



18 April 2012

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To the Councillors of Spelthorne Borough Council

I hereby summon you to attend a meeting of the Council to be held in the **Council Chamber, Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines** on **Thursday 26 April 2012** commencing at **7.30pm** for the transaction of the following business.

Roberto Tambini
Chief Executive

Councillors are encouraged to wear their badge of past office at the Council meeting.

AGENDA

Description	Page Number
1. Apologies for absence	
To receive any apologies for non-attendance.	
2. Minutes	
To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Council meeting held on 23 February 2012.	1 - 9
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	
To receive any 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 questions raised by members of the public in accordance with Standing Order 13.	
8. Recommendations of the Cabinet	
To consider the recommendations of the Cabinet meeting of 24 April 2012 on:	
1. The Annual Review of the Constitution.	
2. The establishment of a joint appointments panel for the appointment of an Independent Person.	
3. The establishment of a joint committee to act as the Police and Crime Panel. (to follow)	
9. Report from the Leader of the Council	
To receive the report from the Leader of the Council on the work of the Cabinet at its meeting on 24 April 2012. (to follow)	
10. Report from the Chairman of the Audit Committee	
To receive the report from the Chairman of the Audit Committee on the work of her Committee.	10

Description	Page Number
11. Report from the Chairman of the Licensing Committee	
To receive the report from the Chairman of the Licensing Committee on the work of his Committee.	11
12. Report from the Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
To receive the report from the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the work of her Committee.	12 - 13
13. Report from the Chairman of the Planning Committee	
To receive the report from the Acting Chairman of the Planning Committee on the work of his Committee.	14
14. Motions	
That the Honorary title of Alderman be conferred upon John Denyer Packman, a former leader and past member of this Council, in recognition of his services to Spelthorne Borough Council.	
Proposed by Councillor R. W. Sider Seconded by Councillor G. E. Forsbrey	
15. Questions on Ward Issues	
The Leader or his nominee to answer questions from members on issues in their ward, in accordance with Standing Order 14.	
16. General questions	
The Leader or his nominee to answer questions from members on matters affecting the Borough in accordance with Standing Order 14.	
17. Appointment of a representative Trustee to the Staines Parochial Charity	
Re-appointment of a Representative Trustee to the Staines Parochial Charity	
To consider the re-appointment of Mr. E. O'Hara as a Council Representative Trustee to the Staines Parochial Charity for a further four year term of office until 24 April 2016.	
18. Urgent Business	
To consider any urgent business.	

**Minutes of the Council Meeting of Spelthorne Borough Council held in
the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines on
Thursday 23 February 2012 at 7.30pm**

Present:

Ayers F. (Leader)	Forsbrey G.E.	Rough Mrs M.W.
Ayub A.	Francis M.P.	Sider R.W. (Deputy Mayor)
Bannister Mrs C.A.	Frazer C.M.	Smith-Ainsley R.A. (Deputy Leader)
Beardsmore I.J.	Friday A.E.	Strong C.V.
Broom Miss P.A.	Gething N.	Taylor S.D.
Budd S.E.W (The Mayor)	Harman A.C.	Watts R.L.
Bushnell Ms M.	Leighton Mrs V.J.	Webb Mrs S.
Colison-Crawford R.B.	Madams Mrs M.	
Dale Mrs J.A.	Mitchell A.J.	
Davis C.A.	Napper Mrs I.	
Dunn R.D.	Patel Miss D.	
Dunn Mrs S.A.	Patterson A.C.	
Evans T.J.M.	Pinkerton Mrs J.M. (Deputy Leader)	

Mr. Murray Litvak, Chairman of the Standards Committee and Ms Sue Faulkner, the Vice Chairman were also in attendance

Councillor S.E.W. Budd, the Mayor, in the Chair

47/12 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D. Gohil, Ms J.R. Sexton, Mrs C. L. Spencer and P. Forbes-Forsyth.

48/12 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2011 were approved as a correct record.

49/12 Disclosures of Interest

Councillor R.A. Smith-Ainsley disclosed, on behalf of all members present, their personal interest in Agenda Item 9(5) Members' Allowances, under Section 4 of the Members' Code of Conduct.

50/12 Election of a new Leader

It was moved by Councillor A.C. Patterson and seconded by Councillor Ms M Bushnell and

RESOLVED that Councillor F. Ayers be appointed Leader of the Council until the day of the Annual Council Meeting following the Borough Election in 2015.

