

## ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday 17 October 2023 at 7.30 pm

Place: Council Chamber, Epsom Town Hall

Online access to this meeting is available on YouTube: [Link to online broadcast](#)

The members listed below are summoned to attend the Environment Committee meeting, on the day and at the time and place stated, to consider the business set out in this agenda.

Councillor John Beckett (Chair)  
Councillor Liz Frost (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Arthur Abdulin  
Councillor Anthony Froud

Councillor Steven McCormick  
Councillor Julie Morris  
Councillor Kieran Persand  
Councillor Kim Spickett

Yours sincerely



Chief Executive

For further information, please contact [democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk) or tel: 01372 732000

### **EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

No emergency drill is planned to take place during the meeting. If the fire alarm sounds continuously, or if you are instructed to do so, you must leave the building by the nearest available exit. You will be directed to the nearest exit by council staff. It is vital that you follow their instructions.

- You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts;
- Do not stop to collect personal belongings;
- Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building, but move to the assembly point at Dullshot Green and await further instructions; and
- Do not re-enter the building until told that it is safe to do so.

## Public information

**Please note that this meeting will be held at the Town Hall, Epsom and will be available to observe live using free YouTube software.**

A link to the online address for this meeting is provided on the first page of this agenda. A limited number of seats will be available on a first-come first-served basis in the public gallery at the Town Hall. If you wish to observe the meeting from the public gallery, please arrive at the Town Hall reception before the start of the meeting. A member of staff will show you to the seating area. For further information please contact Democratic Services, email: [democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk), telephone: 01372 732000.

Information about the terms of reference and membership of this Committee are available on the [Council's website](#). The website also provides copies of agendas, reports and minutes.

Agendas, reports and minutes for this Committee are also available on the free Modern.Gov app for iPad, Android and Windows devices. For further information on how to access information regarding this Committee, please email us at [democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk).

## Exclusion of the Press and the Public

Please note that there are matters scheduled to be discussed at this meeting that would appear to disclose confidential or exempt information under the provisions Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). Should any such matters arise during the course of discussion of the below items or should the Chair agree to discuss any other such matters on the grounds of urgency, the Committee may wish to resolve to exclude the press and public by virtue of the private nature of the business to be transacted.

## Questions and statements from the Public

Up to 30 minutes will be set aside for questions and statements from members of the public at meetings of this Committee. Any member of the public who lives, works, attends an educational establishment or owns or leases land in the Borough may ask a question or make a statement on matters within the Terms of Reference of the Committee.

All questions must consist of one question only and cannot consist of multiple parts. Questions and statements cannot relate to planning or licensing committees matters, the personal affairs of an individual, or a matter which is exempt from disclosure or confidential under the Local Government Act 1972. Questions which in the view of the Chair are defamatory, offensive, vexatious or frivolous will not be accepted. Each question or statement will be limited to 3 minutes in length.

If you wish to ask a question or make a statement at a meeting of this Committee, please contact Democratic Services at: [democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk)

Questions must be received in writing by Democratic Services by noon on the third working day before the day of the meeting. For this meeting this is **Noon, Thursday 12 October**.

A summary of statements must be received by Democratic Services by noon on the working day before the day of the meeting. For this meeting this is **Noon, Monday 16 October**.

For more information on public speaking protocol at Committees, please see [Annex 4.2](#) of the Epsom & Ewell Borough Council Operating Framework.

## Filming and recording of meetings

The Council allows filming, recording and photography at its public meetings. By entering the Council Chamber and using the public gallery, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings.

Members of the Press who wish to film, record or photograph a public meeting should contact the Council's Communications team prior to the meeting by email at: [communications@epsom-ewell.gov.uk](mailto:communications@epsom-ewell.gov.uk)

Filming or recording must be overt and persons filming should not move around the room whilst filming nor should they obstruct proceedings or the public from viewing the meeting. The use of flash photography, additional lighting or any non-handheld devices, including tripods, will not be allowed.

## **AGENDA**

### **1. QUESTION AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

To take any questions or statements from members of the Public.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members are asked to declare the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in respect of any item of business to be considered at the meeting.

### **3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 5 - 10)**

The Committee is asked to confirm as a true record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 13 June 2023 (attached) and to authorise the Chair to sign them.

### **4. CHALK PIT (Pages 11 - 34)**

This report sets out the options available to the Council which include, if necessary, to fund further substantial statutory nuisance investigations into noise or dust complaints arising from business located in Epsom Chalk Pit.

### **5. THAMES TO DOWNS NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE (Pages 35 - 46)**

This report asks the committee to agree to the principle of including Epsom Common Local Nature Reserve (LNR), Manor Open Space, Horton Country Park LNR, Hogsmill LNR and Nonsuch Park in the proposed Thames To Downs National Nature Reserve. The key objectives of inclusion in the National Nature Reserve are:

- Ensure the long-term protection and enhancement of the Borough's biodiversity.
- Working in partnership to raise awareness and engagement in Biodiversity.
- In line with the Local Plan, identify and realise new opportunities for nature.
- Seek to secure sustainable long-term funding for the Borough's open spaces.

In line with our Biodiversity Action Plan, taking opportunities to act locally to help address the global loss of biodiversity.

**6. ASH DIEBACK ACTION PLAN** (Pages 47 - 70)

This report presents the Council's Ash Dieback Action Plan and seeks support for its adoption. The Ash Dieback Action Plan sets out a framework for how the Council will manage Ash Dieback on trees within the borough, including removal of trees and replanting.

**7. CAR PARK WORKING GROUP - TERMS OF REFERENCE** (To Follow)

**8. 2024/25 BUDGET TARGETS** (Pages 71 - 74)

This report informs the Committee of the Council's revenue budget targets presented to the Strategy & Resources Committee in July. The report seeks guidance on the preparation of the Committee's service estimates for 2024/25.

**9. URGENT DECISIONS** (To Follow)

**10. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC** (Pages 75 - 76)

The Committee is asked to consider whether it wishes to pass a resolution to exclude the Press and Public from the meeting in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the business involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended) and that pursuant to paragraph 10 of Part 2 of the said Schedule 12A the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

**11. PEST CONTROL** (Pages 77 - 82)

A report outlining cost pressures in this service and a proposed way forward.