OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

# Cabinet
# Tuesday, 15 September 2015

# ADDENDA

**3. Minutes** (Pages 1 - 18)

Minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2015 for approval now attached.

**4. Questions from County Councillors** (Pages 19 - 20)

Attached

**5. Petitions and Public Address** (Pages 21 - 22)

Attached.

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# CABINET

**MINUTES** of the meeting held on Tuesday, 21 July 2015 commencing at 2.00 pm and finishing at 5.12 pm

**Present:**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Voting Members:** | Councillor Ian Hudspeth – in the Chair<br>Councillor Rodney Rose<br>Councillor Mrs Judith Heathcoat<br>Councillor Nick Carter<br>Councillor Melinda Tilley<br>Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale<br>Councillor David Nimmo Smith<br>Councillor Lawrie Stratford<br>Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles |
| **Other Members in Attendance:** | Councillor Liz Brighouse (Agenda Item 8)<br>Councillor John Christie (Agenda Item 8)<br>Councillor Steve Curran (Agenda Items 8 & 10)<br>Councillor Jean Fooks (Agenda Items 8 & 9)<br>Councillor Nick Hards (Agenda Items 6, 7,8 & 13)<br>Councillor John Howson (Agenda Item 8)<br>Councillor Bob Johnston (Agenda Item 8)<br>Councillor Glynis Phillips (Agenda Item 12)<br>Councillor Laura Price (Agenda Items 8 & 9)<br>Councillor Roz Smith (Agenda Items 6, 7 & 8)<br>Councillor Richard Webber (Agenda Item 8) |
| **Officers:** | |
| Whole of meeting | Peter Clark (County Solicitor & Monitoring Officer); Sue Whitehead (Chief Executive's Office) |
| Part of meeting | |
| Item | Name |
| 6 | Lewis Gosling, Treasury Management |
| 7 | Kathy Wilcox, Corporate Finance |
| 8 | John Disley, Environment & Economy |
| 9 | |
| 10 | Sue Scane, Director for Environment & Economy; Victoria Fletcher (Environment & Economy) |
| 11 | Jim Leivers, Director for Children's Services; Ruth Ashwell, Delia Mann |
| 12 | Jonathan McWilliam, Director of Public Health |
| 13 | Mark Kemp, Deputy Director for Environment & Economy, Commercial |
| 14 | Claire Phillips (Policy) |
| 17 | Mark Kemp, Deputy Director for Environment & Economy, Commercial |

*The Committee considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or*

*referred to in the agenda for the meeting, together with a schedule of addenda tabled at the meeting, and decided as set out below. Except insofar as otherwise specified, the reasons for the decisions are contained in the agenda, reports and schedule, copies of which are attached to the signed Minutes.*

## 59/15 MINUTES

(Agenda Item. 3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2015 were approved and signed as a correct record.

## 60/15 QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

(Agenda Item. 4)

Councillor Howson had given notice of the following question to Councillor Tilley:

"Using the last three sets of data available could she list the academies, community school and voluntary schools that would have been regarded as coasting primary or secondary schools? "

Councillor Tilley replied:

“The first set of coasting schools will be defined in 2016.
Based on the DfE's definition of coasting schools, the maximum number of Oxfordshire schools that could meet the definition in 2016 includes:

a) secondary schools - 7
of these - 6 academies, 1 community school

a) primary schools - 32 (excluding small schools)
of these - 13 academies
10 community school
7 voluntary controlled schools
2 voluntary aided schools

This list of schools is currently based only on 2014 data and will be refined following the release of 2015 and 2016 data. Hence the number of schools on this list can fall but not increase.

Definition of Coasting schools by DfE:

1.For secondary schools, a school will be ‘coasting’ if in 2014 and 2015 fewer than 60% of children achieve 5 A* to C including English and mathematics and they are below the median level of expected progress and in 2016 they fall below a level set against the new progress 8 measure. This level will be set after 2016 results are available to ensure it is set at a suitable level. A school will have to be below those levels in all 3 years to be defined as ‘coasting’. By 2018 the definition of ‘coasting’ will be based entirely on Progress 8 and will not have an attainment element.

2. At primary level the definition will apply to those schools who for the first 2 years have seen fewer than 85% of children achieving level 4, the secondary-ready standard, in reading, writing and maths, and which have also seen below-average proportions of pupils making expected progress between age 7 and age 11, followed by a year below a 'coasting' level set against the new accountability regime which will see children being expected to achieve a new higher expected standard and schools being measured against a new measure of progress.

3. The 'coasting' definition will capture performance in 2014, 2015 and 2016. Therefore we will not know until 2016 how many schools will be captured within the definition. However, based on current performance we expect the definition to apply to hundreds of schools across the country.

