

## OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of the meeting held on Tuesday, 5 April 2022 commencing at 10.30 am and finishing at 3.40pm

### **Present:**

Councillor John Howson – in the Chair

### Councillors:

Susanna Pressel	Donna Ford	Calum Miller
Juliette Ash	Andrew Gant	Jane Murphy
Brad Baines	Stefan Gawrysiak	Michael O'Connor
David Bartholomew	Andy Graham	Glynis Phillips
Felix Bloomfield	Kate Gregory	Sally Povolotsky
Liz Brighthouse OBE	Jenny Hannaby	Eddie Reeves
Kevin Bulmer	Damian Haywood	G.A. Reynolds
Nigel Champken-Woods	Charlie Hicks	Judy Roberts
Mark Cherry	Tony Illott	David Rouane
Andrew Coles	Bob Johnston	Geoff Saul
Yvonne Constance OBE	Liz Leffman	Les Sibley
Ian Corkin	Nick Leverton	Nigel Simpson
Imade Edosomwan	Dan Levy	Roz Smith
Duncan Enright	Dr Nathan Ley	Dr Pete Sudbury
Mohamed Fadlalla	Mark Lygo	Bethia Thomas
Neil Fawcett	Kieron Mallon	Michael Waine
Ted Fenton	Ian Middleton	Liam Walker
Nick Field-Johnson	Freddie van Mierlo	Richard Webber

*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.*

### **13/21 MINUTES**

(Agenda Item 1)

The Minutes of the Meeting of 8 February 2022 were amended as follows:-

### **1/22 Minutes**

Councillor Donna Ford added to the list of those present and signed as an accurate record

## **7/22 Oxfordshire County Council and Cherwell District Council Section 113 Agreement**

At the request of Cllr Corkin, the Chair to agree additional wording in the 7<sup>th</sup> paragraph to clarify the future joint working arrangements between the two authorities

and approved and signed as a correct record

### **14/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

(Agenda Item 2)

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bennett, Bearder, Banfield, Fatemian, Hanna and Snowdon.

The Chair reported dispensations for Cllrs Paule and Rooke

### **15/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - SEE GUIDANCE NOTE**

(Agenda Item 3)

Cllrs Bartholomew declared an interest in Item 16 – Motion by Councillor Freddie van Mierlo – as a member of South Oxfordshire District Council – and left the meeting during consideration of this item.

Cllr Rouane declared an interest in Item 18 – Motion by Councillor Bob Johnston – as a member of the Oxford Nature Partnership

### **16/21 OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS**

(Agenda Item 4)

Council received the following communications: -

- 1 A statement by the Chair on the current situation in Ukraine
- 2 Advice from the Corporate Director of Public Health and Wellbeing on Covid precautions
- 3 Information on the appointment of Mark Beard as High Sheriff

The Council then paid tribute to the late Councillor Gill Sanders and observed two minutes' silence in her memory

### **17/21 APPOINTMENTS**

(Agenda Item 5)

Council noted the following appointments

## **Remuneration Committee**

Cllr Corkin to replace Cllr Murphy

## **Shadow Cabinet**

Deputy Leader – Cllr Corkin to replace Cllr Murphy

Children, Education and Young People's Services – Cllr Simpson to replace Cllr Bloomfield

Adult Social Care – Cllr Leverton to replace Cllr Murphy

Public Health and Equalities – Cllr Mallon to replace Cllr Leverton

Travel and Development Strategy – Cllr Snowdon to replace Cllr Bulmer

## **18/21 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS**

(Agenda Item 6)

Council received the following Petition and Public Address

### **Public Address**

Ian Hill addressed the Council in support of Agenda Item 13 (Future Management of the Charlotte Coxe Trust) speaking on behalf of Watlington Parish Council. He said that the Parish Council supported the proposals in the report and the measures that would be needed to bring the building at 33 High Street, Watlington, back into use.

