

County Council

18 May 2021

Agenda

*If you wish to view proceedings, please click on this [live stream link](#).
However, that will not allow you to participate in the meeting.*

Declarations of Interest

The duty to declare.....

Under the Localism Act 2011 it is a criminal offence to

- (a) fail to register a disclosable pecuniary interest within 28 days of election or co-option (or re-election or re-appointment), or
- (b) provide false or misleading information on registration, or
- (c) participate in discussion or voting in a meeting on a matter in which the member or co-opted member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

Whose Interests must be included?

The Act provides that the interests which must be notified are those of a member or co-opted member of the authority, **or**

- those of a spouse or civil partner of the member or co-opted member;
- those of a person with whom the member or co-opted member is living as husband/wife
- those of a person with whom the member or co-opted member is living as if they were civil partners.

(in each case where the member or co-opted member is aware that the other person has the interest).

What if I remember that I have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the Meeting?.

The Code requires that, at a meeting, where a member or co-opted member has a disclosable interest (of which they are aware) in any matter being considered, they disclose that interest to the meeting. The Council will continue to include an appropriate item on agendas for all meetings, to facilitate this.

Although not explicitly required by the legislation or by the code, it is recommended that in the interests of transparency and for the benefit of all in attendance at the meeting (including members of the public) the nature as well as the existence of the interest is disclosed.

A member or co-opted member who has disclosed a pecuniary interest at a meeting must not participate (or participate further) in any discussion of the matter; and must not participate in any vote or further vote taken; and must withdraw from the room.

Members are asked to continue to pay regard to the following provisions in the code that *“You must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself”* or *“You must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned.....”*.

Please seek advice from the Monitoring Officer prior to the meeting should you have any doubt about your approach.

List of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

Employment (includes *“any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain”*.), **Sponsorship, Contracts, Land, Licences, Corporate Tenancies, Securities.**

For a full list of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and further Guidance on this matter please see the Guide to the New Code of Conduct and Register of Interests at Members’ conduct guidelines.

<http://intranet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wps/wcm/connect/occ/Insite/Elected+members/> or contact Glenn Watson on **07776 997946** or glenn.watson@oxfordshire.gov.uk for a hard copy of the document.

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, 18 May 2021 at 10.00 am

Spiceball Leisure Centre, Banbury, Oxon



Yvonne Rees
Chief Executive

May 2021

Committee Officer: **Deborah Miller**
Tel: 07920 084239; E-Mail: deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk

In order to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, notice is given that Items 3, 7 and 12 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.

AGENDA

- 1. Election of Chairman for the 2021/22 Council Year**
- 2. Election of Vice-Chairman for the 2021/22 Council Year**
- 3. Apologies for Absence**
- 4. 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. This applies also to items where members have interests by virtue of their membership of a district council in Oxfordshire.

5. Minutes (Pages 1 - 68)

To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 23 March 2021 and 7 April 2021 (CC5) and to receive information arising from them.

6. Constitution Changes To Reflect Return to Physical Meetings (Pages 69 - 72)

Report by the Director of Law & Governance (CC6)

The Government have confirmed that The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 have not been extended to apply to meetings from 7 May onwards. These regulations have allowed the virtual meetings held in the past 12 months.

This report sets out for information proposed temporary changes to the Constitution necessary for the effective running of physical meetings during the restrictions brought about by the corona virus pandemic.

Council is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) **Note the amendments to the Constitution that the Monitoring Officer has made to ensure the safe return to physical meeting whilst covid restrictions remain;**
- (b) **Agree that the Director of Law and Governance in consultation with the Chairman of the Council be authorised to make changes to the meetings process and, as necessary, the Constitution in the light of practical experience of meetings during covid restrictions and in the light of changing circumstances; and**
- (c) **That the position be reviewed before the Council meeting on 14 September 2021.**

7. Officer Scheme of Delegation

Report by the Monitoring Officer (CC7) **REPORT TO FOLLOW**

At its Annual Meeting, Council is required to agree the officer scheme of delegation within the Council's Constitution. The Scheme of Officer Delegation is contained in Part 7.2 of the Council's Constitution. The Scheme itself gives delegated authority to the Head of Paid Service, directors and other chief officers whose titles and/or areas of responsibility are set out in Part 2, Article 13 of the Constitution.

8. Appointments

Members are asked to:

- (a) elect the Leader of the Council;
- (b) note the names, addresses and electoral divisions of the people appointed to the Cabinet by the Leader of the Council for the coming year and their respective portfolios;
- (c) note the Office of the Leader of the Opposition.

At the conclusion of the Council's proceedings all members are asked to remain in their seats in the Council chamber while committees meet for the purpose of electing Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

9. Review of Political Balance (Pages 73 - 76)

Report by the Director of Law & Governance (CC9)

The report reviews the political balance on committees and appoints members to them. (ANNEXES TO FOLLOW).

Council is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) ***to confirm the political balance on committees shown in Annex 2 to the report;***
- (b) ***to appoint to committees the councillors and co-opted members shown in Annex 3, subject to any changes reported at the meeting.***

APPOINTMENTS OF CHAIRMEN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF THE COMMITTEES

- *At the conclusion of the Council's proceedings all members are asked to remain in their seats in the Council Chamber while Committees meet for the purpose of electing their chairmen and deputy chairmen;*
- *The Monitoring Officer will ask the members on each committee to stand in turn and the relevant members are asked to stand/sit as appropriate:*
 - *Audit & Governance Committee (+ 3 sub-committees)*
 - *Planning & Regulation Committee*
 - *Remuneration*
 - *Education Scrutiny Committee*
 - *Performance Scrutiny Committee*
 - *Joint Health & Overview Scrutiny Committee*
- *The Monitoring Officer will seek nominations for Chairman;*
- *The Chairman of each Committee will seek nominations for Deputy Chairman.*

Pre-Meeting Briefing

There will be a pre-meeting briefing on **Monday 17 May 2021 at 12.15 pm** for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Group Leaders and Deputy Group Leaders