Supplementary: Councillor Tilley responding to a question concerning coasting academies stated that they should be treated the same as any other school and that the Council would need to get in touch with the sponsors or the Education Funding Agency."

Councillor Pressel had given notice of the following question to Councillor Nimmo Smith

"In the consultation, the City Council expressed a very strong view that we should include "sustainable transport corridors" in the City, to provide better space for buses, cycling and walking.

In fact, there was very little in LTP4 about encouraging walking, which I found most disappointing.

They also said that we need a much more ambitious package of measures to encourage cycling, drawn from European best practice, if we are to achieve the necessary "modal shift".

Surely it's obvious that we won't come close to increasing cycling from 3% to 10% of all trips without a much more radical approach?
This need not cost a lot of money, if we start to build good cycle measures into every road scheme. Excellent opportunities for doing this have recently been squandered, for instance in Iffley Road in Headington and in St Aldate's, in spite of advice from local cycling organisations.

Please can we be assured that this will change from now on? Can we look forward to a much bolder approach?"

Councillor Nimmo Smith replied:

"Local Transport Plan 4 has many ambitions including improvements for walking and cycling – indeed the Oxford Transport Strategy element of LTP4 sets out a high level of ambition for walking and cycling as one of its three central themes. We are already demonstrating our commitment to see this

through, with the ambitious Access to Headington proposals tackling some long-standing problems such as car parking and investing substantial sums in cycling infrastructure. There is a completely false view that the county could have made major improvements to cycling infrastructure at little or no additional cost as part of its maintenance programme. In reality, the schemes mentioned would have required a substantial financial contribution from outside the maintenance programme to deliver the aspirations some have. Clearly it makes sense to combine multi-modal road improvements with maintenance, but to pretend that this has no cost implication is misleading. Lack of funding is key barrier – but the OTS sets out proposals for raising additional funding for transport improvements (including cycling) in the city, which go beyond anything put forward previously. We are doing a lot for walking as well as part of OTS and through existing schemes – for example at Frideswide Square and again through the Access to Headington programme. We do not feel that we need to have a separate Walking Strategy to see real delivery on the ground."

Councillor Fooks had given notice of the following question to Councillor Nimmo Smith

"As Highway Authority, the County Council issues licenses for a fee to anyone wanting to appropriate parts of the highway, both road and pavement, for a specified length of time. Having tried to get action taken against an overstaying builder, I find that enforcement of the time limit is virtually impossible except by negotiation – without any realistic likelihood of a fine for overstaying. Could the Cabinet member confirm that it is indeed impossible to insist that either the obstructions are removed or a new fee is charged, and that enforcement is essentially impossible?

If this is indeed the case, would he agree to lobby the Government for a change in the regulations in this area?"

Councillor Nimmo Smith replied:

'As Highway Authority, the County Council issues licenses for a fee to anyone wanting to appropriate parts of the highway, both road and pavement, for a specified length of time. Having tried to get action taken against an overstaying builder, I find that enforcement of the time limit is virtually impossible except by negotiation – without any realistic likelihood of a fine for overstaying. Could the Cabinet member confirm that it is indeed impossible to insist that either the obstructions are removed or a new fee is charged, and that enforcement is essentially impossible?

If this is indeed the case, would he agree to lobby the Government for a change in the regulations in this area?'

We always hope that developers recognise the impact that their materials have on the local community and would be prepared to take a responsible

approach to this. If a developer overruns the end date of the licence then our current approach to resolving this issue is as follows:

1. Discuss the overrun with the developer on site to ascertain the reason for the extension and agree where possible a date when the materials etc will be removed. This will always depend on the location and impact on the Network etc. and the appropriate fees would be applied

2. Refuse extension to licence due to location etc.

3. If developer/builder refuses to remove materials then Oxfordshire County Council can arrange for the materials to be removed from site which under the law the developer would be responsible for. We would then need to recover the costs for that removal, which may well result in court action.

Under the Highways Act 1980 there is no process to enable the authority to fine the applicant apart from court action and so the decision on whether to take further action is based on a judgement of the likely outcome of taking the developer to Court. Whilst this is not ideal it does provide us with a route for the most persistent of offenders. I agree with Cllr Fooks that this is not the most robust of deterrents and so I will ask Officers to draft a letter on this matter that I will send to Ministers.

Councillor Fooks had given notice of the following question to Councillor Nimmo Smith:

"The major project on the A40 to improve traffic flow and reduce congestion by remodelling the Wolvercote and Cutteslowe roundabouts is causing considerable concern in my division – and elsewhere. Welcome as the new Oxford Parkway station will be, it will attract more traffic to the area while the road works are still in progress. It was unfortunate that the proposed road closures were not communicated to residents with the general project information, so that many only found out about them at the exhibitions if they were able to attend, or even later from others who had been able to attend.

