

**Roberto Tambini  
Chief Executive**

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**16 July 2008**

TO THE MEMBERS OF SPELTHORNE BOROUGH COUNCIL

**SUMMONS TO MEETING**

You are hereby summoned to attend the **Meeting of Spelthorne Borough Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines on THURSDAY 24 JULY 2008 beginning at 7.30pm**, for the purpose of transacting the business specified in the Agenda **set out on the next page**.

ROBERTO TAMBINI  
*Chief Executive*

**EMERGENCY PROCEDURE:** - In the event of an emergency the building must be evacuated. All Members and Officers should assemble on the Green adjacent to Broome Lodge, Staines. Members of the Public present should accompany the Officers to this point and remain there until the Senior Officer present has accounted for all persons known to be on the premises. **[THE LIFT MUST NOT BE USED]**

**PUBLIC SPEAKING IN PERSON AT COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**[Please Telephone: Richard Powell (01784) 446240 or e-mail: [r.powell@spelthorne.gov.uk](mailto:r.powell@spelthorne.gov.uk)]**

**(1) Public Question Time**

Public "Question Time" is near the start of Council meetings. This is an opportunity for any person to ask the Leader of the Council, or his nominee, a question about matters in which the Council has powers or duties or about issues that affect the Borough.

**(2) Petitions**

The Council has a procedure to enable petitions to be presented formally at Council meetings and for the person presenting the petition to address the Council for a maximum of three minutes.

**(3) Representations on Recommendations**

When the Council is considering a recommendation from the Executive or a Committee, any resident can put forward views on the issues involved by making verbal representations to the Council for a maximum of three minutes before the Council discusses the recommendation and makes a decision.

**Anyone wishing (1) to ask a question at "Public Question Time", (2) to present and speak to a petition, or (3) make verbal representations on a recommendation, must notify the Chief Executive's office by 12 Noon three working days prior to the day of the Council meeting. [That is 12 Noon on the preceding Monday for a Council meeting on a Thursday].**

## IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE

### MOBILE TECHNOLOGY – ACCEPTABLE USE

Use of mobile technology (e.g. mobile telephones, Blackberries, XDA's etc.) in Council, Executive, Committee, Sub-Committee, Members' Seminars, Steering Groups, Task Groups, Panels, Area Forum and other meetings can:

- Interfere with the Public Address [PA] and Induction Loop systems;
- Distract other people at the meeting;
- Interrupt presentations and debates;
- Mean that you miss a key part of a decision taken.

#### PLEASE:

Either switch off your mobile telephone, Blackberry, XDA etc. **OR** switch off its wireless/transmitter connection and sound for the duration of the meeting.

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION IN THIS MATTER.***

## A G E N D A

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To report apologies for absence received from Councillors H.R. Jaffer and C.D.G. Kuun and to receive any other apologies for non-attendance.

2. MINUTES – COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26 JUNE 2008  
**[Pages 4 to 11]**

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 June 2008.

3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

To receive any disclosures of interest from Members in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

- (1) The Mayor to preside over the showing of the DVD of the 2008 Surrey Youth Games, at which Team Spelthorne triumphed in 1st place and won 3 Gold medals [in particular a Gold Medal for Boccia], 7 Silver medals and 6 Bronze medals.
- (2) The Mayor to present certificates to the Hope (St. Saviours) Group in recognition of their hard work and commitment on the recent Hope '08 Big Clean Weekend.
- (3) To receive any other announcements from the Mayor.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LEADER

To receive any announcements from the Leader.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

To receive any announcements from the Chief Executive.

7. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The Leader or his nominee to answer any questions raised by members of the public. *[Providing notice has been given in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Council's Constitution].*

8. PETITIONS

To receive any Petitions submitted to the Council. *[Notice of petitions and persons wishing to speak to the Council on them must be given in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Council's Constitution].*

9. REPORT FROM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL  
**[Pages 12 to 14]**

To receive the report from the Leader of the Council on the work of the Executive.

10. REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
**[Pages 15 to 16]**

To receive the report from the Chairman of the Improvement and Development Committee on the work of her Committee.

11. REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE  
**[Page 17]**

To receive the report from the Chairman of the Planning Committee on the work of his Committee.

12. MOTIONS

Under Standing Order 16, the Council has received Notice of the following Motion:

“This Council notes the concern of Spelthorne residents regarding the proposed Polyclinic at Ashford Hospital.

The Council further notes that confusion surrounds the Polyclinic on its potential impact on existing GP services within the Borough.

This Council resolves to:

a) request the Performance Management and Review Committee to conduct an immediate review and scrutinise the Polyclinic proposal by inviting Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals NHS Trust and the Surrey Primary Care Trust to address the Committee and local people.

b) request that to facilitate public participation the Performance Management and Review Committee meets along the lines of the successful Committee meeting held on 31st July 2006.

c) instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Surrey Primary Care Trust expressing concern that their future plans should not deplete the provision of existing GP and community services.”

Proposed by: Councillor Mrs. Caroline Nichols.

Seconded by: Councillor Colin Strong.

13. QUESTIONS ON WARD ISSUES

(1) Under Standing Order 14, Councillor Robin Sider has submitted the following Ward Issues Question:

“At the latter part of June and beginning of July 2008 there was a Fun Fair in Manor Park Shepperton. As such, boards measuring approximately 2' 6" x 18" advertising the Fair were placed on roundabouts and on lamp posts in and around Shepperton. In view of the Street Clean Legislation, of which I have been reminded by the Council, can the Portfolio Holder for the Environment inform me why such advertising has been allowed by a commercial company, whereas local and community groups have been denied such advertising and had their boards removed and in some circumstances confiscated, and will he also agree with me the old adage that what is sauce for the goose is also sauce for the gander?”

(2) Under Standing Order 14, Councillor Mrs. Marian Rough has submitted the following Ward Issues Question:

“In order to counteract rumours being peddled that the proposed Government Polyclinic would adversely impact on the New Health Centre in Stanwell, would the responsible Officer and Portfolio Holder please confirm that this is not the case to allay the fears of the residents and users of the existing surgery?”

- (3) The Leader or his nominee to answer any other Questions from Members on Issues in their Ward. *[Providing notice has been given in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Council's Constitution].*

14. GENERAL QUESTIONS

- (1) Under Standing Order 14, Councillor Robin Sider has submitted the following General Question:

“Will the Leader join me in congratulating Mr. Trevor Baker on his being a finalist in the United Kingdom Local Government Association Awards, the presentations of which took place in Bournemouth on the evening of the 4th of July 2008, and will he also agree with me that this was a great team effort by this Council in the way everyone worked hard to achieve this excellent result?”

- (2) The Leader or his nominee or relevant Committee Chairman to answer any other General Questions from Members on matters affecting the Borough or for which their Committee has responsibility. *[Providing notice has been given in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Council's Constitution].*

15. URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any urgent business.

## MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26 JUNE 2008

### BOROUGH OF SPELTHORNE

#### AT THE MEETING OF THE SPELTHORNE BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL OFFICES, KNOWLE GREEN, STAINES ON THURSDAY 26 JUNE AT 7.30PM

Ayers F.	Forsbrey G.E.	Packman J.D. (Leader)
Bain Ms M.M.	Grant Mrs D.L.	Pinkerton Mrs J.M.
Beardsmore I.J.	Hyams Ms N.A.	Pinkerton J.D.
Bell Mrs E.	Jaffer H.R.	Rough Mrs M.W.
Bhadye S. (Mayor)	Leighton Mrs V.J.	Sider R.W.
Bouquet M.L.		Smith-Ainsley R.A. (Deputy Leader)
Budd S.E.W.	McShane D.L.	Spencer Mrs C.L. (Deputy Mayor)
Colison-Crawford R.B.	Napper Mrs I.	Strong C.V.
Crabb T.W.	Nichols Mrs C.E.	Thomson H.A.
Davis C.A.	Nichols L.E.	Trussler G.F.
Dunn Mrs S.A.	O'Hara E.	Weston Mrs P.