51/12 Announcements from the Mayor

Mayoral Events

The Mayor announced the following events:

Charity Spring Ball, Runnymede Hotel, Egham – 31 March 2012

Ladies Luncheon to Celebrate St George's Day – 26 April 2012

52/12 Announcements from the Leader

The Leader made an announcement as follows:

“Thank you Mr Mayor. I do have two announcements. Before I move onto them I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Council for electing me as Leader. It is a great honour and I will work my hardest for the benefit of the Spelthorne community. I would also like to pay tribute to the outgoing Leader, Councillor Mrs Vivienne Leighton for the hard work and dedication she has shown since the elections, in moving the Council forward. I would especially highlight her Leadership in the preparation for the budget which I will deliver later tonight and for the vision she expressed at the last meeting for this Council to be a community leader providing best value services for the residents of the borough.

Mr Mayor, following my election as Leader I would like to inform the Council that I will be making appointments to my Cabinet in due course and in the meantime the current Cabinet will continue to serve.

I would also like to inform Council that as Leader it is my responsibility to make a scheme of delegation for executive functions. I am not in a position to do so today and so I would like to confirm that for the time being I will retain all such functions and make a scheme of delegation in due course.”

53/12 Announcements from the Chief Executive

On behalf of the staff, the Chief Executive thanked Councillor Leighton for her contribution as past Leader and congratulated Councillor F. Ayers on his appointment as new Leader.

54/12 [Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2012-13 – Key Decision](#)

The Council considered the recommendation of the Cabinet on the current Treasury position and the Annual Investment Strategy and Prudential Indicators for 2012-2013 to 2014-2015.

RESOLVED that:

1. The proposed Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy for 2012-13 as set out in the report of the Assistant Chief Executive be approved.
2. The Prudential Indicators for 2012-13 as set out in the report of the Assistant Chief Executive be approved.
3. The Council formally adopts the Chartered Institute in Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice for Treasury Management Public Services (2011).

55/12 Calendar of meetings for June 2012 to May 2013

The Council considered the recommendation of the Cabinet on the Calendar of Meetings covering the period 1 June 2012 to 23 May 2013.

RESOLVED that the Calendar of Meetings for June 2012 to May 2013, attached as Appendix A to the report, be approved.

56/12 Detailed Budget 2012-13 – Key Decision

The Council considered the recommendation of the Cabinet on the Net Revenue Expenditure Budget for 2012-13 and the proposed Council Tax for 2012-13.

The Mayor referred Members to the Budget Book (green cover) reflecting the decisions and recommendations made by the Cabinet on 21 February 2012.

At the invitation of the Mayor, the Council gave consent under Standing Order 18.4 for the Budget speech of each of the Group Leaders to exceed 10 minutes.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor F. Ayers, made a statement on the Budget and Council Tax and moved the recommendations on the detailed Budget for 2012/2013 as set out in the Budget Book (green cover). This was seconded by Councillor R.A. Smith-Ainsley. The Leader of the Opposition Group, Councillor I.J. Beardsmore, also made a statement.

A copy of the Council Leader's and the Opposition Leader's statements are attached to these minutes at **Appendix A and B** respectively.

Councillor C.V. Strong moved that, under Standing Order 18.5, the following amendment to the original motion be made. This was seconded by Councillor Mrs. S.A. Dunn.

To add the following words:

“4(d) to insert the revenue budget the sum of £75,000 to cover possible legal costs in respect of the proposed Eco Park in Charlton. To be funded from General Reserves”.

Councillor C.V. Strong requested, under Standing Order 21.4, that the voting on the amendment be recorded.

The voting was as follows:

FOR (7)	Councillors I. J. Beardsmore, S. E. W. Budd, R. B. Colison-Crawford, R. Dunn, Mrs. S. A. Dunn, Mrs. C. E. Nichols, C. V. Strong.
AGAINST (27)	Councillors F. Ayers, R. A. Smith-Ainsley, Mrs. Pinkerton, Mrs. C. A. Bannister, Ms. P. A. Broom, Ms M. Bushnell, Mrs. J .A. Dale, C. A Davis, T. Evans, G. E. Forsbrey, M. P. C. Francis, C. M. Frazer, A. E. Friday, N. Gething, Mrs. D. L. Grant, A. C. Harman,

	Mrs V. J. Leighton, Mrs M. J. Madams, A. J. Mitchell, Mrs. I. Napper, Ms. D. Patel, A. C. Patterson, Mrs. M. W. Rough, R. W. Sider, S. D. Taylor, R. L. Watts, Mrs S. Webb.
ABSTAIN (0)	There were none.