Would you agree that it is a great pity that the promised strategic link road between the A40 and the Loop Farm roundabout was not in place before these major works on the A40 were done?"

Councillor Nimmo Smith replied:

It has never been the intention of the county council for the A40/A44 strategic link road to be delivered in advance of the Wolvercote and Cutteslowe roundabout improvements. This is because the link road is a more complex project in that it isn't within the current highway boundary so negotiations with landowners will need to take place; it will require planning permission and greater detailed design work.

However, the county council is progressing with the scheme as fast as possible and the current programme (as reported to Cabinet and at the Northern Gateway AAP Examination in Public earlier this year) for the project is:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Environmental and planning appraisal | March 2015 | October 2015 |
| Feasibility & Preliminary Design | October 2014 | February 2016 |
| Detailed Design | February 2016 | August 2016 |
| Consultation | tbc | Tbc |
| Planning Application | February 2016 | July 2016 |
| Enabling Works | tbc | Tbc |
| Procurement | September 2016 | January 2017 |
| Construction | May 2017 | June 2018 |
| Post Completion | June 2018 | June 2019 |

As a planning application has yet to be submitted for the Northern Gateway development, it isn't clear on the timing for the build out of that site.

Every effort is being made to inform the residents of road closures. Communication beyond what is formally required as part of the temporary traffic regulation order process is being had, and further improvements to this process will be made if possible or necessary. The county council has a dedicated communications officer for all Major Projects and the Wolvercote and Cutteslowe scheme will also have a dedicated communications officer as part of the construction team."

Supplementary: Councillor Fooks asked to be kept informed with regard to matters in both questions.

## 61/15 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Agenda Item. 5)

The following requests to address the meeting had been agreed:

Item 6 – Councillor Nick Hards, Shadow Cabinet Member For Finance
Councillor Roz Smith, Liberal Democrat Group spokesman
Item 7 - Councillor Nick Hards, Shadow Cabinet Member For Finance
Councillor Roz Smith, Liberal Democrat Group spokesman
Item 8 –Councillor Steve Curran Councillor, Shadow Cabinet Member for Environment

Councillor Bob Johnston, local councillor
Councillor John Howson, local councillor
Councillor Roz Smith, local councillor
Councillor Richard Webber, Liberal Democrat Group Leader
Councillor Jean Fooks, local councillor
Councillor Liz Brighouse, local councillor
Councillor Laura Price, local councillor
Councillor Nick Hards, local councillor
Councillor John Christie, local councillor
Simon Pratt, Regional Director, Sustrans South East
Bob Warne, SPADE (Sunningwell Parishioners Against Damage to the Environment
Joanne Blower - Sunningwell Parish councillor
Ticia Lever, North Abingdon Local Plan group
Helen Marshall, Director, CPRE
Item 9 - Councillor Jean Fooks. local councillor
Councillor Laura Price, local councillor
Item 10 - Councillor Steve Curran, Shadow Cabinet Member for Environment
Item 12 - Councillor Glynis Phillips, Shadow Cabinet member for Public Health and the Voluntary Sector
Item 13 – Councillor Hards

## 62/15 TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2014/15 OUTTURN

(Agenda Item. 6)

Cabinet considered a report that set out the Treasury Management activity undertaken in the financial year 2014/15 in compliance with the CIPFA Code of Practice. The report included debt and investment activity, prudential indicator outturn, investment strategy, and interest receivable and payable for the financial year.

Councillor Hards, Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance commented on the report noting that the historically low interest rates were an indication that the economy was not yet fixed. He referred to paragraph 18 on LOBO loans and concerns raised by a recent television programme. Generally he was satisfied that on average LOBOs were cheaper than PWLB. He would be seeking information on what were the most expensive loans and which were closest to being at a reset point. He also sought information on what would happen with Local Authority loans if those authorities got into difficulty financially. Councillor Stratford undertook to provide a written answer.

Councillor Smith, Liberal Democrat Group spokesman on finance highlighted the good work done internally and pointed to the investment outturn that had exceeded expectations.

**RESOLVED**: to note the report, and to RECOMMEND Council to note the Council's Treasury Management Activity in 2014/15.

## 63/15 2015/16 FINANCIAL MONITORING & BUSINESS STRATEGY DELIVERY REPORT - MAY 2015

(Agenda Item. 7)

Cabinet had before them the regular update on the delivery of the Directorate Business Strategies that were agreed as part of the Service and Resource Planning Process for 2015/16 – 2017/18. Parts 1 and 2 included projections for revenue, reserves and balances as at the end of May 2015. Capital Programme monitoring and update is included at Part 3 and Part 4 set out changes to Fees and Charges.