Anni Byard addressed the Council regarding Agenda Item 14 (Motion by Cllr Sally Povolotsky). She was pleased to see the motion had been amended from that proposed previously. She said there was no evidence that trans gender people are at any more disadvantage than any other group with protected characteristics when accessing services. She said that the law affords transgender people with the same rights as any other section of society. She asked whether the Council could define transphobia. While she supported the Council providing equal access to all groups, she said this should not involve the removal of single sex spaces.

Hannah Massey addressed the Council in support of Agenda 14 (Motion by Cllr Sally Povolotsky). She referred to campaigns and propaganda to encourage transphobia in society including those in the media. She referred to medical and psychological treatments that transgender people had to undergo. She said there was no place for transphobia in society and thanked members of the Council for what she hoped would be their support

Chrissie Chevasuut addressed the Council in support of Agenda 14 (Motion by Cllr Sally Povolotsky) said she worked for St Columba URC Church in Oxford on a project supporting the trans gender and non-binary community.

She explained her own experience as a transgender person. She gave examples where transgender people had died in tragic circumstances and referred to schools which had refused to accept the identity of transgender pupils. She said that trans-hate crime had risen by 300% in the last five years. In early 2020 the Christian group Safe Schools Alliance forced the County Council to withdraw the trans-affirming guidelines and resources in schools. It was important that transgender people had the support of local government

Paul Boone addressed the Council in support of Item 16 (Motion by Councillor Freddie van Mierlo) He said he represented the Chalgrove Airfield Action Group. He said that the site was isolated which relied on car transport. There were no rail services or plans for a viable bus service. He said that there were proposals for bypasses and inadequate cycle routes, insufficient employment opportunities. The plans to use the airfield for ejector seat tests would result in carbon footprint and safety implications for the nearby housing and school. The proposals did not meet the NPPF sustainability tests, climate emergency or OCC climate reduction targets and urged members to support the motion on the agenda.

A statement by Debbie Proctor regarding Item 16 (Motion by Cllr Freddie van Mierlo) was read as she was unable to connect to the meeting via Teams. The statement referred to announcements by Homes England on their plans for the Chalgrove Airfield site, and representations by the County Council for good cycle routes and active travel links. She said that any infrastructure would only support journeys by car which would mean it would be less likely that the County Council would meet its carbon reduction targets.

### **Petition**

Linda Goodhead presented a petition regarding the withdrawal of the Stagecoach S8 and Oxford Bus Company X13 bus services at Hinksey Hill and requesting that one bus service per hour be reinstated

## **19/21 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

(Agenda Item 8)

16 Questions with Notice were asked. Details of the questions and answers and supplementary questions and answers will be set out in the Annex to the minutes.

In relation to question 1, (Question from Cllr Yvonne Constance to Cllr Tim Bearder), Cllr Enright (on behalf of Cllr Bearder who was absent) said that a written response would be provided on how parishes could request the introduction of 20 mph limits via the Council's website

In relation to question 2 (Cllr Eddie Reeves to Cllr Liz Leffman) Cllr Leffman reiterated that the 4 complaints against the Cabinet member for Travel and Development Strategy were all on the same issue which had been resolved

In relation to question 3, (Cllr Eddie Reeves to Cllr Liz Leffman) Cllr Leffman said that the future governance arrangements in Oxfordshire would be a matter of discussion between the County, City and district councils and it was not appropriate for her to state her personal preference

In relation to question 4, (Cllr Eddie Reeves to Cllr Liz Leffman) Cllr Leffman said that the Liberal Democrats had proposed a greater number of new homes than the Conservatives but that the priority was to provide more affordable homes, and this was to be considered by all authorities and agencies in the County

In relation to question 6 (Cllr Les Sibley to Cllr Duncan Enright) Cllr Enright referred to the need to re-examine methods of transportation in light of the climate emergency and to the significant challenges in reducing carbon emissions.

