

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held on Tuesday, 20 March 2012 commencing at 10.00 am and finishing at 12.13 pm.

Present:

Councillor Patrick Greene – in the Chair

Councillors:

Don Seale	John Goddard	Susanna Pressel
Alyas Ahmed	Janet Godden	G.A. Reynolds
M. Altaf-Khan	Tim Hallchurch MBE	David Robertson
Marilyn Badcock	Pete Handley	Rodney Rose
Mike Badcock	Jenny Hannaby	John Sanders
Maurice Billington	Tony Harbour	Bill Service
Norman Bolster	David Harvey	Dave Sexon
Ann Bonner	Steve Hayward	Chip Sherwood
Liz Brighouse OBE	Mrs J. Heathcoat	C.H. Shouler
Iain Brown	Hilary Hibbert-Biles	Val Smith
Nick Carter	Ian Hudspeth	Keith Strangwood
Louise Chapman	Ray Jelf	Lawrie Stratford
Jim Couchman	Stewart Lilly	John Tanner
Tony Crabbe	Lorraine Lindsay-Gale	Alan Thompson
Roy Darke	A.M. Lovatt	Melinda Tilley
Arash Fatemian	Kieron Mallon	David Turner
Anda Fitzgerald-O'Connor	Charles Mathew	Nicholas P. Turner
Jean Fooks	Keith R. Mitchell CBE	Carol Viney
Mrs C. Fulljames	David Nimmo-Smith	Michael Waine
Anthony Gearing	Neil Owen	David Wilmshurst
Michael Gibbard	Zoé Patrick	

The Council considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting and decided as set out below. Except insofar as otherwise specified, the reasons for the decisions are contained in the agenda and reports, copies of which are attached to the signed Minutes.

138/12 MINUTES

(Agenda Item 1)

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2012 be approved and signed, subject to the following amendments:

- (i) Present: Councillor Alyas Ahmed to be deleted from the list of those present and added under Minute 129/12 (Apologies for Absence);

- (ii) Minute 134/12, 3rd paragraph, substitute the text “Councillor Patrick” with “Councillor Brighthouse”.

139/12 REPATRIATIONS

The Council observed a minute’s silence in Memory of the six fallen Servicemen being repatriated at the Memorial Gardens in Brize Norton.

140/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

(Agenda Item 2)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: Armitage, Atkins, Hutchinson, Jones, Malik, Purse, L Sanders, Skolar, R Smith and Stevens.

RESOLVED: the Council agreed to send their thoughts and wishes for a speedy recovery to Peter Jones and his family.

141/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - SEE GUIDANCE NOTE

(Agenda Item 3)

Councillor Gearing declared a personal interest at Agenda Item 7, by virtue of his employment at Baxter Health Care.

Councillor Mallon declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 7, by reason of his role as private landlord.

142/12 ORDER OF BUSINESS

RESOLVED: to vary the order of business as indicated in these Minutes to facilitate the attendance of the Director for Public Health.

143/12 OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN 2012/13 - 2016/17

(Agenda Item 6)

The Council had before them a report by the Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer (CC6) which set out the challenges facing the County Council, the rationale for our objectives, and identified the priority and activities on which it would focus. It was also advised that the Strategy and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee had reviewed the draft Plan and had submitted comments to the Cabinet, who had approved the draft on 17 January 2011.

RESOLVED: (on a motion by Councillor Mitchell, seconded by Councillor Robertson and carried by 55 votes to 0, with 7 abstentions) to approve the Corporate Plan subject to the inclusion of a summary of the Medium Term Financial Plan and any changes in the text approved by the Chief Executive after consultation with the Leader of the Council.

144/12 PAY POLICY STATEMENT

(Agenda Item 8)

The Council had before them a report by the Head of Human Resources (CC8) which presented the Council's pay policy statement in line with the requirement for all councils to agree and publish a pay policy statement by the end of the financial year 2011-12. The report also outlined proposals for a Remuneration Committee to be established to make recommendations to the Council on future pay policy statements.

RESOLVED: (on a motion by Councillor Robertson, seconded by Councillor Mitchell and carried nem con) to approve:

- (a) the current Pay Policy Statement at Annex 2 to this report.
- (b) the creation of the Remuneration Committee as set out in paragraph 13 of the report which will make recommendations to Council regarding future Pay Policy Statements.

145/12 LOCAL AUTHORITY STANDARDS

(Agenda Item 9)

The Council had before them a report by the Head of Law and Governance (CC9) which set out proposals for future arrangements to resolve local complaints against members.

RESOLVED: (on a motion by Councillor Mrs Fulljames, seconded by Councillor Robertson and carried nem con) that:

- (a) a Standards Committee is not appointed under the Localism Act 2011;
- (b) the Audit Committee be renamed as the Audit & Governance Committee and its terms of reference expanded to include overview of member standards;
- (c) a member-officer working group be appointed to enable consideration of standards complaints against members of the Council reporting to the Audit & Governance Committee;
- (d) the Monitoring Officer to submit for Council's approval an appropriate procedure for the handling of complaints.

146/12 EQUALITIES POLICY AND OBJECTIVES - EQUALITY POLICY 2012-2017

(Agenda Item 10)

The Council had before them a report by the Head of Law and Governance (CC10) which set out how the Council was approaching its responsibilities under the Equality Policy 2012-2017 for ensuring that all residents in Oxfordshire had fair access to services and equal life chances. The report

also set out how the Council was meeting the requirements placed on public bodies under the Equality Act 2010, including equality objectives for the next four years.

RESOLVED: (on a motion by Councillor Mallon, seconded by Councillor Mitchell and carried nem con) to receive the report.

147/12 DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT

(Agenda Item 7)

The Council had before them the Annual Report by the Director of Public Health for Oxfordshire (CC7).

The Chairman thanked the Director for Public Health for his report.

RESOLVED: (on a motion by Councillor Fatemian and seconded by Councillor Skolar) to approve and adopt the recommendations contained in the report.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing