

County Council

4 May 2020

Schedule of Business

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – 04 MAY 2020

SCHEDULE OF BUSINESS

VIRTUAL MEETING

AGENDA ITEM	PAGE NO.	MAXIMUM DURATION	APPROX START TIME TIME LIMIT PER DEBATE	SUBJECT	PROPOSALS (M = Motion; SEC = Seconder; Am = Amendment S = Statement; Q = Question; REC = Recommendation to be determined)
1.	1		10.30	<p>Minutes</p> <p>Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 February 2020 (CC1).</p> <p>Members are asked to not the following corrections to the Minutes:</p> <p>Page 6, Councillor Ian Middleton, remove SODC and substitute with CDC.</p> <p>Page 12 – remove Mallon and add Webber to those voting against in the named vote.</p>	

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2.	1	5 mins	10.35	Apologies for Absence	
3.	2	5 mins	10.40	Declarations of Interest	
4.	2	15 mins	10.45	Chairman's Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID 19 (Coronavirus) • Nick Graham 	
5.	2	5 mins	11.00	Petitions and Public Address Please see Annex 2	Petition Mr George Lambrick, Chairman, The Rollright Trust, to present a petition of some 32,000 signatures concerning traffic on the road that passes the Rollright Stones in North Oxfordshire.

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6.	2	10 mins	11.05	Constitution Changes Please see Annex 1	(M) Sibley (SEC) Howson
7.	3	10 mins	11.15	Appointment of Monitoring Officer on an Interim basis	(M) Sibley (SEC) Howson
8.	3	10 mins	11.25	Members' Allowances Scheme 2020/21	(M) Sibley (SEC) Howson
9.	3	15 mins	11.35	Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Review of Oxfordshire Statement of Community Involvement	(M) Constance (SEC) John Sanders S Johnston

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10.	4.		11.50	Dispensations	(M) (SEC)

COUNCIL – 4 MAY 2020

CONSTITUTION CHANGES

Report by Director of Law & Governance

ERRATUM

Introduction

There are a number of corrections and clarifications to the report and Annexes to this report.

Recommendation

Recommendation (b) is corrected to reflect the recommendation of officers that the Annual General Meeting be postponed. For ease the full corrected recommendation is set out below:

Council is RECOMMENDED to:

- (a) Note the amendments set out in the Annex that the Monitoring Officer has made following publication of the Regulations to give effect to the principles of open decision making and public engagement;**
- (b) Agree that the Annual General Meeting be postponed;**
- (c) Note the emergency powers set out at Annex 3;**
- (d) Agree that the Director of Law and Governance in consultation with the Chairman of the Council be authorised to make minor changes to the process and, as necessary, the Constitution in the light of practical experience of virtual working.**

Motions

The intention was that the decision not to accept motions at the Council meeting on 4 May would be a temporary one and that it would be reviewed at each subsequent meeting with the intention that motions be allowed as soon as practicably possible. Rule 6 in the Virtual Meetings Procedure Rules is amended to reflect this clarification:

Rule 6

Where Full Council meetings are held virtually the provision for members to submit a Motion will be disapplied temporarily with a review before each subsequent meeting.

Virtual Meetings Procedure Rules

Reference to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board in Rule 3.2 to be corrected to refer to Performance Scrutiny Committee.

Appendix 1 to the Virtual Meetings Procedure Rules

For clarity reference to the 'removal' of a provision in Appendix 1 should be read as a disapplication for the period that the Virtual Meetings Procedures Rules are in effect. The Appendix will be kept under review and will be amended as necessary following the reviews referred to in the Virtual Meetings Procedure Rules.

ROLLRIGHT TRUST: A PETITION TO OXFORDSHIRE AND WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILS FOR TRAFFIC CALMING AT THE ROLLRIGHT STONES.

This petition is to ask this Council to work with Warwickshire to adopt traffic calming measures at The Rollright Stones and to rule out using or developing the road they straddle as a Chipping Norton bypass.

The Stones are in state care, among the nation's top 450 heritage sites. The road follows the Oxfordshire Warwickshire boundary, passing within 7 metres of the King's Men stone circle in Oxfordshire, and 30 metres of the King Stone in Warwickshire. At only 5 metres wide, there is barely room for two HGVs to pass. Warwickshire is the highways authority for the section at the Stones; Oxfordshire for the section to the west.

There are long-standing and growing concerns about traffic levels and speed, particularly given increasing visitor numbers including primary schools. Insufficient parking provision causes significant congestion. The junctions immediately to the west are notoriously dangerous.

There have been recurrent suggestions to upgrade the road to relieve Chipping Norton, most recently at your meeting on November 5th. This is despite formal options appraisals repeatedly rejecting it as unrealistic.