In relation to question 7 (Cllr Kieron Mallon to Cllr Neil Fawcett), Cllr Fawcett explained the consultation arrangements for members of the Fire and Rescue service and that the zero emissions zone should not prevent these staff from carrying out their jobs. Cllr Hannaby confirmed that similar assurances would be given to adult care staff.

In relation to question 8, (Cllr Donna Ford to Cllr Duncan Enright), Cllr Enright undertook to provide a further written response to all members following consultation with officers

In relation to question 9 (Cllr Donna Ford to Cllr Neil Fawcett), Cllr Fawcett said that he was not aware of any incidents of harassment but that he would refer to officers to check that was the case and confirm the position in a written response

In relation to question 10 (Cllr Donna Ford to Cllr Glynis Phillips), Cllr Phillips reiterated that it was necessary to balance the competing views received in consultation responses

In relation to question 11 (Cllr Nick Field-Johnson to Cllr Tim Bearder), Cllr Enright (in Cllr Bearder's absence) said the results of the trial of GiPave would be reported to members in due course

In relation to question 12 (Cllr Stefan Gawrysiak to Cllr Calum Miller), Cllr Miller said that officers were in the process of providing a full overview of the assets of the County Council and undertook to provide a further written answer on the plans for the repair of various council properties

In relation to question 14 (Cllr Ian Corbin to Cllr Liz Brighthouse), Cllr Brighthouse said that the priority of the Council and, in particular, social

workers, were to ensure that children were kept as close to their families as possible

In relation to question 15 (Cllr Sally Povolotsky to Cllr Liz Brighthouse), Cllr Brighthouse reminded members that the Council was not responsible for direct provision of childcare places

## **20/21 DISPENSATION FROM ATTENDING MEETINGS**

(Agenda Item 9)

Council had before it a report by the Director of Law and Governance recommending an extension to the dispensation granted to Cllr Alison Rooke

**RESOLVED** (on a motion from Cllr Leffman and seconded by Cllr Brighthouse and carried nem con) to:-

a) approve an extension of the dispensation for Cllr Alison Rooke from the statutory requirement to attend a meeting of the Council within a six-month period from the last noted attendance.

b) approve that the dispensation last up to and including 30 September 2022

## **21/21 REPORT OF THE CABINET**

(Agenda Item 10)

Council received the report of the Cabinet.

In relation to paragraph 1 of the report (Question from Cllr Andy Graham to Cllr Liz Leffman) Cllr Leffman said that the lessons learned during the pandemic would help this Council, working with other local authorities and partners, to deliver support to refugees from Ukraine and she called on the government to provide more support in this work.

In relation to paragraph 3 of the report (Question from Cllr Andy Graham to Cllr Liz Brighthouse) Cllr Brighthouse updated the Council on progress with youth offer development.

In relation to paragraph of the report (Question from Cllr Freddie van Mierlo to Cllr Liz Brighthouse) Cllr Brighthouse said that she had taken into account the needs of children in endorsing the Council's policy transport provision for children with special educational needs.

In relation to paragraph 5 of the report (Question from Cllr Ted Fenton to Cllr Jenny Hannaby) Cllr Hannaby said that the wording of the report was correct

In relation to paragraph 5 of the report (Question from Cllr Nick Leverton to Cllr Jenny Hannaby) Cllr Hannaby confirmed that the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) would stay in place.

In relation to paragraph 7 of the report (Cllr Yvonne Constance to Cllr Pete Sudbury) Cllr Sudbury confirmed that the final response had been submitted and shared her concerns about the process.

In relation to paragraph 7 of the report (Cllr Sally Povolotsky to Cllr Pete Sudbury) Cllr Sudbury agreed that digital exclusion was an important factor to consider in the conduct of consultations to ensure that all residents were able to respond effectively

In relation to paragraph 12 of the report (Cllr Eddie Reeves to Cllr Glynis Phillips) Cllr Phillips confirmed that all County Council staff not located in the workplace were either working from home or on sick leave

In relation to paragraph 14 of the report (Cllr Ian Middleton to Cllr Calum Miller), Cllr Miller said that in view of the Council's financial contingency measures, he was confident that the Council could continue to maintain essential services. He referred to the work with district partners in supporting those in financial need and called on the Government to provide more help to households in the difficult financial climate

In relation to paragraph 14 of the report (Cllr David Bartholomew to Cllr Calum Miller), Cllr Miller reiterated his previous response that the Council would continue to deliver services despite inflationary pressures

In relation to paragraph 20 of the report (Cllr Dan Levy to Cllr Duncan Enright, on behalf of Cllr Tim Bearder) Cllr Enright confirmed the assurances made by Cllr Bearder at Cabinet regarding parking in West Oxfordshire

In relation to paragraph 18 of the report (Cllr Andrew Gant to Cllr Duncan Enright, on behalf of Councillor Tim Bearder) Cllr Enright agreed that there was a need to ensure connectivity of Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) sites and the Council will be considering much better protected active travel routes

In relation to a question from Cllr Kieron Mallon, Cllr Duncan Enright, on behalf of Cllr Tim Bearder, said that over 70 parishes had applied to be considered for 20 mph speed limit zones and he would ask Cllr Bearder to provide a written update on progress with the scheme, and on the position in Banbury in particular

In relation to paragraph 20 of the report (Cllr Andrew Coles to Cllr Duncan Enright, on behalf of Cllr Tim Bearder), Cllr Enright said that the County Council would work very closely with West Oxfordshire District Council on continuing to provide a seamless parking service to all residents

In relation to paragraph 20 of the report (Cllr Liam Walker to Cllr Duncan Enright), assured members that the Council would not consider introducing charges for on street parking except in cases where communities had requested it.

In relation to a question from Cllr Freddie van Mierlo, Cllr Enright said that there were a number of groups which would be consulted on the future strategy for public transport in the County

In response to a question from Cllr Nick Field-Johnson to Cllr Enright, on behalf of Councillor Tim Bearder, Cllr Enright said he would ask Cllr Bearder to provide a written reply on the progress with the introduction of 20mph speed limit zones

In relation to paragraph 25 of the report, Cllr Richard Webber to Cllr Duncan Enright, Cllr Enright updated the Council on the establishment of the Cabinet Advisory Group (CSAG) on HIF1

In relation to paragraph 25 of the report (Cllr David Rouane to Cllr Duncan Enright), Cllr Enright said he would provide an update to the Council on progress with development of the Didcot Transport master plan

In relation to paragraph 18 of the report, (Cllr Ian Middleton to Cllr Duncan Enright), Cllr Enright explained the options for funding, and referred into the priorities for segregated cycle routes

In relation to paragraph 27, (Cllr David Bartholomew to Cllr Calum Miller), Cllr Miller said there was no impact on the Council's financial savings following the change to the structures of the County Council and Cherwell District Council

## **22/21 APPOINTMENT TO THE BERKSHIRE, OXFORDSHIRE AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

(Agenda Item 11)

Council had before it a report by the Director of Law and Governance recommending the appointment of representatives to the Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

**RESOLVED** (on a motion by the Chair and seconded by the Vice-Chair and carried nem con) to appoint the following councillors to the Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee:-

### **Liberal Democrat / Green Alliance**

Cllrs Hanna, Ley and van Mierlo



**Conservative / Independent Alliance**

Cllrs Leverton and Champken - Woods

**Labour and Cooperative**

Cllrs Edosomwan and Haywood

**23/21 CODE OF CONDUCT**

(Agenda Item 12)

Council had before it a report by the Director of Law and Governance recommending the adoption of a revised Code of Conduct in accordance with Section 27(2) of the Localism Act 2011

Councillor Glynis Phillips, Cabinet member for Corporate Services, presented the report.