Councillor S. Bhadye, The Mayor, in the Chair

#### **214/08 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ms P.A. Broom, K. Chouhan, M.J. Collis, A.P. Hirst, C.D.G. Kuun and M.T. Royer and Independent Members, Mr Murray Litvak and Miss Sue Faulkner.

#### **215/08 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2008 were approved as a correct record.

#### **216/08 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR**

##### **Civic Service**

The Mayor invited Members and their partners to attend the Civic Service at St Hilda's Church, Ashford at 3pm on 20 July.

##### **Charity Golf Day**

The Mayor reminded Members of the Charity Golf Day taking place on 5 August at 1.15pm. Non-golfers were invited to join them for dinner at 7pm.

##### **Charity Lunch**

A Charity Lunch was being hosted by Gerry and Zandra Ceaser at 2 Rivermount, Lower Hampton Road, Sunbury on 10th August. The Mayor asked Members to let his secretary know if they would be attending.

**217/08 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LEADER**

**Surrey Youth Games**

The Leader announced the success of Spelthorne youth who had triumphed in the Surrey Youth Games by achieving the outstanding result of 1<sup>st</sup> place overall. In addition to 3 Gold medals, 7 Silver and 6 Bronze, Spelthorne had also won the Gold medal in Boccia.

In recognition of this achievement, the Leader was in discussions with the Chief Executive to arrange complimentary use of the Leisure Centre Facilities for the teams and their coaches.

Councillor I.J. Beardsmore was also delighted for the youth in their achievement and supported the Council in its recognition of this.

**Surrey Police Authority**

The Leader informed the Council that Government had announced Surrey Police Authority would not be capped in respect of their precept. This meant the Council would not have to send out new Council Tax statements.

**Nick Skellett – CBE**

The Leader of Surrey County Council, Nick Skellett, had received a C.B.E. in recognition of his service as a County Councillor for many years. The Leader would be sending him a letter on behalf of the Council, congratulating him on his achievement.

**218/08 COUNCILLOR CHRISTOPHER KUUN**

The Council considered the recommendation of the Monitoring Officer on the absence of Councillor Christopher Kuun from Council meetings due to ill-health.

Councillor J.D. Packman stated that in answer to concerns raised by Councillor C.V. Strong he proposed to amend the recommendation before the Council, seconded by Councillor M.L. Bouquet, to read:

“That the Council resolve to excuse the absence of Councillor Christopher Kuun from the 5<sup>th</sup> March onwards and that the matter be reviewed at its October meeting.”

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Christopher Kuun be excused from Council meetings from the 5<sup>th</sup> March onwards, and that the matter be reviewed at the October meeting of the Council.

**219/08 REPORT FROM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor J.D. Packman, presented his report, which outlined the various matters the Executive had dealt with since the last Council meeting.

The Leader and Councillor G.E. Forsbrey both wished to convey their thanks to Terry Collier, Assistant Chief Executive, for his hard work and successful performance on the Treasury Management, which had been achieved under difficult circumstances.

Councillor R.W. Sider wished to pass his congratulations to Liz Borthwick, Assistant Chief Executive, and her staff for bringing about so many achievements for the Borough as part of the Leisure and Culture Strategy.

**220/08            AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Chairman of the Audit Committee, Councillor Jack D. Pinkerton, presented his report, which outlined the matters the Committee had dealt with since the last Council meeting.

**221/08            LICENSING COMMITTEE**

The Chairman of the Licensing Committee, Councillor R.W. Sider, presented his report, which outlined the matters the Committee had dealt with since the last Council meeting.

**222/08            PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND REVIEW COMMITTEE**

The Vice-Chairman of the Performance Management and Review Committee, Councillor S.E.W. Budd, presented the report on behalf of the Chairman, which outlined the matters the Committee had dealt with since the last Council meeting.

**223/08            PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Chairman of the Planning Committee, Councillor E. O'Hara, presented his report, which outlined the matters the Committee had dealt with since the last Council meeting.

