

County Council

8 September 2009

Agenda

Declarations of Interest

This note briefly summarises the position on interests which you must declare at the meeting. Please refer to the Members' Code of Conduct in Section DD of the Constitution for a fuller description.

The duty to declare ...

You must always declare any "personal interest" in a matter under consideration, ie where the matter affects (either positively or negatively):

- (i) any of the financial and other interests which you are required to notify for inclusion in the statutory Register of Members' Interests; or
- (ii) your own well-being or financial position or that of any member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association more than it would affect other people in the County.

Whose interests are included ...

"Member of your family" in (ii) above includes spouses and partners and other relatives' spouses and partners, and extends to the employment and investment interests of relatives and friends and their involvement in other bodies of various descriptions. For a full list of what "relative" covers, please see the Code of Conduct.

When and what to declare ...

The best time to make any declaration is under the agenda item "Declarations of Interest". Under the Code you must declare not later than at the start of the item concerned or (if different) as soon as the interest "becomes apparent".

In making a declaration you must state the nature of the interest.

Taking part if you have an interest ...

Having made a declaration you may still take part in the debate and vote on the matter unless your personal interest is also a "prejudicial" interest.

"Prejudicial" interests ...

A prejudicial interest is one which a member of the public knowing the relevant facts would think so significant as to be likely to affect your judgment of the public interest.

What to do if your interest is prejudicial ...

If you have a prejudicial interest in any matter under consideration, you may remain in the room but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter under consideration, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise.

Exceptions ...

There are a few circumstances where you may regard yourself as not having a prejudicial interest or may participate even though you may have one. These, together with other rules about participation in the case of a prejudicial interest, are set out in paragraphs 10 – 12 of the Code.

Seeking Advice ...

It is your responsibility to decide whether any of these provisions apply to you in particular circumstances, but you may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer before the meeting.

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, but please give as much notice as possible before the meeting.

To: **Members of the County Council**

Notice of a Meeting of the County Council

Tuesday, 8 September 2009 at 10.00 am

County Hall

Joanna Simons

Joanna Simons
Chief Executive

August 2009

Contact Officer: **Marion Holyman**
Tel: (01865) 810177; E-Mail: marion.holyman@oxfordshire.gov.uk

In order to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, notice is given that Items 3, 7 and 13 will be recorded. The purpose of recording proceedings is to provide an aide-memoire to assist the clerk of the meeting in the drafting of minutes.

Members are asked to sign the attendance book which will be available in the corridor outside the Council Chamber. A list of members present at the meeting will be compiled from this book.

A buffet luncheon will be provided.

Please note that this meeting will be suspended at 12.30 pm to allow the Extraordinary meeting of the Council, relating to the Appointment of Honorary Aldermen, to be held.

AGENDA

1. Minutes (Pages 1 - 6)

To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 25 August 2009 (CC1) and to receive for information any matters arising from them.

2. Apologies for Absence

3. Declarations of Interest - see guidance note

Members are reminded that they must declare their interests orally at the meeting and specify (a) the nature of the interest and (b) which items on the agenda are the relevant items.

(Please note: this applies also to items where members have interests by virtue of their membership of a district council in Oxfordshire.)

4. Official Communications

5. Appointments

To make any changes to the membership of the Cabinet, scrutiny and other committees on the nomination of political groups.

6. Petitions and Public Address

7. Questions with Notice from Members of the Public

8. Reports of the Cabinet

*(a) Report of the Cabinet meetings on 21 April, 26 May, 23 June and 21 July 2009 (CC8(a))*_(Pages 7 - 14)

*(b) Report on Partnership Working in Oxfordshire (CC8(b))*_(Pages 15 - 46)

9. Annual Report of the Standards Committee (CC9) (Pages 47 - 52)

Anne Griffiths was appointed as the Independent Chairman of the Standards Committee at its meeting on 24 July. In the absence of the former Chairman due to ill health she will attend to present the Annual Report which summarises the work of the Committee over the last year.

The Council is RECOMMENDED to receive the report.

10. Annual Public Health Report II (Pages 53 - 92)

Annual Report by a Director of Public Health for Oxfordshire (jointly appointed by the NHS and the County Council) **(CC10)**.

The Cabinet RECOMMENDS Council to receive the report and to note in particular the general recommendations in the report.

11. County Council Meeting Dates 2010/11 (Pages 93 - 94)

The report of the Assistant Head of Legal & Democratic Services containing the schedule of meeting dates proposed for the 2009/10 Council year is attached for approval (**CC11**). Directors and Political Groups have been consulted on a draft schedule. The schedule has been drawn up to reflect the various rules about frequency of meetings set out in the Council's Constitution.