Councillor Kate Gregory spoke regarding the public's perception of councillors and her concerns about some councillors' behaviour towards other members. She emphasised the importance of councillors treating each with respect, particularly on social media. She proposed that a protocol on the use of social media by councillors be added to the code of conduct.

A number of members then spoke on recent incidents of abusive language and incorrect information posted on social media and welcomed the introduction of the revised code of practice. They suggested that training for members should be developed to cover these issues.

Councillor Phillips welcomed the comments made by members and agreed that it was appropriate for a separate social media protocol to be included within the code.

**RESOLVED** (on a motion by Cllr Glynis Phillips and seconded by Cllr Roz Smith and carried nem con) to:-

1. adopt the revised Councillors' Code of Conduct at Appendix 1 for implementation from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022
2. ask the Audit and Governance Committee to consider a separate social media protocol to be incorporated in the Code of Conduct and submit recommendations to the Council in due course

**24/21 FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF THE CHARLOTTE COXE TRUST**

(Agenda Item 13)

Council had before it a report from the Director of Law and Governance recommending the establishment of a Committee of Council to take responsibility for all decision making in connection with the Charlotte Coxe Trust.

Cllr Liz Leffman, Leader of the Council, presented the report and thanked the Director of Law and Governance and the Legal services Team for their hard work in making the arrangements for the establishment of the Committee.

Cllr Freddie van Mierlo, the local councillor for Watlington, welcomed the proposals for bringing the property back to use.

**RESOLVED** (on a motion from Cllr Leffman and seconded by Cllr van Mierlo and carried nem con) to:-

- a) Establish a Committee of Council to which responsibility for all decision making in connection with the Charlotte Coxe Trust is delegated, which is to be known as the "Charlotte Coxe Trust Committee".
- b) Ask the Group Leaders to inform the Director of Law and Governance of the five nominations of members to serve on the Committee

## **25/21 MOTION BY COUNCILLOR SALLY POVOLOTSKY**

(Agenda Item 14)

Cllr Sally Povolotsky moved and Cllr Duncan Haywood seconded the following motion:-

Transgender and non-binary people face significant disadvantage in society, vulnerable to violence, isolation, homelessness, and lack of access to suitable healthcare provision.

Council believes that:

1. All UK law should clearly recognise that trans rights are human rights.
2. Transgender and non-binary people deserve respect and autonomy.
3. It's therefore our duty as community leaders who seek to create an open and tolerant society to speak out against transphobia and discrimination in all its forms.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. Ensure that all Council services, both directly provided and through partners, are fully accessible, regardless of their sexuality or gender identity.

2. State publicly that trans rights are human rights and affirm the legal rights of all protected groups under the 2010 equality act.
3. To work with healthcare providers to remove barriers transgender and non-binary people face when accessing medical care.
4. Work to provide at least one gender inclusive bathroom (accessible) where possible in every public building owned or operated by the Council.
5. Ensure that the Council's constitution, policies, forms, and all internal and external communications are;
  - a. Reducing the amount of gender information collected unless absolutely necessary,
  - b. Respecting the pronouns individuals use for themselves,
  - c. Providing opportunities for self-identification beyond the binary "man" and "woman".
6. Encourage and support a network of informal LGBTQIA+ allies across officers and councillors.
7. Support and embrace the development of a LGBTQIA+ guidance within OCC for employees and contractors."

Councillor Eddie Reeves moved and Councillor Kieron Mallon seconded the following amendment to the Motion as shown in bold italics and strikethrough below

"Transgender and non-binary people face significant disadvantage in society and can be, vulnerable to violence, isolation, homelessness, and lack of ~~access to suitable~~ healthcare provision.