The amendment was lost.

The Mayor then directed that a vote be taken on the original motion.

RESOLVED:

1. To approve the growth and savings items as set out in the report's Appendices.
2. To approve the Council Tax Base for the whole Council area as 2012-13. [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(3) of the local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")] and calculates that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purpose for 2012/2013 is £172.22
3. To approve a 2.9% increase in the Spelthorne Borough Council element of the Council Tax for 2012/13 the following proposals:
 - a) The Revenue Estimates as set out be approved.
 - b) No money, as set out in this report, is appropriated from General Reserves in support of Spelthorne's local Council Tax for 2012/13.
 - c) To agree that the council tax base for the year 2011/12 is 40,667.3 calculated in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as amended, made under Section 35(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
4. To approve that the following sums be now calculated by the Council for the year 2012-13 in accordance with Section 31 to 36 of the Local Government Act 1992.

(a)	£54,616,000	Being the aggregate of the amount which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Council.
(b)	£47,612,334	Being the aggregate of the amount which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act.
(c)	£7,003,666	Being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31A (4) of the Act.

(d)	£172.22	Being the amount at 3(c)above (Item R), all divided by Item T (2 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
(e)	£0	Being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section34 (1) of the Act (as per the Attached Appendix).
(f)	£172.22	Being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T (2above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.

That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2012/2013 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

VALUATION BAND	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Spelthorne	114.81	133.95	153.08	172.22	210.49	248.76	287.03	344.44

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (e) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the sum which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band 'D', calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different band.

57/12 [Capital programme 2011-12 to 2015-16](#) – Key Decision

The Council considered the recommendation of the Cabinet on the proposed Capital Programme for 2012/13 to 2015/16 in the light of the available resources and corporate priorities.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Capital Programme for 2012/13 to 2015/16 be approved.
2. The Prudential Indicators for 2012/13 to 2015/16 be approved.

58/12 [Fees and Charges 2012-13](#) – Key Decision

The Council considered the recommendation of the Cabinet on the schedule of fees and charges to be implemented from April 2012.

RESOLVED that the fees and charges, as set out in Appendix A to the report of the Chief Finance Officer, be approved.

59/12 [Pay Policy Statement](#)

The Council considered the recommendation of the Cabinet on the Pay Policy Statement for 2012-13.

Council noted that the Localism Act 2011 requires local authorities to publish an annual pay policy statement, approved by full Council, to increase transparency regarding the use of public funds to pay council staff.

RESOLVED that the Pay Policy Statement 2012-2013 be approved.

60/12 [Members' Allowances Scheme](#)

The Council considered the recommendation of the Cabinet on the minutes of the Independent Review Panel (IRP) which met on 10 February 2012.

RESOLVED:

1. That the recommendation of the IRP in relation to the freezing of the Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances (para. 4.1(b).) be approved.
2. To refer back to the Panel the recommendation at (para. 4.1(a).) to ask them to review the issue of travel expenses in the light of data to be obtained from other Surrey districts.

61/12 [Spelthorne Safer, Stronger Partnership \(SSSP\) Partnership Plan](#)

The Council considered the recommendation of the Cabinet on the SSSP Partnership Plan.

The Council noted that the partnership has undertaken a comprehensive Strategic assessment which identifies five key priorities.

RESOLVED that the Partnership Plan in its capacity as a statutory member of the SSSP be approved.

62/12 Report from the Leader of the Council

The Acting Leader of the Council, Councillor R. A. Smith-Ainsley, presented the reports of the Cabinet meetings held on [24 January 2012](#) and [21 February 2012](#), which outlined the various matters the Cabinet had decided since the last Council meeting.

63/12 [Report from the Chairman of the Licensing Committee](#)

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

64/12 [Report from the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee](#)

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Ms. P. A. Broom, presented her report, which outlined the matters the Committee had decided since the last Council meeting.

65/12 [Report from the Chairman of the Planning Committee](#)

The Chairman of the Planning Committee, Councillor G. E. Forsbrey, presented his report, which outlined the matters the Committee had decided since the last Council meeting.

66/12 Questions on Ward Issues

One question on a Ward Issue was submitted under Standing Order 14 by Councillor Mrs. C.E. Nichols. The Mayor, Councillor S.E.W. Budd, had directed at the beginning of the meeting that the question together with the answer would be read aloud at this meeting and circulated to all members. Furthermore under Standing Order 14.5 supplementary questions would be permitted but that in the interest of fairness gave a direction that the answers would be provided in writing in order to ensure that a properly considered response was provided.

Question from Councillor Mrs. C.E. Nichols:

“Residents in my ward have complained that Linden Homes has made misleading statements about the extent of public consultation on the proposed redevelopment of the police college site. When was the Planning department first approached by Linden Homes concerning the site and what advice was Linden Homes given concerning consultation?”

The response from Councillor R. A. Smith-Ainsley circulated to all members and read aloud at the meeting is set out below:

“Thank you for your question. As you know, we strongly encourage all developers to speak to neighbours, residents groups and ward councillors before submitting any major application.

The planning department were first approached by Linden Homes, by email, on 20 June 2011. In a later email sent on 19 July 2011 they referred to their intention of “arranging public meetings, exhibitions and talking to local resident associations”.

At the same time, the Head of Planning and Housing Strategy contacted Linden Homes, strongly advising them to start having early discussions with LOSRA to gauge local opinion.

The first meeting between officers and Linden Homes took place on 5 October 2011. In that meeting Linden Homes informed the Council they had already had face to face meetings with most of the residents immediately adjoining the site. A suitable venue for a public exhibition was discussed, and the developer was reminded to invite local councillors to the exhibition. Officers also discussed the possibility of Linden Homes making a pre application presentation to all Members at the Council offices.

All the pre-application public consultation information provided by Linden Homes was placed on the LOSRA website on 20 October 2011 to enable discussion. This was immediately after the public exhibition had taken place.

The methods used by Linden Homes: a mix of face to face discussions, a public exhibition with an opportunity to speak directly to the developer, along with the information on the LOSRA website is, in my view, an entirely appropriate way of obtaining the views of the local community.”

67/12 General Questions

One general question had been submitted under Standing Order 14. The Mayor, Councillor S. Budd, had directed at the beginning of the meeting that question together with the answer would be read aloud at this meeting and circulated to all members. Furthermore under Standing Order 14.5 supplementary questions would be permitted but that in the interest of fairness gave a direction that the answers would be provided in writing in order to ensure that a properly considered response was provided.

Question from Councillor Mrs. C.E. Nichols:

“Will the Leader confirm that Spelthorne Borough Council is wholly opposed to the building of an ‘Eco Park’ at Charlton Lane and, if SITA’s application is passed by Surrey County Council on 9th March 2012, will Spelthorne Council fund a legal challenge?”

The response from Councillor R.A. Smith-Ainsley circulated to all members and read aloud at the meeting is set out below:

“Thank you for your question Councillor Nichols. Firstly, I can confirm that on 26 January 2011 this Council raised very strong objections on planning grounds to the Eco Park proposal. Our position is unchanged since that time - we still object to the Eco Park.

In recent months, many residents have written to the Council to ask us to take a judicial review against the County Council.

Whilst I can understand the concern of residents, such legal challenges can only be made where a decision is flawed. Whether or not the decision is flawed is something we cannot determine at this time because the decision is still pending.

The Council has written to the County Council with further representations to take into account. We will be looking very carefully at Surrey’s planning report and background papers when they are published. We will consider very carefully the way in which that Committee makes its final decision. We will look at everything very carefully.

It is premature to come to a view on whether or not legal action would be appropriate in advance of that decision and our own careful assessment of it.”

Under Standing Order 14.2 Councillor Mrs. C.E. Nichols asked the following supplementary question:

“I would like clarification, bearing in mind Councillor Leighton’s earlier comment that the Council had plans based on what may or may not be decided in the future, whether the Council has taken any legal advice on this matter?”