**224/08            QUESTIONS ON WARD ISSUES**

**Under Standing Order 14, Councillor T.W. Crabb asked the following question:**

"Last March I was given to understand that agreement had been reached with Surrey County Council on the transfer of TP26 to Spelthorne by the beginning of this financial year, that is, last April. However, a resident backing on to TP26 with a query about signage on the strip was told last month by a Surrey County Council Surveyor that, and I quote, *"With regards to your points it has been decided not to spend any further money on signs if we intend to transfer the land."*

**The Leader of the Council, Councillor J.D. Packman, responded as follows:**

"I am pleased to inform you that the County Council has finally agreed to transfer the land to the Borough Council. Financial provision in the sum of £150,000 has been proposed as part of the Local Transportation Plan for 2008/2012 which will be considered by the Local Committee on 30 June 2008. This means that, subject to the approval of the Local Committee, work can start next year to landscape the area and set out the cycle track which was proposed.

In addition to this capital contribution, the County Council has also agreed to provide revenue funding to the Borough Council for the next 15 years to allow for maintenance. Because this process has taken so long to come to fruition, I anticipate and will provide that a new consultation phase led by Spelthorne Borough Council will now take place.."



**In accordance with Standing Order 14.2, Councillor T.W. Crabb asked the following supplementary question:**

“Can the Leader give some idea of the type of consultation he will provide in order to give assurance to residents and ward councillors that they will be able to participate fully in the proposals?”

**The Leader of the Council, Councillor J.D. Packman, replied:**

“Everyone will have ample input on the consultation. However, I don’t want to raise residents’ expectations too high as I am mindful of the limit to the amount of money available for the provisions proposed at this location.”

**Under Standing Order 14, Councillor Mrs S.A. Dunn asked the following question:**

“The tennis courts at the Cedars Recreation Ground, Sunbury are currently fenced off due to a Health and Safety issue with the surface. I have flagged this as a serious issue but to date no action has been taken.

With the enthusiasm that will be generated by Wimbledon this week can the Portfolio Holder assure local residents that they will be able to emulate their tennis heroes in the very near future?”

**The Portfolio Holder for Young People and Cultural Services, Councillor Mrs D.L. Grant, responded as follows:**

“Thank you for your question regarding the Cedars Park tennis courts. We have received a number of complaints this season about the tennis courts and on one of our regular inspections it was considered that for health and safety reasons they had to be temporarily closed. It appears the wet weather of last summer and through the winter has speeded up their deterioration and there are a number of uneven patches.

Your concern over the courts not being in use during the “Wimbledon” season is fully recognised and we are endeavouring to seek funds for resurfacing work. As we do not have a specific budget for the work, we are looking to see if we can identify other funds so we can carry out the work as soon as possible.

I am pleased to inform you that, as a result of some scheduled minor maintenance work, two of the three courts were re-opened today.”

**Councillor Mrs C. E. Nichols withdrew her question concerning mobile phone masts as she was happy that the matter had been taken up by the Deputy Chief Executive.**

## **225/08 GENERAL QUESTIONS**

**Under Standing Order 14, Councillor R.W. Sider asked the following question:**

“Will the Leader join me in congratulating the curator and all the volunteer groups associated with Spelthorne Museum on their receiving Full Accreditation under the Libraries and Archive Commission scheme which is accepted as being in the gold

standard world. And will he also note that the museum has now been operating for 25 years, and that this is the first time such status has been awarded, and furthermore since its move to its new location in 2006, the number of visitors has increased dramatically from 2800 to a figure in the region of 12,000 per annum. With this in mind, will the Leader endorse my request for a letter of congratulations to be sent to the curator reflecting the Council's praise for such a magnificent achievement?"

**The Leader of the Council, Councillor J.D. Packman replied as follows:**

"I should like to endorse everything Councillor Sider has said. The award is indeed a great accolade as there are only a few small museums in the whole country to achieve Accreditation under the Libraries and Archive Commission.

As Councillor Sider has indicated, the new location of the Museum, linked with the library, has been a brilliant move with increased use, increased access for people with disability, and increased hours of opening

I will ensure a letter is sent to congratulate all the people involved, the curator, Spelthorne Archaeological Field group who are the trustees, and friends of Spelthorne Museum."

**Under Standing Order 14, Councillor L.E. Nichols asked the following question:**

"At the December 2007 meeting of the Council it was resolved "That the Council seeks to maintain an overall level of reserves of at least £31m".