Council believes that:

1. All ~~The~~ UK law ~~should clearly~~ *leads the world in* recognising that trans *and other important minority* rights are human rights.
2. Transgender and non-binary people deserve respect ~~and autonomy~~.
3. It ~~is therefore~~ our duty as community leaders ~~who seek to create an open and tolerant society~~ to speak out against transphobia, misogyny and all forms of discrimination ~~in all its forms~~.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. Ensure that all Council services ~~\_, both directly provided and through partners,~~ are fully accessible compliant with the Equality Act 2010, regardless of ~~their sexuality or gender~~ residents' identity.
2. State publicly that trans and women's rights are human rights and affirm the legal rights of all protected groups under the ~~2010 e~~ Equality Act 2010.
3. To work with healthcare providers to remove barriers transgender and non-binary people face when accessing medical care.
4. Work to provide at least one gender inclusive and one women's only bathroom ~~(accessible)~~ where possible in every public building owned or operated by the Council.
5. Ensure that the Council's constitution, policies, forms, and all internal and external communications ~~are~~ seek to:
  - a. ~~Reducing~~ Reduce the amount of gender information collected unless absolutely necessary,
  - b. ~~Respecting~~ the pronouns individuals use for themselves without requiring that they be declared,
  - c. ~~Providing~~ Provide opportunities for self-identification beyond the binary "man" and "woman", whilst respecting those who prefer to do so-
6. Encourage and support a network of informal LGBTQIA+ allies across officers and councillors.
7. Support and embrace the development of a LGBTQIA+ guidance within OCC for employees and contractors."

Following debate, the amendment by Councillor Eddie Reeves was put to the vote and was lost by 33 votes to 21

The substantive motion was carried with 36 votes in favour, 17 abstentions and no votes against.

Following receiving advice from the Monitoring Officer that under Council Procedure Rule 13.5.1 the Motion was an executive function, Council referred the Motion to Cabinet for consideration.

**RESOLVED** (by 33 votes to 21):-

Transgender and non-binary people face significant disadvantage in society, vulnerable to violence, isolation, homelessness, and lack of access to suitable healthcare provision.

Council believes that:

1. All UK law should clearly recognise that trans rights are human rights.
2. Transgender and non-binary people deserve respect and autonomy.
3. It's therefore our duty as community leaders who seek to create an open and tolerant society to speak out against transphobia and discrimination in all its forms.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. Ensure that all Council services, both directly provided and through partners, are fully accessible, regardless of their sexuality or gender identity.
2. State publicly that trans rights are human rights and affirm the legal rights of all protected groups under the 2010 equality act.
3. To work with healthcare providers to remove barriers transgender and non-binary people face when accessing medical care.
4. Work to provide at least one gender inclusive bathroom (accessible) where possible in every public building owned or operated by the Council.
5. Ensure that the Council's constitution, policies, forms, and all internal and external communications are;
  - a. Reducing the amount of gender information collected unless absolutely necessary,
  - b. Respecting the pronouns individuals use for themselves,
  - c. Providing opportunities for self-identification beyond the binary "man" and "woman".
6. Encourage and support a network of informal LGBTQIA+ allies across officers and councillors.
7. Support and embrace the development of a LGBTQIA+ guidance within OCC for employees and contractors."

**26/21 MOTION BY COUNCILLOR DONNA FORD**

(Agenda Item 15)

With the consent of Council, Councillor Sally Povolotsky moved and Councillor Jane Murphy seconded the following motion amended by the suggestion of Councillor Roz Smith as follows:

This council is committed to ensuring that active travel is inclusive all year round.

In accordance with its statutory responsibilities this council commits to maintaining Oxfordshire's publicly maintainable footpaths and cycle ways thereby making active travel safer and encouraging greater use

This council resolves to ensure that wherever possible all overgrowth is cleared from publicly maintainable rights of way including footpaths and cycleways. When budgets allow this council resolves to installing additional suitable lighting along active travel routes where anti-social behaviour has been reported.

This council agrees to engage actively with stakeholders, including Network Rail, landowners and businesses to ensure that they comply more fully with their obligations to clear vegetation on private land and keep public rights of way open.

