

To: Members of the Planning & Regulation Committee

Notice of a Meeting of the Planning & Regulation Committee

Monday, 15 January 2024 at 2.00 pm

Rooms 1&2 - County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND

If you wish to view proceedings online, please click on this [Live Stream Link](#).
However, this will not allow you to participate in the meeting.



Martin Reeves
Chief Executive

January 2024

Committee Officer: **Committees Team**
E-Mail: committeesdemocraticservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Members are asked to contact the case officers in advance of the committee meeting if they have any issues/questions of a technical nature on any agenda item. This will enable officers to carry out any necessary research and provide members with an informed response.

Membership

Chair – Councillor Geoff Saul
Deputy Chair - Councillor Richard Webber

Councillors

Robin Bennett
Yvonne Constance OBE
Imade Edosomwan
Mohamed Fadlalla

Ted Fenton
Stefan Gawrysiak
Judy Roberts
David Rouane

Les Sibley
Ian Snowdon

Notes:

- ***Date of next meeting: 26 February 2024***

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.

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence and Temporary Appointments**
- 2. Declarations of Interest - see guidance note below**
- 3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 28)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2023 and the Extraordinary meeting on 27 September 2023 (PN3) and to receive information arising from them.

- 4. Petitions and Public Address**
- 5. Chairman's Updates**

To receive any updates from Officers through the Chair.

- 6. Didcot Garden Town HIF 1 Scheme Update (Pages 29 - 38)**

At the meeting of the Planning and Regulation Committee on 27th September 2023, members considered an officer report advising the committee of the Secretary of State's call in and specific matters they wish to be informed about in order to reach a decision on the case the LPA will put forward at the Inquiry with regard to planning application R3.0138/21, which seeks planning permission for four interlinked pieces of strategic highway infrastructure as a single development: The dualling of a section of the A4130 to the east of Milton Gate, the Didcot Science Bridge, the Didcot-Culham River Thames Crossing, and the Clifton Hampden Bypass (HIF 1).

The report seeks to update the committee on requirements and requests made by the Inquiry inspector for more information and submissions made in response to them since the 27th September 2023 meeting of this committee.

It is recommended that the Committee notes the report.

- 7. Scheme of Delegation to Officers (Pages 39 - 42)**

This report seeks a decision to approve an updated scheme of delegation to officers on Town and Country Planning matters outside of those decisions taken by the Planning and Regulation Committee.

It is RECOMMENDED that the members of Planning and Regulation Committee note and approve the updated scheme of delegation to the Corporate Director of Environment and Place under the provisions within the Oxfordshire County Council constitution for the discharge of Town & Country Planning development management and planning enforcement functions as set out in Annex 1 to this report.

Councillors declaring interests

General duty

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed 'Declarations of Interest' or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your employment; sponsorship (i.e. payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the Council's area; licenses for land in the Council's area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor's Register of Interests which is publicly available on the Council's website.

Disclosable pecuniary interests that must be declared are not only those of the member her or himself but also those member's spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.

Declaring an interest

Where any matter disclosed in your Register of Interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest. If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Members' Code of Conduct and public perception

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Members' Code of Conduct says that a member 'must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself' and that 'you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned'.

Members Code – Other registrable interests

Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to the financial interest or wellbeing of one of your other registerable interests then you must declare an interest. You must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and you must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Wellbeing can be described as a condition of contentedness, healthiness and happiness; anything that could be said to affect a person's quality of life, either positively or negatively, is likely to affect their wellbeing.

Other registrable interests include:

- a) Any unpaid directorships

- b) Any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority.
- c) Any body (i) exercising functions of a public nature (ii) directed to charitable purposes or (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management.

Members Code – Non-registrable interests

Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to your financial interest or wellbeing (and does not fall under disclosable pecuniary interests), or the financial interest or wellbeing of a relative or close associate, you must declare the interest.

Where a matter arises at a meeting which affects your own financial interest or wellbeing, a financial interest or wellbeing of a relative or close associate or a financial interest or wellbeing of a body included under other registrable interests, then you must declare the interest.

In order to determine whether you can remain in the meeting after disclosing your interest the following test should be applied:

Where a matter affects the financial interest or well-being:

- a) to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision and;
- b) a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest.

You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting. Otherwise you must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation.