


# THE BULLETIN

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## Member information



**Issue 15 | 15 April 2020**

The Bulletin contains information about decisions by Cabinet Members and County Local Committees plus key officer decisions, topics to be discussed at virtual meetings in the next week and information about the County Council

## Decisions



### Urgent action

The following urgent action, taken by the Director of Law and Assurance, in consultation with the Chairman of the County Council, has been approved in the last week

[Changes to the Constitution: April 2020](#)

### Decisions confirmed

These decisions have been confirmed in the last week

[Professional Services Framework OKD37\(19/20\)](#)

## Committee News



### Forthcoming committee meetings

In accordance with regulations in response to the current public health emergency the County Council will, until further notice, hold virtual committee meetings for essential

business only. Members will attend and participate remotely via conference calls (audio only) and there will be press and public access via audio webcasting.

## **Meetings next week**

22 April, 10.30 am - [Cabinet](#)

[Listen to meetings online](#): You can listen to the meetings live online via our webcasting website. Our webcasts are also available in the webcast library for six months after the meeting.

## **Scrutiny committee latest**

### **Children and Young People's Services - 14 April**

#### Small Schools Proposals

The Committee discussed the item on the [agenda](#) on Small Schools Proposals.

The Committee's recommendations have been forwarded to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills and have also been published as a link at the top of [agenda page](#) on the website.

The recommendations to the Cabinet Member will form part of the Cabinet's consideration of this matter at its [meeting on 22 April](#).

### **Performance and Finance - 15 April**

#### Call-in: New Monks Farm – Withy Patch land surplus to service need and development agreement (FIN18(19/20))

The Director of Law and Assurance agreed to the request to call-in the proposed decision by the Cabinet Member for Finance concerning the New Monks Farm – Withy Patch land surplus to service need and development agreement which was published on the Executive Decision Database on 2 March and in The Bulletin on 4 March ([FIN18\(19/20\)](#) refers).

The reason for accepting the call-in was that the proposal had not previously been reviewed by the Scrutiny Committee. The call-in was initiated by Mr Jones supported by Mr Oxlade, Mr Quinn and Ms Sudan.

At its [meeting on 15 April](#) the Committee supported the Cabinet Member's proposed decision but recognised the concerns about the rent changes and therefore recommended that a phased approach to increases should be introduced, particularly whilst the building development was taking place.

As the Committee supported the proposed decision it became effective from the end of the meeting. The Cabinet Member's response to the additional recommendation will be reported to the Committee in due course and published on the website.

The members present at the meeting were Mrs Dennis (Chairman), Mr Barling, Mr Barrett-Miles, Mr Boram, Mr Bradford, Mr Catchpole(Vice-Chairman), Mr Edwards, Mr Jones, Mrs Kitchen, Mr Montyn, Mr Smytherman, Mrs Sparkes, Mr Turner, Mr Waight and Dr Walsh.

## New Standing Orders for virtual meetings

A new section of Standing Orders, section 11, in the County Council's [Constitution](#) has been approved. This will allow the Council to conduct formal business through the audio-webcasting of virtual meetings by methods such as telephone conferencing. The Standing Orders reflect the recently-published government regulations that allow local authorities to run formal meetings virtually during the current public health emergency.

The first two meetings under these rules, the Children and Young People's Services and the Performance and Finance Scrutiny Committees, have been held this week as reported under Committee News above.

## Vacancies and By-elections

The Coronavirus Act 2020 postponed all scheduled elections from May 2020 to May 2021 and provided for regulations to be issued to apply to the need for by-elections.

The Local Government and Police and Crime Commissioner (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections and Referendums) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 have now been published. This confirms that if any vacancy arises on the County Council through resignation or disqualification of a member etc, the vacancy will not be filled until May 2021.

## Press releases

County Council press releases up to 15 April

9 April - [Domestic violence support over Easter](#)

9 April - [Positive step forward: A27 Chichester Bypass major scheme to be developed for possible future funding](#)

9 April - [Bonfire and BBQ fire safety warning](#)

9 April - [Care home residents supported after fire breaks out](#)

9 April - [Council staff praised for keeping people safe over Easter](#)

14 April - [West Sussex response to Covid-19](#)

14 April - [Fire Service launches educational resources for primary children](#)

## Planning applications

[Applications](#) registered in the last week

## Planning applications: highways

[Applications](#) received from borough and district councils where comments on highways, ecology, landscaping and archaeology have been requested

**Contact:** Steven Shaw

**Email:** [su.local.development@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:su.local.development@westsussex.gov.uk)

**Phone:** 033 022 24674

## Public rights of way

### Notification of application for change to the path network received

Comments are invited on a [proposal](#) for a new definitive public bridleway in Thakeham (the deadline for comments is 7 November)

**Local member:** Mrs Arculus

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**For further information about The Bulletin please contact Clare Jones on 033 022 22526 or email [clare.jones@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:clare.jones@westsussex.gov.uk)**