

County Council

5 November 2013

Agenda

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 Rachel Dunn on (01865) 815279 or Rachel.dunn@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, 5 November 2013 at 10.00 am

County Hall, Oxford OX1 1ND



Joanna Simons
Chief Executive

October 2013

Contact Officer: **Deborah Miller**
Tel: (01865) 815384; 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.

Members are asked to sign the attendance book which will be available in the corridor outside the Council Chamber. A list of members present at the meeting will be compiled from this book.

A sandwich Lunch will be provided prior to the briefing by Jim Leivers, Director for Children Education & Families, on 'Child Sexual Exploitation in Oxfordshire: the work of OCC and its partners' at 1.45 pm.

AGENDA

1. Minutes (Pages 1 - 32)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10 September 2013 (CC1) and to receive information arising from them.

2. Apologies for Absence

3. 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.

4. Official Communications

5. Appointments

To make any changes to the membership of the Cabinet, scrutiny and other committees on the nomination of political groups.

6. Petitions and Public Address

7. Questions with Notice from Members of the Public

8. Questions with Notice from Members of the Council

9. Report of the Cabinet (Pages 33 - 38)

Report of the Cabinet Meeting held on 15 October 2013 (CC9).

MOTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

WOULD MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY AMENDMENTS TO MOTIONS WITH NOTICE MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE PROPER OFFICER IN WRITING BY 9.00 AM ON THE MONDAY BEFORE THE MEETING

10. Motion From Councillor Bob Johnston

"This Council notes the impending electrification of much of the County's rail network. Council therefore asks Cabinet to use all possible means to ensure that:

- (i) electrification facilitates the construction of a station at Grove/Wantage;
- (ii) that the freight line to Cowley, is electrified to eliminate the "running of diesels under the wire" elsewhere;
- (iii) proper co-ordination in advance takes place with bus companies and diversion routes planned early to help ease the upheaval caused by alterations to many road bridges all over the County."

11. Motion From Councillor Liz Brighthouse

“This Council, mindful of the fact that Oxfordshire has already cut £127m and has in place plans to cut a further £74m from its budget, asks the Leader of the Council to write to the Prime Minister, Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government asking them to:

- (a) Consider the impact on services of a further cut of £60m given that the additional cut will have to be made on services which are not statutory and will hit the rising number of vulnerable elderly people and children in all communities.
- (b) Mitigate the damage which these further reductions in expenditure will have on communities across Oxfordshire through the Autumn Statement and the Local Government Finance Settlement by a combination of giving greater local determination to elected councillors in relation to the Council Tax and providing a less onerous settlement to local government.
- (c) Consider In the longer term a new approach to securing the financial stability and sustainability of local government.”

12. Motion From Councillor Stewart Lilly

“The County Council notes that the Deputy Prime Minister has found an additional £600 million for school dinners. The County Council feels that the money could be better used by targeting the most needy pupils to year 6 rather than this scatter gun approach.

The County Council is concerned that the funding will not be adequate for Oxfordshire and this could lead to a short fall requiring cuts to other areas of schools budgets such as teaching and learning.

The County Council is also concerned that many rural schools do not have adequate, or even existing facilities and will need capital spending to bring kitchens and dining areas up to the required standard.

The County Council asks the Leader to write to the Deputy Prime minister to confirm that the scheme will be fully funded along with any additional capital expenditure required.”

13. Motion From Councillor David Williams

“There is mounting concern as to the likely impact on the environment of Oxfordshire in relation to hydraulic fracturing of natural gas and oil, the system popularly known as ‘fracking’.

The Council considers that the potential scale of environmental damage would place a severe strain on County Environmental services and will have immediate consequences on other County services whilst drilling operations are in hand. Of special concern is the potential release of carcinogenic Radon gas from pockets locked in the Oxfordshire geology.

The County Council is also aware that the release of climate changing gases such as methane and carbon dioxide that will result from the extraction of more fossil fuels will contradict the Councils commitment to moving to a local low carbon economy.

With potential drilling sites all over the County this Council asks its Planning & Regulation Committee to have regard to these concerns in dealing with any application to issue a license to conduct exploratory drilling or to undertake full scale extraction production”.

14. Motion From Councillor David Williams

“This Council notes with concern the Davies Commission’s invitation for invitations to submit proposals for additional airport capacity within the South East and the potential implications for Oxfordshire.

Oxfordshire County Council is dismayed that a consultation and bids for greater airport capacity is being considered again even though only 3 years ago the Conservative party were arguing that there would be no need for greater capacity in the London area and therefore they would not back expansion at Heathrow. (Conservative Manifesto 2010 General Election)

The Council believes that any airport close to the already existing landing systems of Brize Norton and London Oxford Airport is unnecessary and would ring greater pollution and disturbance to the area.

Such a proposal would run counter to all the County Council’s planning policies to date, meaning dramatic changes to assumptions made for transport, housing, environmental control, and economic planning. All County services would be directly affected from education to adult care to wildlife protection.

Oxfordshire County Council urges Cabinet in any consultation response to resist demands for ever more airport expansion because of the carbon burning consequences such proposals generate and to turn down any proposal for a West Oxfordshire Airport as unsuitable to the needs of the County and the Country as a whole.”

15. Motion From Councillor Kieron Mallon

“That this Council notes that it is estimated that up to 66,000 women and young girls in the UK have undergone Female Genital Mutilation, of this number 20,000 are under the age of 15. We further note that these procedures have no health benefits and is a harmful traditional practice and an act of violence against women and girls, constitutes a violation of their fundamental rights, particularly the right to personal security, physical and mental health and of their sexual and reproductive health and is an act of child abuse. Such violations can under no circumstances be justified by respect for cultural or religious traditions or initiation ceremonies.

To date, there has not been a single prosecution for this in 28 years within the UK for those responsible for perpetrating this horrific crime as opposed to a more proactive approach in France.

We ask all health and social care professionals in Oxfordshire including midwives, obstetricians, nurses, social workers, community workers, police, Crown Prosecution Service and policy makers to work together to identify women and young girls who are at risk and to work in partnership to take effective action to bring to and end this barbaric practice.”

16. Motion From Councillor Susanna Pressel

“Congestion in Oxford City is getting worse by the day. This has a negative impact on quality of life, health, economic development and many other aspects of life for the people of Oxfordshire and our many visitors.

Given the historic value and compact nature of the City and the constraints on the availability of public sector funds there are limited opportunities to tackle congestion without a adopting a different approach. Council therefore instructs the Cabinet to investigate urgently how we can consult the people of our county on moving towards charging for workplace parking in Oxford City as speedily as possible, and to report back to the next Council meeting on progress towards this.”

17. Motion From Councillor Janet Godden

“This Council notes with concern the inevitable further cuts to essential services in Oxfordshire that will result from the reductions in the revenue budgets imposed by Central Government upon Oxfordshire and other County Councils. This County has to cut a further £61m over the next four years on top of the £201m cut achieved over the past three years.

Council would like assurance that those responsible for this drastic revenue reduction have a full understanding of the local consequences.

Council therefore asks the Leader to invite the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to attend and take questions at an additional ‘Talking Oxfordshire’ event, with a randomly chosen audience from across the County. Council further asks the Leader to invite the parliamentary colleagues of the Secretary of State among the County’s MPs to meet with local members and key workers in their own constituencies for the same purpose.”