

These notes indicate the decisions taken at this meeting and the officers responsible for taking any resulting action. For background documentation please refer to the agenda and supporting papers circulated to all members of the Council and available on the Council's web site ([www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk).)

If you have a query please contact Deborah Miller (Tel: (01865) 815384; E-Mail: [deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk))

## COUNTY COUNCIL - TUESDAY, 1 JULY 2014

RECOMMENDATIONS	DECISIONS	ACTION
<b>1. Apologies for Absence</b>	Apologies for absence were received From Councillors Dhesi, Heathcoat and Sibley.	HLC (R.Dunn)
<b>2. Declarations of Interest - see guidance note</b>	There were none.	
<b>3. Minutes</b>  To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2014 ( <b>CC1</b> ) and to receive information arising from them.	The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 May 2014 were approved and signed, subject to the following amendment:  Minute 26/14, last paragraph ...Council <b>Castle Site and at ...</b>	HLC( D. Miller)
<b>4. Official Communications</b>	The Chairman reports as follows:  Council congratulated the following people from The Queen's Birthday Honours List which was published in June:  QPM – Assistant Chief Constable Brendan O'Dowda QPM, Thames Valley Police; OBE – Mrs Anne Kelaart OBE DL, Deputy Lieutenant and former High Sheriff – for services to the rural community in Oxfordshire; MBE – Robin Aitken MBE and David Cairns MBE – Co-directors Oxford Food Bank – for services to vulnerable people; BEM – Gary Mattingley BEM, Station Manager, Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Services – for services to protecting	CEO (L. Khalid)

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	<p>communities from flooding;            BEM – Helen Stewart BEM, Town Clerk, Thame Town Council – for services to Neighbourhood planning in Thame;            OBE – Group Captain Victoria Gosling based at RAF Benson, for her commitment to the air base and to adaptive sports for the disabled or injured;.            BEM – Mrs Carole Chalton, Lately Day Support Manager, Abingdon Alzheimer’s Club. For services to Older People..</p> <p>Kingfisher Award</p> <p>The Chairman presented the Kingfisher Team with an award by the Municipal Journal the Children’s Social Care Team of the year for their work in this area. Sue Evans- Team Manager, Maureen Baker - Assistant Team Manager, Fern Haward - Social Worker and Andy Roberts, Case Investigator, Thames Valley Police from the Kingfisher Team attended to accept the award.</p> <p>Investor in People</p> <p>Investors in People is the national quality standard for the training and development of people. Council congratulated officers for retaining the Corporate Investors in People (IIP) status. This followed assessment over the last two weeks when external assessors spoke with around 200 staff from across the organisation.</p> <p>Ofsted Children’s Social Care Rating</p> <p>Council congratulated Oxfordshire Children’s Education and Families Directorate who had been judged to be providing a good service for children in need of protection, looked after children, the adoption service and the service provided for care</p>	<p>All staff to note</p> <p>All staff to note</p>

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	<p>leavers. In addition the leadership, management and governance of the service was also judged to be good.</p> <p>Council further welcomed the letter from the Minister of Education congratulating Oxfordshire and asking that they Share 'Good Practice' with other authorities.</p>	
<p><b>5. Appointments</b></p> <p><i>(a) RECOMMEND to Council to add the Local Government Association Fire Commission to the list of 'strategic' Outside Bodies to which the Cabinet makes appointments and subject to their agreement to the above to make an appointment;</i></p> <p><i>(b) to make any changes to the membership of the Cabinet, scrutiny and other committees on the nomination of political groups.</i></p>	<p>Agreed (nem con)</p>	<p>HLC (S. Whitehead)</p>
<p><b>6. Petitions and Public Address</b></p>	<p>Council received the following petitions and public address:</p> <p>Mr Graham Paul Smith, National Councillor, CTC (Cyclists Touring Club), presented a petition requesting the Council to reconsider, urgently, the current design for The Plain, and the approach to design, to provide instead for a maximum amount of segregated provision for people cycling, to positively engineer the difficult transition to a central cycle lane; and to make changes to the circulating carriageway to support the presence of people cycling.</p> <p>Mr Duncan Enright, West Oxfordshire District Council presented a petition requesting that the Council build a</p>	<p>DEE (J. Larkcom)</p> <p>DEE (J. Larkcom)</p>

