

These notes indicate the decisions taken at this meeting and the officers responsible for taking any resulting action. For background documentation please refer to the agenda and supporting papers circulated to all members of the Council and available on the Council's web site (www.oxfordshire.gov.uk.)

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COUNTY COUNCIL - TUESDAY, 19 MAY 2015

RECOMMENDATIONS	DECISIONS	ACTION
1. Election of Chairman for the 2015/16 Council Year	Councillor John Sanders was elected as Chairman for the 2015/16 Council Year.	HLC (S. Whitehead/ A. Newman)
2. Election of Vice-Chairman for the 2015/16 Council Year	Councillor Michael Waine was elected as Vice-Chairman for the 2015/16 Council Year.	HLC (S. Whitehead/ A. Newman)
3. Minutes To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2015 (CC1) and to receive information arising from them.	The Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 April were approved and signed.	
4. Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Neil Fawcett, Jean Fooks and Zoe Patrick.	HLC (A. Newman)
5. Declarations of Interest - see guidance note	There were none.	
6. Official Communications	The Chairman reported as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council held a Minute's silence to commemorate the life of former County Councillor Val Smith. Val had stood down as a county councillor in September 2014 having served the Leys and Lye division since 2005. She was the wife of Oxford East MP Andrew Smith and had been a city councillor for many years prior to becoming a county councillor. She was held in great 	

respect across the political divide and commanded respect among officers and councillors alike. There was great sadness at her passing. Council's thoughts were very much with her husband Andrew Smith and her family at this time.

- Zoe Patrick had decided, for personal health reasons to retire as Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group but would remain on the Council. Council agreed to send Councillor Patrick a card and flowers and congratulated Councillor Richard Webber who had been duly appointed as the new Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group.
- Council welcomed newly appointed County Councillor James Mills (Witney West & Bampton Division) and congratulated him on his appointment to the Council.
- A powerful earthquake had rocked Nepal on 25 April. More than 8,000 people had been reported killed and more than 14,000 injured. A second massive earthquake struck on 12 May, killing an additional 65 people. The UN estimated that 8 million people across the country were affected - more than a quarter of the population. Over 700,000 houses had been destroyed or damaged.

An Oxfam Collection Tin would be circulated during the briefing following Council to provide clean water, toilets, hygiene kits, emergency shelter, food and seeds to the millions of people affected by the disaster. The Chairman urged members to donate.

- On Friday 8th May Oxfordshire joined locations across the country in lighting special v-shaped beacons to mark the

	<p>70th anniversary of Victory in Europe. VE Day marked the official end of Second World War hostilities in Europe, following the formal surrender of German forces. It was both an occasion of national celebration and one of sombre reflection for those who lost their lives in the six-year conflict, including 580,406 UK and Commonwealth Forces and 67,073 UK civilians. It was right that the Council continued to mark this important milestone in the country's history, and that the sacrifice, courage and determination of those who stood firm was not forgotten.</p>	
<p>7. Petitions and Public Address</p>	<p>There were none.</p>	
<p>8. Appointments</p> <p>To make any changes to the membership of the Cabinet, scrutiny and other committees on the nomination of political groups.</p>	<p>Taken under item 11.</p>	
<p>9. Report of the Returning Officer</p> <p>RETURNING OFFICER REPORT</p> <p>BY-ELECTION HELD ON 7 MAY 2015</p> <p>WITNEY WEST & BAMPTON DIVISION</p> <p>Members are asked to receive the report from the County Returning Officer on the outcome of the by-election for the Witney West & Bampton Division held on 7 May 2015 (as on face of Agenda).</p> <p>James Francis Mills was accordingly elected County Councillor for the Witney West & Bampton Division.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>	

<p>10. Cabinet Membership and Delegation of Cabinet Functions</p> <p>Report by the Leader of the Council (CC10).(To Follow)</p> <p><i>Council is RECOMMENDED to note the delegations made by the Leader of the Council with regard to the functions of the Cabinet.</i></p>	<p>Agreed (nem con).</p>	<p>HLC (S. Whitehead/ A. Bartlett)</p>
<p>11. Committees and Review of Political Balance</p> <p>Report by the County Solicitor & Monitoring Officer (CC11)</p> <p>The Council is required by the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 to review the political balance on its committees on an annual basis. The report sets out how the rules operate and seeks approval for adjustments which are necessary to achieve the balance across and within committees to comply with the rules.</p> <p>In summary the changes necessary are:</p> <p>(a) To obtain balance across the scrutiny committees, the Green Group has a seat on the Performance & Scrutiny Committee. There are no unfilled seats;</p> <p>(b) To obtain balance across the other committees of the Council and overall the Green Group has a seat on the Remuneration Committee and the Conservative Independent Alliance Group have an additional seat on the Planning & Regulation Committee. There are no unfilled seats</p> <p><i>The Council is RECOMMENDED:</i></p> <p>(a) <i>to confirm the political balance on committees shown in Annex 2 to the report;</i></p> <p>(b) <i>to appoint to committees the councillors and co-opted members shown in Annex 3, subject to any changes reported</i></p>	<p>Agreed by 56 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.</p> <p>With the additional changes:</p> <p>Councillor Anne Purse as the standing substitute for Councillor Zoe Patrick on the Oxfordshire County Council Joint Consultative Committee for Uniformed Members of the Fire</p>	<p>HLC (S. Whitehead/ A. Bartlett)</p>

<p><i>in any amended schedule and at the meeting;</i></p>	<p>Service.</p> <p>Councillor Les Sibley in place of Councillor Lynda Atkins on Pension Fund Committee.</p>	
<p>12. Scrutiny Committees - Annual Report</p> <p>The report is structured to reflect the activity of the Council's three scrutiny committees; Performance Scrutiny, Education Scrutiny and Health Overview & Scrutiny and the Cabinet Advisory Groups. The report highlights the work carried out by each Committee to scrutinise service activity and performance as well as Cabinet decisions taken over the past year.</p> <p>The Audit and Governance Committee has reviewed this report and welcomed the positive impact that the committees have had in the past year. The report has also been reviewed by the Performance Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p><i>Council is RECOMMENDED to receive the report.</i></p>	<p>Agreed (nem con)</p>	<p>CEO (M. Scott)</p>
<p>13. Audit & Governance Committee - Annual Report</p> <p>The Annual Report sets out the role of the Audit & Governance Committee and summarises the work that has been undertaken both as a Committee and through the support of the Audit Working Group in 2014.</p> <p><i>Council is RECOMMENDED to receive the report.</i></p>	<p>Agreed (nem con)</p> <p><i>Note: the Chairman of the Committee paid tribute to The Chief Internal Auditor and his team.</i></p>	<p>HLC (I. Dyson)</p>
<p>14. Officer Scheme of Delegation</p> <p>Report by the County Solicitor and Monitoring Officer (CC14).</p>		

At its Annual Meeting, Council is required to agree the officer scheme of delegation within the Council's Constitution. The Scheme of Delegation forms Part 7.3 of the Constitution and gives delegated authority to the Chief Executive, directors and to other chief officers whose titles and/or areas of responsibility are set out in Part 2, Article 11 of the Constitution.

This report highlights some minor amendments to the Scheme of Delegation and to Article 11 principally to reflect the service areas of certain Chief Officer posts.

Council is RECOMMENDED to note the amendments to Article 11 and to Part 7.3 of the Constitution and to approve the Scheme of Officer Delegation (Part 7.3) as amended.

Agreed (nem con)

HLC (G.
Watson)