Councillor Nick Hards, Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance, thanked the officers in the Finance Team who were always very helpful. He referred to the pressure on Children, Education & Families (CEF) and Adult Social Care (ASC) and queried whether there was any indication that the position would ease. He also queried whether the postponement of the care cap was likely to have financial implications for the Council. He went on to highlight the position with regard to the capital programme (paragraph 75 onwards). Given there was an increase in projected capital spending he queried whether there were the necessary staff resources in place. On the capital programme Councillor Stratford responded to the points made, advising that he would monitor the situation closely. Councillor Heathcoat commented that she had been pleased to see the delay referred to but it could see more assessments coming forward. Councillor Tilley acknowledged the task in relation to children's services and the need to look at targeted services where they were most needed.

Councillor Smith, Liberal Democrat Group spokesman on finance highlighted the overspend on home to school transport and the effect on families of the pressure on CEF to deliver the savings. It was important that schools were built where families lived and she hoped that the decision process could be quickened up. Councillor Tilley advised that the main overspend for home to school transport was for children with special educational needs. Councillor Smith referred to the severe weather recovery grant and queried whether local councillors would be able to bid for funding for their local area. Councillor Nimmo Smith advised that this funding was passed to the City Council in Oxford who carried out road maintenance works and she should discuss individual concerns with them. Cabinet was advised that maintenance was carried out on the basis of need and detailed criteria were applied.

Councillor Stratford introduced the contents of the report and moved the recommendations with an amendment to reference to Annex 7c in (e) being amended to read Annex 8c.

Councillor Heathcoat queried the anomalies in the figures in paragraph 89 which she assumed were due to rounding up and rounding down and Kathy Wilcox undertook to check and confirm this with her.

Councillor Carter noted that there had been a significant and notable number of successful bids for government funds and recognised the effort involved.

**RESOLVED**: to:

(a) note the report;
(b) approve the virement requests set out in Annex 2a;
(c) approve the supplementary estimate request in Annex 2e;
(d) note the Treasury Management lending list at Annex 3;
(e) approve the updated Capital Programme at Annex 8 and the associated changes to the programme in Annex 8c;
(f) approve the fees and charges as set out in Part 4 and Annex 7a and Annex 7b;
(g) approve the updated capital programme in Annex 9 (changes to the Capital Programme set out in Annex 8c);
(h) approve the inclusion of a £14.54m budget for the Local Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund programme over three years 2015/16 to 2017/18;
(i) approve the Harwell Oxford Entrance City Deal project to proceed to detailed design and procurement with a total budget of £2m; and
(j) approve the Hagbourne Hill City Deal project to contractually commit to letting the contract, with a total budget of £6.015m.

## 64/15 CONNECTING OXFORDSHIRE: LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 2015-2031

(Agenda Item. 8)

Connecting Oxfordshire, Oxfordshire's new Local Transport Plan (LTP4) had been developed over the past 18 months, in response to the rapidly changing national and local growth, economic development, infrastructure planning and funding agendas. LTP4 is a comprehensive policy and strategy framework to maximise opportunities for Oxfordshire. Development of the Plan had followed on from the Connecting Oxfordshire roadshows held across the County last summer and had been informed by the feedback received from those events. It had been further developed in close partnership with internal and external Stakeholders, including the Local Enterprise Partnership, District Councils and Members.

A full public and Stakeholder consultation on the draft Plan, published in January, was undertaken over Spring 2015, and generated over 500 responses. Cabinet considered a report that set out the issues raised through the consultation, including the main themes or points which were made, and that identified the changes which were proposed to be made to the Plan arising from this and internal and external developments which have taken place since the draft Plan was published. The report also set out work undertaken on the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Equalities Impact Assessment of the Plan.

Councillor Curran, Shadow Cabinet Member for Environment, emphasised the importance of links with the district councils and in particular with Oxford

City Council. It was necessary to work closely together to ensure plans were in synch in areas such as cycling policy and park and ride plans. Councillor Hudspeth agreed and noted that it was a two way process and could also apply to working together on such matters as the New Homes bonus.

Councillor Bob Johnston in general welcomed the new LTP which he felt was an improved document. He welcomed the proposals for buses, although he was unsure how the aspirations expressed in the document sat with the proposals around bus subsidies. He urged that existing cycle facilities be better maintained. However the decision not to proceed with the rail strategy would create uncertainty and undermine the plan. He also expressed concern over the plans for a park and ride and lorry park at Lodge Hill.

Councillor Nimmo Smith advised that the rail strategy was still being revised and had not been forgotten. He recognised the concerns over Lodge Hill but stressed that it was a proposal at this stage and he recognised local concerns which if it progressed he would be looking to address.