What is the current level of reserves? If the reserves are currently below the £31m target level, what steps are being taken to achieve this level?"

**The Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services, Councillor M.L. Bouquet replied as follows:**

"Thank you Councillor Nichols for this opportune question.

The Executive did indeed agree that it would be prudent to maintain reserve balances of at least £31m at its meeting of 12 December 2007. This would have been made up, broadly speaking, of £15m revenue reserves and £16m capital reserves, totaling £31m.

As I am sure you are aware, there has subsequently been a world wide fall in property values and this has affected the value of the potential receipt from the sale of the Bridge Street car park, which would have considerably helped the reserve balances.

The Chief Executive and senior management team, along with external financial advisers, are currently evaluating the package for the sale of Bridge Street car park because they are not yet satisfied with the offer.

The current level of reserves, reflected in the draft Statement of Accounts (which were approved by the Audit Committee on 24 June) is £20.2m consisting of £15.2m revenue and £5m capital reserves. Depending on the outcome of the Bridge Street deal, the Council may need to reappraise its reserves strategy.

Officers are currently exploring with their treasury management advisers, options to take advantage of the current relatively higher longer term interest rates available in the market to help maximize the level of investment income we generate from the level of reserves balances we have available.”

**Under Standing Order 14, Councillor Mrs C.E. Nichols asked the following question:**

“Spelthorne’s Executive was, last week, asked to agree in principle to the separate collection of food waste. Bearing in mind that there are options to choose from - and potentially significant costs for the Council - what plans are there for Member involvement in this project?”

**The Portfolio Holder for Environment Services, Councillor G.E. Forsbrey, responded as follows:**

“In developing a future food waste collection service, we will be drawing on the experience of other authorities with existing systems, as well as the 2 or 3 Surrey authorities that will implement a system next year.

As information becomes available we will report to Councillors on the issues that arise from these trials. However, officers are unlikely to be able to bring any detailed options to Council for consideration before summer 2009 in order that we can gain some experience of what actually works first. In the meantime, it is also important to continue to encourage waste minimisation as cooked food and prepared food make up 90% of the food waste put in the rubbish bin.

I can assure you that we will consider how to keep members involved. I suspect that we will hold a Member Seminar at the appropriate time, although I doubt this will be for some time as the first trial does not start until March 2009.”

**Under Standing Order 14, Councillor T.W. Crabb asked the following question:**

"There is considerable concern amongst residents in relation to the proposed new GP-led Health Centre (or Polyclinic) at Ashford Hospital.

Foremost amongst the concerns is that the Primary Care Trust is projecting that the new Health Centre will have 6,000 registered patients within five years but that dual registration will not be allowed.

Given the Borough's population is relatively stable, can the Portfolio Holder comment on the effect the new GP-led Health Centre will have on existing GPs in the area and, in particular, the effect on the Health Centre to be built on the Stanwell Day Centre site.”

**The Portfolio Holder for Health and Independent Living, Councillor Mrs V.J. Leighton, responded as follows:**

“When the Council learnt of this proposal there were mixed feelings of concern for how this would affect existing GP services, but also a positive feeling that the health needs of Spelthorne had been recognised and could be further supported.

I and Liz Borthwick met with one of the lead officers to discuss the proposal before the Council replied to the consultation.

One of the key issues is that it is a government directive that each PCT should have a GP led clinic, and funding is being released for this purpose. In some areas where health inequalities are very high there are more GP led clinics.

One of the key concerns of this Council, and highlighted to the PCT, is the need to retain local GP services and that a GP led clinic should complement and enhance these local services.

The PCT have also stated that the 6,000 registered patients are not guaranteed to the selected provider. Any provider will take the contract at risk.

We have had a number of discussions and letters of confirmation that the PCT is committed to Stanwell Health and Community Centre. A meeting was held this week with the GPs and the PCT to resolve the legal issues relating to the lease and it is expected that, subject to the planning conditions being concluded, demolition will commence in July.

It is also very interesting to note that the surgery at St David’s (Stanwell) increased its number by 500 last year, and this is prior to the A2 development in Stanwell, so growth of patient numbers is possible.