Response from Councillor R.A. Smith-Ainsley:

“As I have said already, the Council has not taken legal advice at this stage, but we will do what is necessary after the County Council decision has been made on March 9th”

68/12 Appointment of a replacement Trustee to the Laleham Charities

It was moved by Councillor F. Ayers and seconded by Councillor R.A. Smith-Ainsley and

RESOLVED that Mr. Matthew Calvert be appointed to serve as a Council representative on the Board of Trustees of Laleham Charities for a term of four years.

69/12 Appointment of a replacement Representative to the Ashford Relief in Need Charities

It was moved by Councillor F. Ayers and seconded by Councillor R.A. Smith-Ainsley and

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs. M. Bushnell be appointed to serve as a Council representative to the Ashford Relief in Need Charities for a term of four years.

70/12 Urgent Business

Appointment of a replacement representative to the Surrey First Joint Committee and the Surrey Leaders’ Group.

It was moved by Councillor R.A. Smith-Ainsley and seconded by Councillor Mrs J.M. Pinkerton and

RESOLVED that Councillor F. Ayers be appointed to represent the Council on the Surrey First Joint Committee and the Surrey Leaders’ Group.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN ON THE WORK OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee held a meeting on 29 March 2012 and considered the following items of business.

1. External Audit Plan

The Committee noted the External Audit Plan 2011/12 and was pleased to note the reduction of approximately £10,000 in proposed audit fees for 2011/12, compared to the charge for 2010/11.

2. External Auditors' Certification of Grants and Returns 2010-2011

The Committee noted the External Auditors' Certification of Grants and Returns 2010-2011.

3. Corporate Risk Management

The Committee noted and accepted the quarterly update on the Corporate Risk Register.

The Committee was concerned at the length of time that a number of issues relating to business continuity planning had remained unresolved. It agreed to raise the matter with Councillor F. Ayers, whose Portfolio included this area of work, to address the outstanding work and ensure the Business Continuity Forum met in April 2012. The Committee requested an update report on this matter at its meeting on 3 May 2012.

The Committee noted the current issues affecting staff morale and suggested that a staff survey be undertaken to assess the level of morale and assist in finding ways to enhance it.

The Committee requested that consideration be given at the next review of the Risk Register, to adding a new action in relation to the possibility of a drought being declared in the Borough.

4. Audit Services Annual Plan 2012-2013

The Committee noted a report on Audit Services Annual Plan 2012-2013.

5. Committee Work Programme

The Committee approved its Work Programme for the 2012-2013 Municipal year.

The Committee noted that an additional meeting had been arranged for 3 May 2012 to consider a report on proposals for dealing with the provisions of the Localism Act in relation to standards.

Councillor Mrs M.J. Madams
Chairman of the Audit Committee

26 April 2012

Report of the Chairman on the Work of the Licensing Committee

There have been eight Licensing Sub-Committee meetings hearing six matters, since my last report. Details of their work are set out below.

Licensing Sub-Committee 5 March 2012 pm and 4 April 2012 am

A Licensing Sub-Committee considered a report to determine whether or not Mr B. Dube was a fit and proper person to hold a hackney carriage driver licence. The hearing commenced on 5 March and was adjourned to allow officers to investigate an allegation relevant to the application. The hearing re-convened on 4 April. The Sub-Committee granted the application for a hackney carriage driver licence to Mr Dube, for the reasons set out in the decision notice.

Licensing Sub-Committee 5 March 2012 pm and 12 March am

A Licensing Sub-Committee considered a report to determine whether or not Mr R. Davies was a fit and proper person to retain a private hire driver licence. The hearing commenced on 5 March and was adjourned to enable Mr Davies an opportunity to provide evidence in support of his case. The hearing re-convened on 12 March and the Sub-Committee permitted Mr Davies to continue to hold his private hire driver licence for the reasons set out in the decision notice

Licensing Sub-Committee 9 March 2012

A Licensing Sub-Committee considered a report to determine whether or not Mr A. Akbari was a fit and proper person to hold a hackney carriage driver licence. The Sub-Committee granted the renewal of a hackney carriage driver licence to Mr Akbari, for the reasons set out in the decision notice.

Licensing Sub-Committee 14 March 2012 am

A Licensing Sub-Committee considered a report to determine whether or not Mr M. Nasim was a fit and proper person to hold a hackney carriage driver licence. The licence issued to Mr Nasim to drive a hackney carriage vehicle was revoked, for the reasons set out in the decision notice.