Even if a 'bypass' was not actively promoted, closing Chipping Norton to HGVs would risk increasing HGV traffic here.

There is also much concern about a current minerals application which would increase HGV traffic.

Our petition states

‘Whilst we understand the difficult HGV traffic and air quality issues in Chipping Norton, the Rollright Road is entirely unfit for HGV traffic, or for upgrading to a full trunk road....

‘..The Local Transport Plan is committed to “*protecting our environmental and heritage assets, and supporting the health and wellbeing of residents.*”

‘...Rather than encouraging more HGV traffic passing through the Stones – whether directly or inadvertently – it should be actively discouraged....’

and it requests that

‘...Our local Councils act positively with strategic foresight to protect residents and the environment.’

The total number of signatories was almost **32,000**.

All **124** UK postcode areas are represented, from **11** signatories in Shetland to over **3,000** in Oxfordshire.

Over **9,700** are from the six adjacent postcode Areas.

1,600 are from the four immediately adjacent Districts (like Chipping Norton).

In the light of this massive support, we request you commit your council to actively help reduce not increase traffic at the Rollright Stones; and in the next few months to meet with the Rollright Trust, Warwickshire and the two parish councils concerned to plan the way forward. The steps needed are to:

- review traffic calming options;
- develop a shortlist of measures, costs and potential sources of funding;
- prepare a traffic calming action plan; and
- implement it.

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Protect the ancient Rollright Stones from road expansion

To: Oxfordshire & Warwickshire County Councils

At a recent meeting of Oxfordshire County Council, the cabinet member responsible for transport endorsed the idea of re-routing HGV traffic from Chipping Norton along the Rollright Road. We call on you to take the initiative to rule out immediately upgrading the road through the Rollright Stones for HGVs, but also to initiate traffic calming measures and ban non-local HGVs from that road.

Why is this important?

The Rollright Stones have stood high on the boundary between what is now Oxfordshire and Warwickshire for more than five and a half thousand years.

Today they remain an important landmark and a place of gentle pilgrimage for many people seeking both a spiritual connection with our landscape and a place of quiet enjoyment and thoughtfulness.

The peace of the Rollright stones is now under threat from proposals to turn the quiet road that runs beside it into a major route for Heavy Goods Vehicles to bypass Chipping Norton. We need your support to convince local planners to think again and to protect the peace of the Stones now and in the future.

Visit <https://www.rollrightstones.co.uk> to learn more about this magnificent monument but please, sign this petition to protect them NOW!

PETITION:

Whilst we understand the context of addressing the HGV traffic and air quality issues in Chipping Norton, the Rollright Road is a narrow C road entirely unfit for HGV traffic, or for upgrading to a full trunk road. The option has been examined on various occasions over the last twelve years, and even without fully considering the heritage, cultural and landscape implications, it has been dismissed – most recently in 2016 concluding “this option should not be pursued for further investigation.”

Oxfordshire’s Local Transport Plan 4, West Oxfordshire’s Local Plan, the Chipping Norton Neighbourhood Plan and the DEFRA-approved Chipping Norton Air Quality Action Plan ALL propose that HGVs (other than for local purposes) should be banned from the centre of Chipping Norton and the A44 de-primed with HGVs being encouraged to use the A40 instead. Furthermore, Goal 1 of the Oxfordshire Local Transport Plan states that “We will work to ensure that the transport network supports sustainable economic and housing growth in the county, whilst protecting our environmental and heritage assets, and supporting the health and wellbeing of residents.”

We are very concerned that without proactive management a significant increase in HGVs would arise using Rollright Road as a rat-run between the A44 and A344. The road passes within only 7m of the Kings Men stone circle and 30m from the King Stone. Part of the heritage and cultural value of the Stones is that in addition to c.20,000 visitors annually they are increasingly visited by school parties of 30-60 (sometimes up to 90) 7- and 8-year olds who have to cross the road. At 5m wide the road only just fits two passing HGVs, and the nearby blind crossroads at Tollhouse Cottage is notoriously dangerous. Rather than encouraging more HGV traffic passing through the Stones – whether directly or inadvertently – it should be actively discouraged.

We are concerned for the safety of people visiting the Stones, for local residents affected by inappropriate and reckless road use, as well as for the preservation of the Stones as a major cultural asset. The Rollright Trust has dedicated and very experienced trustees who have developed a very highly respected approach to managing the Stones and safeguarding them for generations to come, not just as a relic from ancient times. We hope our local Councils share this sense of responsibility and will act positively with strategic foresight to protect residents and the environment.

By Email to Oxfordshire and Warwickshire Councils

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