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	<p>four way junction on the A40 at Shores Green to relieve traffic in Witney as soon as possible.</p> <p>Public Address</p> <p>Ms Al Chisholm, Fossil Free Oxfordshire divestment campaign, spoke in support of Agenda Item 18 (Motion From Councillor Williams) urging the Council to disinvest in any fossil fuel companies and to give consideration to investing in renewable energy companies instead.</p>	
<p><b>7. Questions with Notice from Members of the Public</b></p>	<p>There were none.</p>	
<p><b>8. Questions with Notice from Members of the Council</b></p>	<p>14 Questions with notice were asked. Details of the questions and answers and the supplementary questions and answers (where asked) will be set out in Annex 1 to the Minutes.</p> <p>In relation to Question 7 (Question from Councillor Williams to Councillor Fatemian) Councillor Fatemian gave a commitment to brief all members on the impact of the draft legislation and at either the same or a later date on the impact on the County Council's finances.</p> <p>In relation to Question 12 (Question from Councillor Tanner to Councillor Nimmo Smith) Councillor Nimmo Smith undertook to look again at the 18 Month Delay to the road works at Kennington and Hinksey Hill roundabouts.</p>	<p>Cllr Fatemian/ Y Staniford</p> <p>Cllr David Nimmo Smith/ Y. Staniford</p>
<p><b>9. Ofsted Inspection of Services for Children in Need of Help and</b></p>		

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<p><b>Protection, Children Looked After and Care Leavers</b></p> <p>Report of the Ofsted inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers (CC9).</p> <p>The Oxfordshire County Council's provision for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers was recently inspected by Ofsted as part of its regular programme of local authority inspection.</p> <p><b>Council is RECOMMENDED to receive the report and discuss its implications for the Council.</b></p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Note: Council paid tribute to all staff in the Children, Education &amp; Families Directors and in particular to the Social Workers with responsibility for children in Care.</p>	<p>DCS (All staff to note)</p>
<p><b>10. Report of the Cabinet</b></p> <p>Report of the Cabinet meetings held on 15 (CC10).</p>	<p>The Council received the report of the Cabinet.</p> <p>In relation to paragraph 4 (Externalisation of Back/Office School Facing Services) (Question from Councillor Christie) Councillor Rose gave an assurance to look at the issue of providing a base in Oxfordshire for schools HR.</p>	<p>Cllr Rodney Rose</p>
<p><b>11. Military Liaison Annual Report 2013-14</b></p> <p>Report by the Chief Executive (CC11).</p> <p>This Military Liaison Annual Report provides an overview of the work undertaken in support of the Armed Forces over the course of 2013/14.</p> <p><b>Council are RECOMMENDED to note the report.</b></p>	<p>Agreed (nem con)</p>	<p>CEO (M. Scott)</p>

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<p><b>12. County Council Meeting Dates</b></p> <p>The report of the Monitoring Officer containing the schedule of meeting dates proposed for the 2015/16 Council Year was attached (CC12).</p> <p><b>Council is RECOMMENDED to agree:</b></p> <p>(a) <i>the changes to the dates of Cabinet and Council meetings in January and February 2015 and going forward to reflect the changed budget process;</i></p> <p>(b) <i>the schedule of meeting dates for the 2015/16 Council Year and in particular:</i></p> <p>(i) <i>to waive Rule 2.1 of the Council Procedure Rules to allow the 2015 April Council meeting to be held on 14 April;</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>that from 2016 the November and December Council meetings be replaced by a single meeting to be held in the last week in November;</i></p> <p>(iii) <i>that Rule 2.1 of the Council Procedure Rules be amended to reflect the changes agreed above."</i></p>	<p>With the agreement of Council, Councillor Purse accepted the proposed amendment by Councillor Pressel.</p> <p>The Motion, as amended was carried nem con.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>(a) <i>the changes to the dates of Cabinet and Council meetings in January and February 2015 and going forward to reflect the changed budget process;</i></p> <p>(b) <i>the schedule of meeting dates for the 2015/16 Council Year and in particular:</i></p> <p>(i) <i>to waive Rule 2.1 of the Council Procedure Rules to allow the 2015 April Council meeting to be held on 14 April;</i></p> <p><del>(ii) <i>that from 2016 the November and December Council meetings be replaced by a single meeting to be held in the last week in November;</i></del></p> <p>(iii) <i>that Rule 2.1 of the Council Procedure Rules be amended to reflect the changes agreed above."</i></p>	
<p><b>13. Virements to Council</b></p>		

