

Notice of a Meeting

Growth & Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee **Wednesday, 25 May 2011 at 9.30 am** **County Hall**

Membership

Councillors:

Roger Belson	David Nimmo-Smith	David Turner
Michael Gibbard	Anne Purse	Nicholas Turner
Pete Handley	Keith Strangwood	
Charles Mathew	John Tanner	

Notes:

Date of next meeting: 14 July 2011

What does this Committee review or scrutinise?

- Transport; highways; traffic and parking; road safety (those areas not covered by the Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee); public passenger transport
- Regional planning and local development framework; economic development; waste management; environmental management; archaeology; access to the countryside; tourism
- The planning, highways, rights of way and commons/village greens functions of the Planning & Regulation Committee

How can I have my say?

We welcome the views of the community on any issues in relation to the responsibilities of this Committee. Members of the public may ask to speak on any item on the agenda or may suggest matters which they would like the Committee to look at. **Requests to speak must be submitted to the Committee Officer below no later than 9 am on the working day before the date of the meeting.**

For more information about this Committee please contact:

Chairman	-	Councillor David Nimmo-Smith E.Mail: david.nimmo-smith@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Committee Officer	-	Liz Johnston, Tel: (01865) 328280 liz.johnston@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Peter G. Clark
County Solicitor

May 2011

About the County Council

The Oxfordshire County Council is made up of 74 councillors who are democratically elected every four years. The Council provides a range of services to Oxfordshire's 630,000 residents. These include:

schools	social & health care	libraries and museums
the fire service	roads	trading standards
land use	transport planning	waste management

Each year the Council manages £0.9 billion of public money in providing these services. Most decisions are taken by a Cabinet of 9 Councillors, which makes decisions about service priorities and spending. Some decisions will now be delegated to individual members of the Cabinet.

About Scrutiny

Scrutiny is about:

- Providing a challenge to the Cabinet
- Examining how well the Cabinet and the Authority are performing
- Influencing the Cabinet on decisions that affect local people
- Helping the Cabinet to develop Council policies
- Representing the community in Council decision making
- Promoting joined up working across the authority's work and with partners

Scrutiny is NOT about:

- Making day to day service decisions
- Investigating individual complaints.

What does this Committee do?

The Committee meets up to 6 times a year or more. It develops a work programme, which lists the issues it plans to investigate. These investigations can include whole committee investigations undertaken during the meeting, or reviews by a panel of members doing research and talking to lots of people outside of the meeting. Once an investigation is completed the Committee provides its advice to the Cabinet, the full Council or other scrutiny committees. Meetings are open to the public and all reports are available to the public unless exempt or confidential, when the items would be considered in closed session

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, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting

A hearing loop is available at County Hall.

AGENDA

1. **Election of Chairman for the 2011/12 Council Year**
2. **Election of Deputy Chairman for the 2011/12 Council Year**
3. **Apologies for Absence and Temporary Appointments**
4. **Declarations of Interest - see guidance note on the back page**
5. **Minutes** (Pages 1 - 10)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 17 February 2011 (**GI5a**) and Wednesday 9 March 2011 (**GI5b**) and to note for information any matters arising on them.

6. **Speaking to or petitioning the Committee**

SCRUTINY MATTERS

7. **Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment** (Pages 11 - 50)
9.45

The Committee are invited to consider the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (**GI7a**) and provide feedback to Officers before submission to the Environment Agency.

Contact Officer: Chris Brown
Oxfordshire Strategic Flooding Group Coordinator
Chris.Brown@oxfordshire.gov.uk

8. **Community Transport**
10.15

The Committee are invited to

- i. Receive an update on current Community Transport provision
- ii. Consider how Members should be involved in future Community Transport policy development

Contact Officer: Steve Howell
Deputy Director (Transport)
01865 815845

9. Countryside Service Briefing

10.45

The Committee are invited to receive a briefing on the Countryside Service.

Contact Officer: Vicky Fletcher
Natural Environment Manager
01865 815420

10. Resilience to Severe Weather (Pages 51 - 54)

11.15

The Committee is invited to comment on a report (**GI10**) on managing county council assets and services to ensure future resilience to severe weather.

Contact Officer: Susie Ohlenschlager
Adaptation and Partnership Manager
01865 810148

11. G&I Forward Plan for 2011/12

11.45

The Committee are invited to comment on the draft Forward Plan for 2011/12.

Contact Officer: Liz Johnston
Scrutiny Officer
01865 328280

12.00 Close of Meeting

Declarations of Interest

This note briefly summarises the position on interests which you must declare at the meeting. Please refer to the Members' Code of Conduct in Part 9.1 of the Constitution for a fuller description.

The duty to declare ...

You must always declare any "personal interest" in a matter under consideration, ie where the matter affects (either positively or negatively):

- (i) any of the financial and other interests which you are required to notify for inclusion in the statutory Register of Members' Interests; or
- (ii) your own well-being or financial position or that of any member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association more than it would affect other people in the County.

Whose interests are included ...

"Member of your family" in (ii) above includes spouses and partners and other relatives' spouses and partners, and extends to the employment and investment interests of relatives and friends and their involvement in other bodies of various descriptions. For a full list of what "relative" covers, please see the Code of Conduct.

When and what to declare ...

The best time to make any declaration is under the agenda item "Declarations of Interest". Under the Code you must declare not later than at the start of the item concerned or (if different) as soon as the interest "becomes apparent".

In making a declaration you must state the nature of the interest.

Taking part if you have an interest ...

Having made a declaration you may still take part in the debate and vote on the matter unless your personal interest is also a "prejudicial" interest.

"Prejudicial" interests ...

A prejudicial interest is one which a member of the public knowing the relevant facts would think so significant as to be likely to affect your judgment of the public interest.

What to do if your interest is prejudicial ...

If you have a prejudicial interest in any matter under consideration, you may remain in the room but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter under consideration, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise.

Exceptions ...

There are a few circumstances where you may regard yourself as not having a prejudicial interest or may participate even though you may have one. These, together with other rules about participation in the case of a prejudicial interest, are set out in paragraphs 10 – 12 of the Code.

Seeking Advice ...

It is your responsibility to decide whether any of these provisions apply to you in particular circumstances, but you may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer before the meeting.