The message I want to conclude with is that the Council has stated very strongly that any GP led Health Centre services should complement local services. Local services are paramount for the local community, and there has been confirmation from the PCT that the GP led clinic proposal does not affect Stanwell Health and Community Centre.”

**Under Standing Order 14, Councillor C.V. Strong asked the following question:**

"Could the Portfolio Holder please outline the decanting process for the residents affected by the regeneration projects at St. Michaels Road, Ashford and Stanwell New Start.

In his answer could he also summarize how the decanting is likely to impact on waiting times for those on our housing list and measures the Council intends to take to mitigate the effects?"

**The Leader of the Council, Councillor J.D. Packman, responded as follows:**

“As you know, the Stanwell development is occurring in phases. The planning brief may change slightly, but, at this stage, it is envisaged there will be 9 tenanted properties affected in Stage 1. A2 have made provision for these, either through

properties they have purchased or void properties. A2 have also put in place an effective consultation programme with their affected residents and they are keeping us informed about the various stages they are at.

In terms of St Michael's Road, Ashford, again the development will occur in phases. Phase 1 affects 10 properties and A2 have already made provision for 6 of these and are seeking arrangements for the remaining 4 as a matter of importance, partly as they need the contractors to commence as soon as possible.

The Council have made it very clear that we do not expect our true void nominations (our basic arrangement) to be affected. Indeed, officers have arranged a meeting for 2 July to try and see if there are any mutually beneficial arrangements we can make to help the process forward; perhaps for example, through use of some of our void temporary accommodation stock.

We are, therefore, acutely aware of the pressures on our housing register and will ensure that the residents' interests are fully protected.”

**226/08            APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES TO CHARITIES**

**Appointment to serve as a Representative Trustee on the Staines Parochial Charity.**

It was proposed by Councillor J.D. Packman and seconded by Councillor R.A. Smith-Ainsley and

**RESOLVED** that Mr Alexander Forrester of 1 Jamnagar Close, Staines be appointed as a Council Representative Trustee to Staines Parochial Charity for a four year term of office.

## **REPORT FROM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL ON THE WORK OF THE EXECUTIVE**

This is my eighth report to the Council as the Leader on the work of the Executive.

This report is an overview of some of the more important issues that we have discussed at our meeting on 15 July 2008.

### **1. Area Forums**

We have considered a report looking back at the most recent Spring 2008 round of Area Forums and seeking the approval of Members on proposals for the Autumn 2008 round of Area Forums.

The key issues were that the Spring 2008 round of Area Forums were well attended by residents and partners and that by the Council holding effective meetings of Area Forums this increases the knowledge and satisfaction of residents with the services provided by the Council.

The report of the Chief Executive set out for approval by Members the proposed arrangements for the Autumn 2008 round of Area Forums, including dates and venues.

We have agreed that the Autumn 2008 round of Area Forums will be held as follows:

- (1) The Stanwell and Stanwell Moor Area Forum at the Stanwell Moor Village Hall on 4 November 2008 at 7.00pm.
- (2) The Shepperton Area Forum at St. Nicholas School on 6 November 2008 at 7.00pm.
- (3) The Sunbury Area Forum at St. Paul's Catholic College on 11 November 2008 at 7.00pm.
- (4) The Staines and Laleham Area Forum at Staines Methodist Hall on 13 November 2008 at 7.00pm.
- (5) The Ashford Area Forum at St. David's School on 20 November 2008 at 7.00pm.

We have further agreed that the Agenda for these Area Forum meetings will comprise the usual pattern, as follows:

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 6.30pm to 7.00pm | One to one appointments with local Borough Councillors.  |
| 7.00pm to 8.00pm | General questions and answers with partner organisations.  |
| 8.00pm to 8.30pm | Main topic for all Area Forums - a presentation on the Council's Sustainable Development Strategy and Biodiversity Action Plan.                            |
| 8.30pm to 9.00pm | Local topic to be chosen by the Chairmen of each of the Area Forums, in consultation with local residents and in agreement with the Leader of the Council. |

### **2. Spelthorne Biodiversity Action Plan 2008-2011**

We have considered a report seeking the agreement of Members on the approval and adoption of the Spelthorne Biodiversity Action Plan [BAP].