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<p>Report by the Chief Finance Officer (CC13).</p> <p><b>Council is RECOMMENDED to approve the virements larger than £0.5m for Children, Education and Families, Social &amp; Community Services and Environment &amp; Economy directorate and the associated carry forwards as set out in Annex 1.</b></p>	<p>Agreed (nem con).</p>	<p>CFO (K. Wilcox)</p>
<p><b>14. Motion From Councillor Bob Johnston</b></p> <p>“Transport connectivity which is vital for Oxfordshire’s economic future is now at crisis point. We do have outline proposals for a new transport plan. However much of it is too car focused. The tram-train is an innovative way of tackling some of the County’s problems, which would be as effective as individual car use and would be more environmentally friendly.</p> <p>The tram-train is a hybrid vehicle which can use both the traditional heavy rail and dedicated light rail tracks. The advantage of this system to Oxfordshire is that it can use existing city centre heavy rail facilities with usually only minimal alterations, and on to which light rail tracks can be added where no heavy rail lines exist. Lines could run out to Witney, Kidlington and Horspath. Tram-trains can run on roads where required, with appropriate signalling. Such systems are very popular on the continent Karlsruhe is a good example and they are to be trialled in the UK along the Sheffield to Rotherham corridor.</p> <p>Council therefore calls for a report to go to Cabinet which scopes and costs the project in outline and also to identify potential sources of finance. Such as</p>	<p>The amendment proposed by Councillor David Williams as set out in the Schedule of Business, Annex 1 was lost by 57 votes to 2.</p> <p>The substantive motion was lost by 29 votes to 27.</p>	

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<p>project could potentially form a part of Network Rails Control Period 5 investment programme which runs from 2014 to 2019.”</p>		
<p><b>15. Motion From Councillor John Sanders</b></p> <p>"Oxfordshire has been identified as one of the areas where there could be a potential to frack for shale gas. Rightly many residents particularly in the north of the County are concerned about the implications for their communities. This Council believes that its members need to have the opportunity to discuss the issues and asks that a Themed Debate is organised in the near future to allow that to happen."</p>	<p>Agreed (nem con).</p>	<p>DEE HLC Miller) (D.</p>
<p><b>16. Motion From Councillor Pete Handley</b></p> <p>“Would the Council agree that at all meetings of The Council and Sub Committee’s where members and staff are taking part, all tablets and computers are turned off as this can interfere with the microphones etc within the Council building. They also give problems to those with hearing aids due to the clicking noises these devices make which in turn make it hard for them to take part in those meetings.”</p>	<p>WITHDRAWN</p>	
<p><b>17. Motion From Councillor John Sanders</b></p> <p>“This Council welcomes the decision by Cabinet to go ahead with implementing the project to ease traffic on the A40 at Shores Green, Witney, as recommended by the independent planning inspector and the Conservative Secretary of State for</p>	<p>The amendment proposed by Councillor Simon Hoare as set out in the Schedule of Business, Annex 1 was carried by 40 votes to 14</p>	



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<p>Transport. It now urges that the project be implemented without delay in order to ease chronic traffic congestion in the area.”</p>	<p>The substantive motion, as amended was carried nem com.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> (nem con)</p> <p>“This Council welcomes the decision by Cabinet to go ahead with implementing the project to ease traffic on the A40 at Shores Green, Witney, as recommended by the independent planning inspector and the Conservative Secretary of State for Transport. <b><i>It welcomes the 4 phased approach to the Witney Transport issues that is being implemented</i></b> <del>It now urges that the project be implemented without delay in order to ease chronic traffic congestion in the area.”</del></p>	<p>DEE (M. Kemp)</p>
<p><b>18. Motion From Councillor David Williams</b></p> <p>“As the County Council can now fulfil its legal obligations to ensure a good rate of return by investing its reserves and pension funds in companies that are operating renewable energy generation locally and nationally the County consider it is now the appropriate time to disinvest in fossil fuel industries. This would apply not only to the £42million invested directly into fossil fuel companies by the pension fund but also Unit Trusts that have fossil fuel burning concerns as a part of their general investment portfolio.</p> <p>This move would conform and reinforce the Councils existing commitment to moving to a low carbon economy and run in line with moves to disinvest at the Universities and the City Council.</p> <p>As this is budgetary matter the County Council therefore directs the Cabinet to introduce such a change of policy to all</p>	<p>Lost by 41 votes to 4, with 9 abstentions</p>	

