

Epsom & Ewell Borough Council – Decisions taken by the Environment Committee on Tuesday, 17 October 2023

This notice was published 18 October 2023.

Decisions will come into force, and may be implemented, on the expiry of 5 clear working days from the date of this notice unless called in by the Audit and Scrutiny Committee.

NOTE: The following represents a summary of the decisions taken by the Committee. It is not intended to represent the formal record of the meeting (for which reference should be made to the minutes) but to facilitate the call-in process.

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
1.	Question and Statements from the Public	No questions or statements were received from members of the public.
2.	Declarations of Interest	Councillor Julie Morris, Other Interest: Councillor Julie Morris wished to repeat her declaration that she held an allotment in the Borough, following her declaration to the same effect as set out in the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee.
3.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	The Committee confirmed as a true record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 13 June 2023 and authorised the Chair to sign them.
4.	Chalk Pit	The Committee voted (5 for, 1 against, 1 abstention, and the Chair not voting) to defer consideration of the matter until the next ordinary meeting of the committee.
5.	Thames to Downs National Nature Reserve	Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved to: (1) Agree that Officers continue to explore the possibility 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, and report back to this Committee if

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		Natural England indicate that we meet the criteria for entry into the proposed National Nature Reserve.
6.	Ash Dieback Action Plan	<p>Following consideration, the Committee resolved (6 for, 1 against, and the Chair not voting) to:</p> <p>(1) Agree to adopt the Ash Dieback Action Plan set out at Appendix 2 to the report.</p>
7.	Car Park Working Group - Terms of Reference	<p>Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved to:</p> <p>(1) Agree to the continuation of a Car Parking Working Group.</p> <p>(2) Approve the Terms of Reference for the Car Park Working Group as set out at Appendix 1 to the report.</p> <p>(3) Agree the Membership of the Car Park Working Group for 2023/24 as set out in section 3 of the report.</p>
8.	2024/25 Budget Targets	<p>Following consideration, The Committee unanimously resolved to:</p> <p>(1) Note the implications of the budget targets presented to Strategy & Resources Committee on 13 July 2023.</p>

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		<p>(2) Consider how additional income or savings can be generated to address the projected Council wide funding gap of £1.1m in 2024/25, rising to £2.5m by 2027/28.</p> <p>(3) Note that owing to the Council's projected budget deficit, any additional new revenue growth items (i.e., service enhancements resulting in increased net expenditure) supported by Policy Committees will need to be fully funded from existing budgets.</p> <p>Resolved (6 for, 1 abstention, and the Chair not voting) to:</p> <p>(4) Agree that an additional cost item be added into the Committee's budget plans for 2024/25 for £40k to cover possible additional independent noise assessment works or other activities that may be required at the Chalk Pit site in Epsom.</p>
9.	Urgent decisions	<p>Following consideration, The Committee unanimously resolved to:</p> <p>(1) Note the urgent decisions taken and the reasons for those decisions, since the last Environment Committee on 13 June 2023.</p>
10.	Exclusion of the Press and Public	The Committee unanimously resolved to exclude the Press and Public from the meeting in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the

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		grounds that the business involved 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 outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.
11.	Pest Control	<p>Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved to:</p> <p>(1) Implement a revised fee and structure from 25 October 2023, as at appendix 1 to the report, for the Council's pest control service.</p>