Councillor Howson, local councillor for St Margarets expressed disappointment that paragraph 10v on the rail strategy had been removed and councillors were not informed in advance. He referred to concerns over the rail proposals and noted that Network Rail did not have the reputation of being good neighbours. He had raised issues previously and not had a response from officers. He commented on a number of issues including the removal of the north south route through the city centre which would have serious implications, requiring long detours and the proposals for park and rides at the railway stations.

Councillor Smith, local councillor for Headington and Quarry, stated that she had worked with city colleagues to respond to the consultation but felt that these comments had not been addressed. Headington was part of the eastern arc with the highest density of employment levels. She expressed concern that plans were not funded and the planned growth and lack of affordable housing would increase traffic problems. Councillor Nimmo Smith thanked Councillor Smith for her input. He advised that there had been a recent exhibition in Headington and feedback had fed into the LTP. He was alive to issues about through put of traffic and the impact of economic growth.

Councillor Webber, Liberal Democrat Opposition Leader, commented on a number of aspects of the plan: on cycling he noted that it was aspirational but without any indication of how it was to be funded; he queried the wording in relation to neighbourhood development plans which gave the impression that local strategic growth was not being given due consideration. He noted that County Council input into his own area's local plan had not been as much as it could have been, due to lack of resources with officers unable to attend meetings.

Councillor Fooks, local councillor for Wolvercote & Summertown commented that more needed to be done to reduce the traffic coming into Oxford. Good

cycle and pedestrian routes would encourage people not to drive. Park and Ride needed to be attractive and cheap. She reiterated concerns of earlier speakers at the lack of the rail strategy and the impact on the east-west rail route.

Councillor Brighouse, local councillor for Churchill & Lye Valley spoke specifically against proposals for a rapid transit route across the golf course. By leaving it in it encouraged those who would wish to see further development of the Churchill Hospital site. She added that any further development should be restricted to housing to assist those who work on the site.

Councillor Price, Witney South & Central generally commended the Plan in respect of Witney and noted that local members' comments had been integrated. However there was one glaring omission which was the regressive impact of cuts to town buses.

Councillor Hards, local councillor for Didcot West, commented on a number of particular issues relating to the A34, buses, and the cyclepath.

Simon Pratt, Regional Director, Sustrans South East welcomed the overall direction of travel of the LTP in relation to cycling but highlighted the need to make the use of single occupancy cars less attractive. Oxford City was seen as a leader on cycling and he would wish to see that boldness introduced in other towns across the County. He referred to schemes that he would wish to see taken forward but highlighted the hit or miss nature of funding for cycle schemes. He would wish to see a dedicated proportion of transport budget being made available to fill funding gaps.

Bob Warne, SPADE, spoke against the Lodge Hill Park and Ride and Lorry Park and the lack of time given to the consideration of responses. He highlighted the detrimental environmental impact of the proposals.

Joanne Blower, Sunningwell Parish councillor speaking against the Lodge Hill Park and Ride and Lorry Park expressed concern that the consultation on the proposal was inadequate and the response to their concerns set out in the Annex failed to deal with their questions and specific issues. The SCIA failed to consider the increased impact on the village and the impact on the green belt. She queried the evidence to justify the need for the proposals.

Ticia Lever, North Abingdon Local Plan group added her concerns to those previously expressed in relation to the impact on the green belt of the proposal for a Park and Ride and lorry park at Lodge Hill. The proposal would have a detrimental impact on Abingdon and she felt that the importance of the green belt had not been acknowledged. Noise and light pollution would be a factor and congestion would increase.

Councillor Nimmo Smith indicated that the Plan set out a broad strategic approach. There would be full consultation on any actual schemes.

Helen Marshall, Director, CPRE expressed concern that the Plan was following funds and she asked that the Council consider the fundamental approach to the Plan. She added that the Park & Ride proposal should be dropped in line with responses.

Councillor Nimmo Smith introduced the report and Plan, highlighting the role of the Working Group and commenting that the Plan was a living document to 2031 and beyond. John Disley added that he was grateful for the comments submitted and they had tried to incorporate them where ever possible. The Plan established principles and for instance with the Park and Ride there would be detailed consultation on the details.

Cabinet generally commended the Plan and made detailed comments. Councillor Hilary Hibbert Biles sought an amendment, supported by Cabinet, to recognise that HGV controls in Chipping Norton, Burford and Henley be carried out when funding was available.

**RESOLVED**: to approve Connecting Oxfordshire and to RECOMMEND it for adoption by Full Council at its meeting in September 2015 subject to amendments to recognise that HGV controls in Chipping Norton, Burford and Henley will be carried out when funding is available.