Following debate, the motion as amended was put to the vote and was carried by 50 votes to 0 (unanimously)

**RESOLVED** (unanimously):-

This council is committed to ensuring that active travel is inclusive all year round.

In accordance with its statutory responsibilities this council commits to maintaining Oxfordshire's publicly maintainable footpaths and cycle ways thereby making active travel safer and encouraging greater use

This council resolves to ensure that wherever possible all overgrowth is cleared from publicly maintainable rights of way including footpaths and cycleways. When budgets allow this council resolves to installing additional suitable lighting along active travel routes where anti-social behaviour has been reported.

This council agrees to engage actively with stakeholders, including Network Rail, landowners and businesses to ensure that they comply more fully with their obligations to clear vegetation on private land and keep public rights of way open.

**27/21 MOTION BY COUNCILLOR FREDDIE VAN MIERLO**

(Agenda Item 16)

With the consent of Council, Councillor Freddie van Mierlo moved and Councillor Pete Sudbury seconded the following motion amended by the suggestion of Councillor Robin Bennett as follows:

In 2020, South Oxfordshire District Council was directed by the then Conservative Secretary of State for Housing, Robert Jenrick MP, to progress a local plan through examination and adoption that included Chalgrove Airfield as an allocated site. **At the time, it was argued that it should not be included due to its highly rural location and the distances required to travel by future residents to employment centres by private motor vehicle.**

In November 2021, Homes England restated its desire to develop Chalgrove Airfield with 3,000 new homes, despite having previously withdrawn its outline planning application, following significant concerns as to the suitability and safety of the site being raised by the Civil Aviation Authority.

~~The County Council notes that a massive and unprecedented package of infrastructure would be required to serve new dwellings in this remote and rural location, with no rail connection and uncertainty around viability of bus services. The construction of a large, car dependent community, distant from major employment centres and in a rural setting, runs contrary to the County Council's goals on climate emergency and biodiversity.~~

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~~Without prejudice to the County Council's role as statutory consultee in the planning application process, the Council expresses reservations in the strongest terms as to the suitability of the site and its compatibility with climate change goals.~~

**Various reports, most recently "Garden Villages and Garden Towns: Visions and Reality" by Transport for New Homes have repeatedly highlighted the failure nationally to prevent car-dependent developments, despite clear Government guidance on this topic.**

**This Council notes the parallel failure, nationally and locally to make any significant reduction in transport emissions over the past 20 years and that 90% of Oxfordshire's road transport emissions come from rural transport**

**The Leader is requested to write to Homes England and the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) & the Department for Transport to question how this development aligns with**

**the stated environmental aims of the government and inform the minister as to how as a county we are working towards sustainable communities and reduced, not increased, car dependency.**

Following debate the motion amended was put to the vote and lost (23 votes to 18)

**28/21 MOTION BY COUNCILLOR KATE GREGORY**  
(Agenda Item 17)

With the consent of Council, this item was withdrawn from the agenda

**29/21 MOTION BY COUNCILLOR BOB JOHNSTON**  
(Agenda Item 18)

The time being 3.40 pm, this Motion was considered dropped in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13.5.8

**30/21 MOTION BY COUNCILLOR EDDIE REEVES**  
(Agenda Item 19)

The time being 3.40 pm, this Motion was considered dropped in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13.5.8

**31/21 MOTION BY COUNCILLOR NIGEL SIMPSON**  
(Agenda Item 20)

The time being 3.40 pm, this Motion was considered dropped in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13.5.8

**32/21 MOTION BY COUNCILLOR IAN CORKIN**  
(Agenda Item 21)

The time being 3.40 pm, this Motion was considered dropped in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13.5.8

**33/21 MOTION BY COUNCILLOR LIAM WALKER**  
(Agenda Item 22)

The time being 3.40 pm, this Motion was considered dropped in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13.5.8

..... in the Chair

Date of signing .....