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<p>investments directly under their day to day management via contingencies and reserves. The Council's desire to disinvest in fossil fuel companies should be made known to the Trustees of the Pension Fund for their consideration and subsequent action."</p>		
<p><b>19. Motion From Councillor David Williams</b></p> <p>"This Council is concerned at the level of bee colony collapse in the UK and Oxfordshire with a 60% decline over the last 10 Years and the threat to our food supply as bees provide over 80% of crop pollination. With this in view and taking into account the Council's responsibilities for conserving biodiversity, this Council calls on the Secretary of State for the Environment to extend his recent moratorium on the use of neonicotinoids to an outright ban.</p> <p>The Council therefore asks Cabinet to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) launch a programme that would seek to support and protect bees focused on establishing bee colonies in its green spaces and wild areas with bee friendly plants;</li> <li>(ii) establish and fund a 'Bee Friendly Wildlife Group' of officers charged with promoting bee keeping in Oxfordshire.</li> <li>(iii) encourage the use of bee hives on municipal land and in the gardens of volunteers and encourage forms of gardening and land use that support pollinating insects. The team should also visit schools to educate children about the relationship between bees and biodiversity and the problems surrounding bee mortality;</li> <li>(iv) ask the Bee Friendly Wildlife Group to commit resources to mapping Bee-lines (1) and to act in an advisory agent to local farmers on their crop planting operations. The County could also join with Berkshire and Buckinghamshire and Oxon Wildlife Trust in their Friendly</li> </ul>	<p>Councillor Williams accepted the proposed amendment by Councillor Mark Grey.</p> <p>Motion, as amended was carried nem con.</p> <p>RESOLVED: (nem con)</p> <p>"This Council is concerned at the level of bee colony collapse in the UK and Oxfordshire with a 60% decline over the last 10 Years and the threat to our food supply as bees provide over 80% of crop pollination. With this in view and taking into account the Council's responsibilities for conserving biodiversity, this Council calls on the Secretary of State for the Environment to extend his recent moratorium on the use of neonicotinoids to an outright ban.</p> <p>The Council therefore asks Cabinet to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) <del>launch a programme that would</del> <b>Seek to support and protect bees focused on establishing bee colonies in its green spaces and wild areas with bee friendly plants;</b></li> <li>(ii) <del>establish and fund a 'Bee Friendly Wildlife Group' of officers charged with promoting bee keeping in Oxfordshire.</del> <b>Empower officers to co-</b></li> </ul>	<p>DEE (B. Hindle)</p>

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<p>Gardening Awards scheme which includes the category of a 'nectar bar' (2)."</p>	<p><b><i>ordinate interest groups and other third parties to seek external funding to develop bee related projects and to establish a unified response to this issue;</i></b></p> <p>(iii) encourage the use of bee hives on municipal land and in the gardens of volunteers and encourage forms of gardening and land use that support pollinating insects. <del>The team should also visit</del> <b><i>Encourage</i></b> schools to educate children about the relationship between bees and biodiversity and the problems surrounding bee mortality;</p> <p>(iv) <del>ask the Bee Friendly Wildlife Group to commit resources to mapping Bee-lines (1)</del> <b><i>Request officers to consider ways in which they can advise local farmers on their crop planting operations</i></b> and <del>to act in an advisory agent to local farmers on their crop planting operations.</del> The County could also join with <b><i>commend</i></b> Berkshire and Buckinghamshire and Oxon Wildlife Trust in their Friendly Gardening Awards scheme which includes the category of a 'nectar bar' (2)."</p>	
<p><b>20. Motion From Councillor David Williams</b></p> <p>"Flooding in Oxfordshire has recently caused many millions of pounds worth of damage to homes and businesses. With the prospect of extreme weather conditions such as sustained torrential downpours being repeated on an ever increasing scale due to global warming it is imperative that</p>	<p>Lost by 44 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.</p>	

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<p>the County Council not only puts in place local engineering flood defences but also accepts that it must play its part in flood prevention by contributing to the campaign to prevent climate change. With this in view the Council calls on the Cabinet to commission a full officer's report in conjunction with other authorities that illustrates the local causes of flooding in the whole County and to outline how working with other stakeholders such as the Environment Agency cost effective local measures can be introduced to mitigate the effects of increasingly freak weather episodes.</p> <p>The comprehensive range of works suggested should not include measures that merely divert flood waters away from particular area of the County and relocate the flooding to other towns and villages. The report should give a reasonable estimate of the costs involved and with other authorities the County should seek such monies from Governmental sources.</p> <p>In approaching the Government the County should also be clear that expensive local engineered solutions will not stop the problem and that it is now more important than ever that the Conservative/Liberal coalition actually does something to honour its pledge to be the 'Greenest Government ever'".</p>		