## 65/15 A40 - SCIENCE TRANSIT PUBLIC TRANSPORT SCHEME AND LONG-TERM STRATEGY

(Agenda Item. 9)

The A40 is a single carriageway Primary Route linking the M40, Oxford, Cheltenham and South Wales. It is the main route connecting Witney and Carterton, the two biggest towns in West Oxfordshire with Oxford. Both towns have seen considerable growth over the last 30 years. Consequently, the daily flow of vehicles on the A40 exceeds the road's link capacity creating congestions and increasing journey times.

OCC has taken a ‘strategic corridor’ approach to developing solutions to the existing (and projected) congestion issues for the A40 with a number of schemes delivering some capacity and efficiencies on the network in the short term and assessment of the scale and approach for a full ‘access solution’ to the A40 corridor.

Cabinet considered a report giving an overview of this on-going and planned multi-million investment and seeking approval to add the A40 Science Transit Public Transport Scheme to the capital programme and to approve the proposal to consult with the public on the long-term options for a full access solution to the A40 corridor.

Councillor Jean Fooks, local councillor for Wolvercote & Summertown commended the aim of the scheme but warned that for success the routes into Oxford along the Woodstock and Banbury Roads also needed to be addressed. She noted the timescale for the scheme and would welcome anything that could be done to achieve it more quickly. She welcomed the

bus proposals as a start but more was needed. She queried the phrasing in relation to the Science Transit route. She looked forward to the stakeholder meetings. The Leader explained that the Science Transit scheme encompassed other routes and this was the link to encourage funding.

Councillor Laura Price, local councillor for Witney South & Central was glad to see that the needs of local communities had received attention and thanked the lobby groups involved. She expressed disappointment that the background report only reached councillors at the same time as the Cabinet report. She broadly supported the project but stressed the importance of taking people along with the Council with regard to the decisions made, particularly in terms of cost and disruption.

Councillor Nimmo Smith moved the recommendations and Cabinet supported the proposals which would make a huge difference to the traffic congestion.

**RESOLVED**: to:

(a) approve the inclusion of the A40 Science Transit Public Transport Scheme to the capital programme;
(b) note the context of a wider delivery programme of schemes currently underway which will improve congestion along the A40 corridor; and
(c) agree that the proposal to schedule a public consultation as part of 'Connecting Oxfordshire' on the options for a long term strategy approach for further A40 access improvements be undertaken in Autumn 2015.

## 66/15 HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE STRATEGY

(Agenda Item. 10)

In February 2014 budget savings of £350,000 to be met by 2017/18 were agreed from the Household Waste Recycling Centre budget. Cabinet considered a report that set out the need for a strategy, the overriding principles on which it will be based and the timetable for agreement

Councillor Curran, Shadow Cabinet Member for Environment, whilst recognising the need for savings and that home recycling had increased stressed that it was important to make access as easy as possible in order to avoid fly-tipping and to have as extensive a service as could be achieved.

Councillor Rodney Rose, introduced the contents of the report. Cabinet in supporting the recommendations noted that people's habits had changed with Oxfordshire having the highest recycling rate of any county council. They were not convinced that people who would make the journey to a recycling centre would be more likely to fly-tip if that journey was increased by an extra 10 minutes. Responding to a query from Councillor Carter, Sue Scane explained the need for an up to date strategy in relation to S106 monies.

**RESOLVED**: to:

(a) approve a public consultation on a HWRC strategy based on the principals in paragraphs 9 and 10; and

(b) approve the withdrawal of the non-statutory Green Waste Credit payment from 1 April 2016.

## 67/15 NATIONAL CITIZEN'S SERVICE - CONTRACT FOR 2015-18

(Agenda Item. 11)

The National Citizen Service (NCS) programme is a Central Government initiative managed through the NCS Trust. Prime contractors have been awarded contracts for 2015 - 18. The South East contract awarded to The Challenge Network. Oxfordshire County Council has been awarded the local contract to deliver NCS within Oxfordshire following successful delivery since 2011.

Cabinet had before them a report seeking a decision to enable the County Council to accept the delivery contract for 2015 – 2018.

Cabinet commended the Scheme and indicated that they would be interested to hear from the young people concerned.

**RESOLVED**: to agree the contract for delivery of NCS by Oxfordshire County Council for the period 2015-18 and to ask the Director of Children's Services to invite young people from the Scheme to share their experiences with Cabinet at a future meeting.