12. Themed Debate - Services and Resource Planning 2010/11 - 2014/15 (Pages 95 - 128)

Report by Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive - Strategy and Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer (**CC12**)

The Council is RECOMMENDED to:

(a) note the report;

(b) provide advice to Cabinet on the development of the Financial Strategy.

13. Questions with Notice from Members of the Council

WOULD MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY AMENDMENTS TO MOTIONS WITH NOTICE MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE PROPER OFFICER IN WRITING BY 9.00 AM ON MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2009

MOTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

14. Motion from Councillor Jean Fooks

"This Council is fully aware of the effects of the current national economic situation, in particular pressures on Oxfordshire due to the high number of public service employees. Council also notes the projected high unemployment among young people, and that at a time of recession, vulnerable people are more than ever in need of our services.

Council recognises that this means that every pound spent by Oxfordshire County Council and its partners must "punch above its weight".

Council resolves to

(i) Encourage young people to stay in education by working with schools, FE colleges and local universities to provide imaginative and useful courses offering qualifications to help them when they enter the workplace, including valuable work experience.

(ii) Through the Oxfordshire Economic Partnership seek to maximise any initiatives in which the County can, alone or with its partners, provide jobs and spark the economic recovery. Jobs which help to minimize the effects of climate change and form the basis of recovery, such as jobs in sustainable tourism, should be the priority.

(iii) Make every effort to protect the services we provide to all our vulnerable people, including people with disabilities and mental health problems

(iv) When vacancies occur wherever possible fill those posts with permanent employees rather than agency staff

(v) Work collaboratively across political parties on the Council to ensure we all share an active role in helping to identify cost savings in the budget process, which includes ensuring that the impacts of any proposed savings are clearly understood.”

15. Motion from Councillor Liz Brighthouse

“This Council, having grave concerns about the proposals about Secondary Education in East Oxford communicated to Councillors, Parents and the Community through the media asks the Cabinet Member for School Improvement to look at all options for the improvement of Education in the area served by Oxford Community School rather than rushing into one option which may not necessarily meet the needs of young people and their parents. It further asks that these options should be the subject of consultation with all parents and young people who are or could be affected.”

16. Motion from Councillor Saj Malik

“The Council asks the Cabinet Member for School Improvement not to make changes to the structure or location of St Christopher's C.E. Primary School but to support the staff, children, parents and governors in their commitment to improve over the coming year by giving appropriate back up from the Educational Improvement Professionals employed by the Authority.”

17. Motion from Councillor Anne Purse

“Council welcomes the recent report from ATOC (Association of Train Operating Companies) to re-open branch lines, some of which are in Oxfordshire. This would give more people the option of using public transport, thus reducing the traffic congestion on our roads. Rail links would also provide vital infrastructure to possible housing

development giving access to jobs and leisure activities with minimal consequent carbon emissions."

Council resolves therefore to work together with the rail companies, Network Rail and the Department of Transport to ensure we are planning for the future in developing the next Local Transport Plan (LTP3) to include these proposals."

18. Motion from Councillor Lynda Atkins

"This Council recognises the immense contribution made by the members of the Armed Forces based in Oxfordshire who are on deployment in other countries, particularly in areas of conflict. The Council also recognises the burden these deployments place on the families of those soldiers and members of the RAF. In order to demonstrate the Council's support for our local servicemen and their families, this Council will work with each of the major Army and RAF bases in the County to provide hospitality to the families of those on deployment, in a similar way to that for dependents from the Bicester Garrison on 24th August, at a time and in a way appropriate to each Unit. A suitable budget will be identified. "

19. Motion from Councillor Larry Sanders

"This Council resolves that Oxfordshire County Council withdraw the 'expression of interest' it has sent to the DCSF with regard to closing Oxford School and St Christopher's Primary School to create a new Academy because:

- St Christopher's School is entitled to a year in which it can, with assistance, substantially improve its running and results
- Parents of St Christopher's children are overwhelmingly opposed to their young children sharing a campus with children of Secondary School age
- Giving the two Schools to a non-elected and self-perpetuating Group is a derogation of democracy
- The proposed sponsor, United Learning Trust, is under considerable stress because of the recent failures of two of its fifteen schools and its inability to keep Head Teachers from leaving at an unacceptable rate, and should not be given control of two of Oxfordshire's Schools
- Replacing Oxford School, which has no religious attachment, with a ULT-run School means that most East Oxford parents would be unable to choose a non-Church School for their children
- The new Academy would not gain new buildings because Oxford School was already in line for the necessary capital investment
- The destruction of the good buildings, some very recent, at St Christopher's would be wasteful

- The East Oxford/Cowley community would be deprived of much-needed green space and playing fields at St Christopher's and Iffley Mead Schools, a large chunk of Oxford School's land and part of the Cowley Marsh Park."
