

Minutes of the Meeting of the COUNCIL held at the Council Chamber, Epsom Town Hall on 26 May 2026

PRESENT -

Councillor Lucie McIntyre (Mayor); Councillor Julie Morris (Deputy Mayor); Councillors Chris Ames, John Beckett, Kate Chinn, Christine Cleveland, Alex Coley, Neil Dallen, Hannah Dalton, Julian Freeman, Liz Frost, Rob Geleit, Shanice Goldman (items 5-12 only), Christine Howells (items 5-12 only), Graham Jones (items 3-12 only), Alison Kelly, Rachel King, James Lawrence, Robert Leach, Jan Mason, Steven McCormick, Bernie Muir, Phil Neale (items 3-12 only), Kieran Persand, Humphrey Reynolds, Kim Spickett (items 3-12 only), Darren Talbot, Chris Watson, Alan Williamson and Clive Woodbridge

Absent: Councillor Arthur Abdulin, Councillor Steve Bridger, Councillor Bernice Froud, Councillor Tony Froud and Councillor Peter O'Donovan

Officers present: Jackie King (Chief Executive), Piero Ionta (Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer), Tim Richardson (Democratic Services Manager) and Dan Clackson (Democratic Services Officer)

1 TO ELECT THE MAYOR

It was proposed by Councillor Jan Mason, seconded by Councillor Clive Woodbridge and resolved by the Council:

That Councillor Lucie McIntyre be elected Mayor for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

2 TO ELECT THE DEPUTY MAYOR

It was proposed by Councillor Alex Coley, seconded by Councillor Alison Kelly and resolved by the Council:

That Councillor Julie Morris be elected Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

3 VOTE OF THANKS

It was proposed by Councillor Neil Dallen that a vote of thanks be recorded to the Outgoing Mayor, Councillor Robert Leach. Accordingly, it was resolved:

That the Council place on record its high appreciation of the excellent and devoted service rendered by Councillor Robert Leach during his term of office as Mayor.

4 OUTGOING MAYOR'S BADGE AND OUTGOING MAYORESS' BADGE

The Chief Executive, on behalf of Members of the Council, presented a Badge of Office to Councillor Robert Leach in recognition of his services to the Office of Mayor. The gifts were acknowledged by Councillor Leach who spoke of his privilege and pleasure to have been Mayor of the Borough, thanking all who had helped him during his term of office.

(The retiring Mayor, Councillor Robert Leach, thereupon vacated the Chair and the newly elected Mayor, Councillor Lucie McIntyre, took the Chair)

5 DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Councillor Lucie McIntyre and Councillor Julie Morris made and subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Mayor and Deputy Mayor respectively.

The Mayor spoke in acknowledgement of her election, announcing that she had selected the following organisations to help as her chosen charities:

- Epsom and Ewell Phab
- Sunnybank Trust
- Girlguiding UK, with a focus on improvements at Little Acres campsite, including enhancing accessibility to the campfire circle

6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made by Councillors regarding items on the agenda.

7 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 12 March 2026 were agreed as a true record and the Mayor was authorised to sign them.

8 APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

It was proposed by Councillor Liz Frost, seconded by Councillor Christine Cleveland that Councillor Hannah Dalton be appointed the Leader of the Council for 2026-2027. It was proposed by Councillor Kate Chinn, seconded by Councillor Kim Spickett that Councillor Alex Coley be appointed the Leader of the Council for 2026-2027.

There being two nominations, the Mayor requested the Council to vote on each nomination separately. The results of the votes were as follows:

Councillor Hannah Dalton: 15 votes for. Councillor Alex Coley: 14 votes for.

Accordingly, the Council resolved:

- (1) That Councillor Hannah Dalton be appointed the Leader of the Council to hold office until 31 March 2027.**

9 EPSOM AND EWELL BOROUGH COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

The Council received a report seeking approval of the Constitution.