## 68/15 PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT

(Agenda Item. 12)

Cabinet noted the comments of the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

Cabinet considered the annual report that summarised key issues associated with the Public Health of the County. It included details of progress over the past year as well as information on future work and covered the following areas:

Chapter 1: The Demographic Challenge
Chapter 2: Health, Houses and Roads
Chapter 3: Breaking the Cycle of Disadvantage
Chapter 4: Mental Health
Chapter 5: Lifestyle and Health: We are what we eat, drink, smoke and do
Chapter 6: Fighting Killer Diseases

The report had also been considered at the Oxfordshire Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting on 2 July and by the Oxfordshire Health &

Wellbeing Board on 16 July 2015. The comments of the Oxfordshire Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee were before Cabinet

Councillor Glynis Phillips welcomed the report and made detailed comments.

Councillor Hilary Hibbert Biles in moving the recommendations responded to the comments made and in particular stressed the importance of the prevention agenda. She was pleased with regard to health check and breast feeding where a lot of effort had been put in to obtain figures above the national average. She highlighted partnership working with the District Councils and through the Health Improvement Board. She praised the work of the Public Health Team.

Jonathan McWilliam, Director of Public Health introduced the contents of the report.

During discussion Cabinet welcomed the report and Cabinet Members highlighted a number of issues; rural hamlet isolation which seemed to be missing from the report; the good progress on mental health; a concern that lifestyles affected health and that on issues such as obesity there should be a focus at primary school level with more being done in support of walking; there was a challenge to the Director of Public Health to be more controversial to challenge organisations such as supermarkets to support the health agenda.

**RESOLVED**: to:

(a) note the comments of the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee; and

(b) **RECOMMEND** Council to receive the report and note its recommendations.

## 69/15 COMPULSORY PURCHASE POWERS FOR ACQUISITION OF LAND REQUIRED FOR THE DELIVERY OF SCHEMES - HARWELL OXFORD ENTRANCE

(Agenda Item. 13)

The Council's Major Infrastructure Delivery Commercial Team is managing the delivery of a number of major highway improvement schemes. Some of these schemes require additional land to enable delivery of the proposed improvements which will reduce congestion, improve movement, access and safety and encourage use of sustainable transport.

Cabinet considered a report that detailed the Harwell Oxford Scheme (with supporting CPO land details) and sought delegation by Cabinet to the Director of Environment and Economy in consultation with the Executive Cabinet member to exercise Compulsory Purchase powers for the purchase of land for this scheme, in the event that the land required cannot be purchased by negotiation.

Councillor Hards, commented on the report and queried whether there was the capacity to do the work which was required. He stressed the importance that the negotiations be held in a timely fashion and that they should succeed.

Mark Kemp responded to the comments made noting the successful outcome in a recent similar position.

**RESOLVED**: to:

(a) Approve delegation of the exercising of Compulsory Purchase Order Powers to the Director of Environment and Economy, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment for the purchase of land required for the delivery of the major infrastructure scheme 'Harwell Oxford Entrance' as outlined in this report, in the event that the land cannot be acquired by negotiation so as to keep to the scheme programme; and

(b) note that in so far as the whole or any part or parts of land required is not acquired by negotiation, the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order under provisions contained in Part X11 of the Highways Act 1980 for the acquisition of the land, will be progressed. This could include providing the necessary attendance, expert witness provision etc. at a Public Inquiry if required.

## 70/15 CABINET BUSINESS MONITORING REPORT FOR QUARTER 4

(Agenda Item. 14)

Cabinet considered a report providing details of performance for quarter four (2014-15) for the Cabinet to consider. The report is required so that the Cabinet can monitor the performance of the Council in key service areas and be assured that progress is being made to improve areas where performance is below the expected level.

Councillor Liz Brighouse, Chairman of the Performance Scrutiny Committee advised Cabinet that the Committee had considered the report at its last meeting, focussing on Children, Education & Families. The Committee had looked at absence and exclusions and the risk of poor attainment. They had agreed to carry out a focussed piece of work on this matter in connection with looked after children and rising levels of persistent absence. Also of concern to the committee was the impact on performance in relation to reducing budgets which would need to be considered more fully at some point. Other matters raised by the Committee included the non-achievement of savings in Environment & Economy and its future impact and discussion around S106 funding.

**RESOLVED**: to note and discuss the performance reported in the dashboards.

## 71/15 FORWARD PLAN AND FUTURE BUSINESS

(Agenda Item. 15)

The Cabinet considered a list of items for the immediately forthcoming meetings of the Cabinet together with changes and additions set out in the schedule of addenda.

**RESOLVED:** to note the items currently identified for forthcoming meetings.

## 72/15 EXEMPT ITEM

(Agenda Item. 16)

**RESOLVED**: to agree that the public be excluded during the consideration of the Annexes since it is likely that if they were present during that discussion there would be a disclosure of "exempt" information as described in Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 and specified below the item in the Agenda.

