

# **MINUTES AND REPORT OF THE POLICY & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 22 MAY 2025**

- \* Councillor Follows – Chair
- \* Councillor Weightman – Vice Chair

L	Councillor Adam	*	Councillor Holliday
0	Councillor Clayton	0	Councillor Kiehl
*	Councillor Crowe	*	Councillor Martin
*	Councillor C Downey	*	Councillor PMA Rivers
0	Councillor S Downey	*	Councillor PS Rivers
*	Councillor Duce	*	Councillor Steel
*	Councillor Heagin	*	Councillor Thomson
		0	Councillor Williams

\* Present      # Absent & No Apology Received      0 Apology for Absence      L Late

## 28. ELECTION OF CHAIR

On the proposition of Councillor Heagin, seconded by Councillor PMA Rivers, Councillor Follows was nominated to be elected as the committee Chair; there being no other nominations it was resolved unanimously that Councillor Follows be elected as Chair of the Policy & Management Committee for the local government year 2025/26.

## 29. ELECTION OF A VICE-CHAIR

On the proposition of Councillor Follows, seconded by Councillor Crowe, Councillor Weightman was nominated to be elected as the committee Vice-Chair; there being no other nominations it was resolved unanimously that Councillor Weightman be elected as Chair of the Policy & Management Committee for the local government year 2025/26.

## 30. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2025, having been previously circulated were signed by the Chair as a true record.

## 31. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and recorded as above.

## 32. DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER REGISTERABLE INTERESTS

Members made no declarations of interest in relation to any item on the agenda for this meeting, which is required to be disclosed by the Localism Act 2011 and the Godalming Members' Code of Conduct.

## 33. PETITIONS/STATEMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No petitions/statements/questions had been received from members of the public in accordance with Standing Order No 4.

## 34. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

No questions from Councillors were submitted in accordance with Standing Order 6.

35. ACCOUNTS PAID SINCE LAST MEETING & SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

£

Godalming Town Council	
Accounts paid since the 24 April to 21 May 2025	241,393.25
Receipts received since the 24 April to 21 May 2025	85,424.16
Balance held in HSBC Current Account	105,735.21
Balance at 21 May 2025	
Balance held in the HSBC Business Deposit Account	959,432.88
Balance at 21 May 2025	
CCLA Deposit Account	1,050,000.00
Balance at 21 May 2025	

A schedule of the accounts paid was tabled for the information of Members and a copy is attached to record minutes. The vouchers relating to these payments were also tabled at the meeting for inspection. All payments made were in line with the agreed budget or other resolution of this Committee or Full Council.

Members agreed that the Chair should sign the schedule of accounts paid.

36. BUDGET MONITORING - PEPPERPOT

Members noted a budget monitoring report relating to the refurbishment of The Pepperpot. (detailed report attached to record minutes).

37. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION – UPDATE

Members received a report on the Local Government Reorganisation In Surrey from the Committee Chair and an update from the Chair of the Council's LGR Task & Finish Group on the work of that group.

Committee Chair, Cllr Follows, stated that:

- The four Community Asset Transfer Business cases submitted by GTC to WBC, alongside 11 others received by WBC from across the borough, will be considered by Waverley Executive between 2 September and 11 November.
- WBC and other Districts and Boroughs have engaged with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).
  - Statutory Consultation on three proposals to be hosted on Citizen Space
  - Proposals are:
    - SCC proposal for 2 unitary authorities
    - Borough & District proposals for 3 unitary authorities
    - A proposal for Reigate and Banstead and Crawley to form a separate unitary authority
  - Consultation to run from end June into August
  - Decision from government expected end of September/early October.
- WBC will be re-issuing the Community Asset Transfer policy in October to include commercial assets – Towns and Parishes are advised not to submit any Expressions of interest for commercial assets until the updated policy is issued as they will be rejected under the current policy.

The Chair of the LGR Group, Cllr Heagin, informed Members of the work of the LGR group.

- The group has reviewed the feedback of the residents' survey which showed strong support for the notion of GTC acquiring community assets from the principal authorities.
- Borough Hall and the Philips Memorial Park came top of residents' wish list.
- LGR group considered further communications with residents via a comprehensive all address mailing. However, it was decided that the mailing should wait until there is meaningful information to impart.
- Until such time GTC to use social media and website to disseminate the result of the residents' survey and to engage with residents at public events such as the Farncombe Market.
- LGR group will be considering a second tranche list of community assets in order to keep ahead of the process.

From discussion, it was agreed that GTC should look to capture the land and property asset data from the existing tiers of local government.

#### 38. UPCOMING EVENTS

Members noted the following upcoming event(s):

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Saturday, 7 June	Godalming Town Show & High Street Parade
Saturday, 14 June	ChoirBLAST
Saturday, 14 June	Farncombe Market
Friday, 20 & Saturday, 21 June	Beer Festival

#### 39. TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON EXTERNAL BODIES

There were no updates received.

#### 40. COMMUNICATIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

Members identified that updates on the progress of The Pepperpot works should be put out on the Council's social media platforms.

#### 41. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Policy & Management Committee is scheduled to be held in the Council Chamber on Thursday, 5 June 2025 at 7.00pm or at the conclusion of the preceding Environment & Planning Committee meeting, whichever is later.

#### 42. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.