Following consideration, it was resolved with 15 votes for, 9 against and 1 abstention to:

- (1) Approve the Constitution of Epsom and Ewell Borough Council.**

10 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES 2026-27

The Council considered a report seeking approval to the allocation of seats on Committees and Advisory Panels; the appointments to Committees and Advisory Panels, the appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs and arrangements for substitutes for the 2026/27 Municipal Year. The report also sought approval to establish an Officer/Member working group for this municipal year in advance of the first meeting of the parent Committee.

Following consideration, it was resolved with 24 votes for and 2 abstentions that the Council:

- (1) Noted the allocation of seats based on political balance and proportionality;**
- (2) Allocated seats on the Committees, Advisory Panels and Working Groups in accordance with the wishes of the political groups set out in Appendix 1 to the report and detailed below;**
- (3) Appointed Chairs and Vice Chairs in light of the nominations received as set out in Appendix 1 to the report and set out below.**
- (4) Appointed all members of the Council as substitutes for their political group members on all committees, where the appointed political group member is unable to attend a meeting.**
- (5) Established the following Officer/Member Working Group for this municipal year, appointing the nominated Members as set out within Appendix 1 to the report:**
 - a CIL Working Group, to take forward the work of the Strategy and Resources Committee**

Audit and Scrutiny Committee (8) Steve Bridger (Chair), Phil Neale (Vice Chair), Chris Ames, Christine Cleveland, Tony Froud, James Lawrence, Darren Talbot Steven McCormick.

Community and Wellbeing Committee (8) Clive Woodbridge (Chair), Kim Spickett (Vice Chair), Bernice Froud, Christine Howells, Graham Jones, Rachel King, Bernie Muir, Chris Watson.

Environment (8) Liz Frost (Chair), Alan Williamson (Vice Chair), Arthur Abdulin, Steve Bridger, Christine Cleveland, Rob Geleit, Steven McCormick, Julie Morris.

Crime and Disorder (6) Alan Williamson (Chair), Tony Froud, Julian Freeman, Graham Jones, Shanice Goldman, Humphrey Reynolds.

Licensing and Planning Policy Committee (10) Peter O'Donovan (Chair), Neil Dallen (Vice Chair), Steve Bridger, Julian Freeman, Rob Geleit, James Lawrence, Phil Neale, Kieran Persand, Humphrey Reynolds, Clive Woodbridge.

Planning Committee (10) Clive Woodbridge (Chair), Phil Neale (Vice Chair), Neil Dallen, Alison Kelly, James Lawrence, Robert Leach, Jan Mason, Keiran Persand, Humphrey Reynolds, Chris Watson.

Strategy and Resources Committee (8) Neil Dallen (Chair), Hannah Dalton (Vice Chair), John Beckett, Alex Coley, Kate Chinn, Shanice Goldman, Robert Leach, Humphrey Reynolds.

Shareholder Sub-Committee (5) To be appointed by the Strategy and Resources Committee.

Standards and Constitution Committee (6) John Beckett (Chair), Rachel King, (Vice Chair), Chris Ames, Julian Freeman, Graham Jones
Alan Williamson.

Financial Strategy Advisory Group (6) Neil Dallen (Chair), Kate Chinn, Alex Coley, Liz Frost, Peter O'Donovan, Clive Woodbridge.

Health Liaison Panel (7) Christine Cleveland (Chair), Liz Frost, Bernice Froud, Alison Kelly, Julie Morris, Bernie Muir, Kim Spickett.

Human Resources Panel (7) Phil Neale (Chair), Hannah Dalton, Bernice Froud, Julie Morris, Bernie Muir, Kim Spickett, Chris Watson.

Nonsuch Park Joint Management Committee (3) John Beckett, Christine Howells, Tony Froud.

Surrey Police and Crime Panel (1) Chair of Crime and Disorder Committee.

Community Infrastructure Levy Member Working Group (9)

- One RA Group representation from each Policy Committee (4)

- Neil **Dallen (Chair)** (Strategy & Resources)
- Liz **Frost** (Environment)
- Clive **Woodbridge** (Community & Wellbeing)
- Phil **Neale** (Licensing & Planning Policy)
- **One RA Group representative from the Member Climate change action group (1)**
 - Alan **Williamson**
- **One member from the each of the opposition parties (4)**
 - Alex **Coley**
 - Rob **Geleit**
 - Julian **Freeman**
 - Kieran **Persand**

11 REPRESENTATION ON EXTERNAL BODIES

The Council received a report seeking appointments to representation on external bodies.

