the form of a statement or a question. If you wish to speak please notify Democratic Services in writing at least two working days before the meeting. You should give your name and address and the subject upon which you wish to speak. Full details of the public speaking scheme are set out in the Council's Standing Orders.