

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE ROYAL BERKSHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY



Held on Tuesday 10 February 2026, this meeting followed Extraordinary Management Committee at 5.30 pm

RBFRS Headquarters, Pincents Kiln, Newsham Court, Calcot, Reading RG31 7SD

Members:
(*present)
(** virtual)

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| * Councillor George Blundell | * Councillor Genieve Gosling |
| Councillor Greg Bello | Councillor Mohammed Nazir |
| Councillor Dennis Benneyworth | Councillor Andy NG Siu-hong |
| * Councillor Jeff Brooks | * Councillor Dave McElroy |
| * Councillor Tricia Brown | * Councillor Tina McKenzie-Boyle |
| * Councillor Billy Drummond | * Councillor Owen Jeffery |
| * Councillor Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey | Councillor Dilbagh Parmar |
| * Councillor Peter Frewer | * Councillor Wayne Smith |
| * Councillor Paul Gittings | Councillor Zafar Satti |
| * Councillor Wendy Griffith | * Councillor Simon Werner |

In Attendance: Wayne Bowcock (Chief Fire Officer, CFO)
Becci Jefferies (Head of Human Resources and Learning and Development, HHR&L&D)
Graham Britten (Monitoring Officer, MO) - Virtual
Michaela Smith (Democratic Services Officer)
Fayth Rowe (Executive Services Manager)
Mark Antell (Communications and Engagement Manager)

47. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Satti, NG Siu-hong and Benneyworth.

48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest from Members in accordance with the provisions of the Fire Authority's Local Code of Conduct.

There were no Declarations of Interest received from Officers.

49. PETITIONS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC UNDER STANDING ORDERS 19 AND 25

Action

There were no petitions and questions from the Public under Standing Orders 19 and 25.

50. ISSUES ARISING FROM THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

There were no issues arising from the Audit and Governance Committee.

51. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS UNDER STANDING ORDER 30

There were no questions from Members under Standing Order 30.

52. NOTICES OF MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER 44

There were no notices of Motion under Standing Order 44.

53. RECOMMENDATION OF COMMITTEES

To note that Item 8 (Management Committee Recommendation) – Chief Fire Officer was recommended from Management Committee at its Extraordinary meeting on Tuesday 10 February 2026.

54. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – CHIEF FIRE OFFICER / CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Chair, Councillor Jeff Brooks stated the report was a recommendation from Extraordinary Management Committee on 10 February 2026, seeking Fire Authority approval to appoint Mark Arkwell as Chief Fire Officer / Chief Executive.

The Chair moved the recommendation, which was seconded by the Vice-Chair, Councillor Paul Gittings.

On being put to the vote, it was unanimously, **RESOLVED** that it be approved the appointment of Mark Arkwell, to the role of Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive commencing on 28 March 2026, on the salary package outlined in 3.5 and 3.6.

55. MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

RESOLVED that it be noted the Minutes of recent meetings were published on RBFRS website.

56. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Monday 23 February 2026, 6.30pm at RBFRS Headquarters, Newsham Court, Pincents Kiln, Calcot, Reading RG31 7SD.

(The meeting concluded at 17:39)