Licensing Sub-Committee 14 March 2012 pm

A Licensing Sub-Committee considered a report to determine whether or not Mr K. Jawaid was a fit and proper person to hold a hackney carriage driver licence. The licence issued to Mr Jawaid to drive a hackney carriage vehicle was suspended for 14 days, for the reasons set out in the decision notice.

Licensing Sub-Committee 22 March 2012

A Licensing Sub-Committee considered an application for a transfer of a Premises Licence at Aqua Nightclub, The Old Telephone Exchange, Elmsleigh Road, Staines to Aqua Nightclub Ltd. Surrey Police had objected to the transfer on the grounds of prevention of crime and disorder. The Sub-Committee rejected the application for the transfer for the reasons set out in the decision notice.

Councillor Robin Sider
Chairman of the Licensing Committee

26 April 2012

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN ON THE WORK OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has met once since the last Council meeting and this report gives an overview of the issues considered.

1. Budget 2012/13

1.1 The Committee received a presentation from the Chief Finance Officer on the issues, challenges and core approach and principles underpinning the 2012/13 Budget. The presentation provided a description and an analysis of the impact the budget and service reductions had across the Council. The Chief Finance Officer explained the various factors that had been taken into account when decisions on budget reductions had been taken and highlighted how the impact of reductions had been mitigated. The committee also received information on the strategy for strengthening the Council's financial position for 2012/13 and beyond.

2. Revenue monitoring and projected outturns as at December 2011

2.1 The Committee discussed with the Senior Accountant the revenue monitoring report outlining the current spending and income figures for the period April to December 2011. The Committee noted that the forecast outturn was £12.721m against the revised budget of £12.387m an overspend of £334k (2.7% which was due to a one off restructuring cost (which provided ongoing savings) being partly offset by a transfer from the Business Improvement Reserve of £186,000. A VAT refund of £600k confirmed subsequent to the writing of the report means that an overall net underspend is now expected.

3. Capital monitoring report

3.1 The Committee discussed with the Senior Accountant the capital monitoring report which covered the period from April to December 2011. The committee noted that the anticipated projected outturn to spend by the end of the financial year was £1,559,500 which represented 79% of the revised budget.

4. Member Allowance Scheme

4.1 The Committee in commenting on the report on the Members Allowances Scheme noted that the views of the committee would be conveyed to the Independent Remuneration Panel which took place on 9 February 2012.

5. Work of the Committee

5.1 Overview and scrutiny has an important role in contributing to service improvement, policy development and review so that residents continue to receive good quality efficient services. Therefore one of the key themes for the committee to look at in the next Municipal Year will be the impact of the Localism Act on the services we provided and how we meet the needs of our residents.

6. Thank You

- 6.1 Many thanks go to my Vice Chairman, Councillor Mrs Marian Rough, for her enthusiasm and dedication and to the hard working members of the committee where so many valuable ideas originated.

Councillor Philippa Broom

Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

26 April 2012

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN ON THE WORK OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Planning Committee has met twice since the previous report was prepared for the Council meeting. This report therefore gives an overview of the key items considered by the Planning Committee at the meetings in March and April 2012.

The meeting on **7 March** dealt with 4 items. Public speaking took place on 2 of the items with 3 people taking the opportunity to address the Committee.

The most notable items on the agenda were:

- An application for the redevelopment of the Jewson's Yard in Moor Lane Staines to provide 37 residential units. Following an extensive debate the item was deferred to enable the applicant to consider revising the scheme to overcome the concerns raised.
- Outline permission was also granted at the meeting for a replacement clubhouse at the former Esso Sports and Social Club in Short Lane Stanwell.

The meeting on **4 April** dealt with 6 items. Public speaking took place on 3 of the items with 5 people taking the opportunity to address the Committee

The most notable item on the agenda were:

- The consideration of an amended scheme for the Jewson's Yard in Moor Lane Staines to provide 36 residential units of which 7 would be affordable. The scheme was approved.
- Permission was also approved for the provision of a new Learning Centre building of some 4,100 sq m within the BP Complex at Chertsey Road Ashford.
- At the meeting authority was also given for the serving of two enforcement notices relating to the unauthorised provision of new residential units on two different sites in Chertsey Bridge Road Shepperton and at 247 Staines Road West Sunbury.

Councillor Richard Smith-Ainsley
Chairman of the Planning Committee

26 April 2012