The Council has a statutory duty to conserve and enhance biodiversity and in October 2007 a new national Indicator on biodiversity was published requiring the Council to achieve improved local biodiversity and active management of local sites.

The Spelthorne Biodiversity Action Plan addresses these issues and will assist in fulfilling the Council's statutory duty and improving performance on the national indicator. A key aspect of the BAP is improving biodiversity in urban areas.

We have agreed to adopt the Spelthorne Biodiversity Action Plan for implementation.

### **3. Waste Management – Joint Working**

We have considered a report summarising the current partnership working on Waste Management and seeking the agreement of Members on the continuation of these projects.

In particular, Members approval was sought for Signing the 'Memorandum of Understanding for the Implementation of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy'. The Memorandum represents an operational document that sets out the way that all the Surrey Authorities will work together on Waste Management. Also, Members approval was sought to contribute 50% of the anticipated Performance Reward Grant payment arising from the Glass Recycling LPSA project to an emerging programme of joint working on Waste Management.

We have agreed:

- (1) To support and become a signatory to the proposed Memorandum of Understanding for the implementation of the Surrey Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.
- (2) To inform the Surrey Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy [JMWMS] Advisory Board that Spelthorne will agree to 50% of its anticipated Glass Recycling LPSA Reward Grant being committed to further partnership projects.
- (3) That the Officers will report further to the Executive on the potential use of the remaining 50% of the LPSA Reward Grant.

### **4. ICT Outsourcing Contract Expiry – Options and Issues**

We have considered a report by the Chief Finance Officer on the ICT Outsourcing Contract Expiry – Options and Issues for the way forward. We have also considered the recommendations of the Improvement and Development Committee on this topic.

The report of the Chief Finance Officer highlighted the issues for consideration by Members, including the nature of the ICT market in relation to a possible re-tender exercise for the ICT service, the implications of a shared services agenda, the in-house capacity to take on the ICT service, the service standards and quality, benchmarking of costs and performance, potential for innovation and improvement, together with the contractual, financial and service delivery risks.

We have endorsed the setting up of the Task Group agreed by the Improvement and Development Committee to work with the Officers to explore in more detail the possible options and to report back to the Improvement and Development Committee and the Executive by the end of 2008.

**5. Spelthorne Youth Council Minutes**

At our two most recent meetings in June and July 2008, we have received the Minutes of the Spelthorne Youth Council and will continue to receive them on a regular basis in the future. We are very pleased that Spelthorne has such a good and active “Junior Council” in place and we are suitably impressed with the excellent work being undertaken by the Youth Council.

Following our recent meeting on 15 July 2008, Councillor Mrs. Denise Grant, the Executive Portfolio Holder for Young People and Cultural Services, has written to the Spelthorne Youth Council to thank them, on behalf of the Executive, for what they have achieved this year. In addition, she has asked the Youth Council if they would like to send two or three representatives to a future meeting of the Executive to speak very briefly to Members about what they have achieved in the last year.

Councillor John Packman  
*Leader of the Council*

**24 July 2008**



**REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN ON THE WORK  
OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Planning Committee has met once since the previous report was prepared for the Council meeting.

This report therefore gives an overview of the key applications considered by the Planning Committee at its meeting on 25 June 2008.

The Planning Committee at its meeting on **25 June 2008** dealt with 11 items. Public speaking took place on 6 items with 8 persons taking the opportunity to address the Committee.

The most notable items on the Agenda were:

- 1) The proposed redevelopment of Brooklands (formerly Spelthorne) College Ashford to provide a new college.
- 2) The proposed erection of a block of 34 flats at land to the rear of Brooklands College Ashford.

Both of these applications were deferred to enable a site visit by Members which has now been arranged for 10 July 2008.

- 3) The approval of the redevelopment of the Benwell Day Centre Sunbury to provide a day centre and 39 extra care sheltered flats.

Councillor John O'Hara  
*Chairman of the Planning Committee*

**24 July 2008**