**PUBLIC SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS FOLLOWING THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.**

## 73/15 LONGFORD PARK NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL, BANBURY

(Agenda Item. 17)

*The information contained in the annex is exempt in that it falls within the following prescribed category:*

*3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)*

*and since it is considered that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, in that where a tender or bidding process is in progress disclosure would distort the proper process of open competition and would prejudice the position of the authority in the process of the transaction and the Council's standing generally in relation to such transactions in future, to the detriment of the Council's ability properly to discharge its fiduciary and other duties as a public authority*

The Longford Park housing development of 1,070 homes is now being built in Banbury, and to serve this development a new 1.5 FE primary school, (Admission number 45) is required. In order to ensure that the council has a sufficient supply of school places the new school is required to be complete and ready for use for September 2016.

The school will be built on a site already identified by the county council, using money from the housing developers (Section 106 developer contributions) that has already been negotiated and secured.

Outline Planning consent had been gained for the first phase of this overall development (housing and school) by the developer; associated with which is a S106 agreement securing land and contributions towards various infrastructure, including the proposed primary school.

Funding to construct the primary school had been obtained from a mixture of this S106 developer contributions and funding from Oxfordshire County Council. Design work for this new school project commenced December 2014.

The Scheme had been submitted for detailed planning consent in July 2015 following approval of the Outline Business Case that was granted in June 2015. The scheme is currently being developed to detailed design to be completed in order to enable construction to start in October 2015, with completion in time to enable pupils to begin school in September 2016.

Cabinet had before them a report in anticipation of an expeditious Final Business Case review and subsequent governance approvals in the third financial quarter 2015, to facilitate mobilisation phases on receipt of the Land transfer agreement expected in July 2015.

**RESOLVED**: to:

(d) endorse the progress to date; and

(e) delegate to the Chief Finance Officer and Director for Environment & Economy in consultation with the Leader the authority to approve the Stage 2 Full Business Case and the award of the construction contract.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing ..... 2015

# CABINET – 15 SEPTEMBER 2015

## ITEM 4 – QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Question received from the following Member:

**1. From Councillor Tanner to Councillor Tilley**

'Would the Cabinet member tell me what she believes the likely impact will be on children, parents and the wider community if the Donnington Doorstep Family Centre and/or the Grandpont Children's Centre (in my Isis division in Oxford) lose their County Council funding and are forced to contract or close in future years?'

**Answer**

"Whatever the outcome of the consultation in relation to the future shape of children's social care referred to in today's Cabinet paper, we are determined to support vulnerable children and their families, but can no longer necessarily directly support universal services. I would draw attention to wording in today's Cabinet paper which makes the point that ".. some universal services ….will no longer be provided directly by the county council. The council is however committed to helping local communities develop or retain their universal provision for children. It is proposed that work will be undertaken to ascertain whether local communities would wish to deliver these services and if so how this could be best achieved."

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# CABINET – 15 SEPTEMBER 2015

## ITEM 5 – PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

**Public Address**
The Leader of the Council has agreed the following requests to address the meeting:-

| Item | Speaker |
|---|---|
| Item 6 – Service & Resource Planning Report | Councillor Hards, Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance (5 mins) |
| Item 7 – Future Arrangements in Children's Social Care | Emma Burnett, Cultivate Oxfordshire Ltd (3 mins)<br>**Dr Sonia Bues – member of the public (3 mins)**<br>Jo Lovell, member of the public (3 mins)<br>**Claire El Mouden, member of the public (3 mins)**<br>Charlie Payne – member of the public (3 mins)<br>**James Kirkham, service user (3 mins)**<br>Jill Huish – member of the public (3 mins)<br>**Eleanor Pritchard, member of the public (3 mins)**<br>Yan Wong, governor of a local nursery and children's centre (3 mins)<br>**Katherine Harloe, service user (3 mins)**<br>Juliet Corbett (3 mins)<br>**Jenny Pawsey, service user**<br>Marchelle Farrell, member of the public (3 mins)<br>**Councillor Gill Sanders, Member of CAG and Shadow Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Families (5 mins)**<br>Councillor Nick Hards, local councillor (5 mins)<br>**Councillor Suzanna Pressel, local councillor (5 mins)**<br>Councillor Brighouse, local councillor (5 mins) |

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|---|---|
| Item 8 – Consultation on the Future Provision of Intermediate Care in North Oxfordshire | **Clive Hill (3 mins)** |
| Item 9 – Staffing Report – Quarter 1 | Councillor John Christie, Opposition Deputy Leader(5 mins) |
| Item 12 - Direct Delivery by Developers of Major Off-Site Highway Works | **Councillor Curran, Shadow Cabinet Member for Environment (5 mins)** |