Following consideration, it was resolved with 24 votes for and 5 abstentions that the Council:

- (1) **Appointed representatives to the external bodies and inter authority partnerships listed in Appendix 1 to the report and set out below;**
- (2) **Appointed the Member Champions listed in Appendix 1 to the report and set out below;**
- (3) **Noted the Officer/Member Working Groups appointed by Committees.**

Outside bodies			
Body on which Represented	Responsible Policy Committee	No of Reps	Proposed Representative (s)
Age Concern (Epsom and Ewell) – General Committee	C & W	2	Councillor Graham Jones Councillor Humphrey Reynolds
Central Surrey Community Action	C & W	1	Councillor Clive Woodbridge
Committee of Management of Local Citizens Advice	C & W	2	Councillor John Beckett Councillor Phil Neale

Outside bodies			
Body on which Represented	Responsible Policy Committee	No of Reps	Proposed Representative (s)
Bureau			
Epsom and Ewell Town Twinning Association Management Committee	S & R	2	Councillor Steve Bridger Councillor Rachel King
Epsom Common Association	C & W	1	Councillor Steve Bridger
Ewell Parochial Trusts	C & W	3	Councillor Christine Cleveland Councillor Humphrey Reynolds Councillor Clive Woodbridge
Friends of Epsom and Ewell Parks	C & W	1	Councillor Steven McCormick
Local Government Association	S & R	1	Councillor Hannah Dalton

Joint Committees / Arrangements			
Body on which Represented	Responsible Policy Committee	No of Reps	Proposed Representative (s)
Epsom and Ewell Community Safety Partnership*	C&D	1	Councillor Alan Williamson
Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators Already appointed to a Term of Office (4 years, 2023 – 2027)	C & W	6	Councillor Christine Cleveland Councillor Liz Frost Councillor Bernice Froud Councillor Steven McCormick Councillor Kim Spickett Councillor Clive

Joint Committees / Arrangements			
Body on which Represented	Responsible Policy Committee	No of Reps	Proposed Representative (s)
			Woodbridge
Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee	C & W	1 (+ Chairman of the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators)	Councillor Bernice Froud
Epsom and Walton Downs Training Grounds Management Board	C & W	1 (+ Chairman of the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators)	Councillor Neil Dallen
Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London Adjudication Joint Committee (PATROL)	E	1 + Sub	Chair of Environment Committee Vice Chair of Environment Committee
South East England Councils (SEEC)	S & R	1	Relevant LGA political group office make nominations for SEEC Executive Board, based on SEEC proportionality. Appointment subject to SEEC AGM.
Surrey Environment Partnership	E	1	Chair of Environment Committee
Surrey Climate Change Partnership	E	1	Appointment invited by Surrey Leaders Group
Surrey Leaders Group	S&R	1	Councillor Hannah Dalton

Member Champions	
	Champion
Armed Forces	Councillor Graham Jones
Alternative Transport	Councillor Rob Geleit
Heritage	Councillor Kim Spickett

Mental Health	Councillor Rachel King
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Officer/Member Working Groups appointed by Committees		
Body on which Represented	Responsible Committee	Proposed Representative (s)
CIL Working Group	LPP	See item 5 of this agenda
Car Park Working Group	E	Appointed by the Environment Committee
Environment and Sustainability Working Group	E	Appointed by the Environment Committee
Local Plan Member Working Group	L & PP	Appointed by the Licensing and Planning Policy Committee
Constitution Working Group	S&C	Appointed by Standards & Constitution Committee

12 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2026-2027

The Council received a report requesting it to approve a programme of ordinary meetings of the Council for the year.

Following consideration, it was resolved unanimously:

- (1) That the Council approved the programme of ordinary meetings for the year.**

The meeting began at 7.00 pm and ended at 8.16 pm

COUNCILLOR LUCIE MCINTYRE (CHAIR)