

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held on Tuesday, 9 February 2010 commencing at 10.00 am and finishing at 4.01 pm

Present:

Councillor Tony Crabbe – in the Chair

Councillors:

Alyas Ahmed	Tim Hallchurch MBE	David Robertson
M. Altaf-Khan	Pete Handley	Rodney Rose
Alan Armitage	Jenny Hannaby	John Sanders
Marilyn Badcock	Tony Harbour	Larry Sanders
Mike Badcock	David Harvey	Don Seale
Roger Belson	Steve Hayward	Bill Service
Maurice Billington	Mrs J. Heathcoat	Dave Sexon
Norman Bolster	Hilary Hibbert-Biles	Chip Sherwood
Ann Bonner	Ian Hudspeth	Roz Smith
Liz Brighouse OBE	Sarah Hutchinson	Val Smith
Iain Brown	Ray Jelf	Richard Stevens
Nick Carter	Peter Jones	Keith Strangwood
Louise Chapman	Stewart Lilly	Lawrie Stratford
Jim Couchman	Lorraine Lindsay-Gale	John Tanner
Roy Darke	A.M. Lovatt	Alan Thompson
Arash Fatemian	Kieron Mallon	Melinda Tilley
Anda Fitzgerald-O'Connor	Charles Mathew	David Turner
Jean Fooks	Keith R. Mitchell CBE	Nicholas P. Turner
Anthony Gearing	David Nimmo-Smith	Carol Viney
Michael Gibbard	Neil Owen	Michael Waine
John Goddard	Zoé Patrick	David Wilmshurst
Janet Godden	Anne Purse	
Patrick Greene	G.A. Reynolds	

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.

19/10 MINUTES

(Agenda Item 1)

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 12 January 2010 be approved and signed, subject to the following amendments:

- (a) Minute 1/10 (Minutes – Minute 94/09 Question 3 (Questions on Notice from Members of the Council)), Line 7, insert after the word “convened.” the words “*The Chairman ruled the question out of order. However,*” and insert after the words “Councillor Rose” the words “*had already*”.
- (b) Minute 16/10 (Themed Debate – Educational Attainment) delete **RESOLVED:** ~~(nem con) to note the paper and to suggest ways in which greater involvement by all stakeholders can be encouraged and supported and insert “**Following discussion of suggested ways in which greater involvement by all stakeholders can be encouraged and supported, Council noted the paper.**”~~

On Minute 11/10 (Questions with Notice from Members of the Council), Council noted:

- (a) the written answers/supplementary information to Questions 9, 10, 11 and 12 set out in Annex 1 to the Minutes;
- (b) the following further information provided by the Leader of the Council to Question 13, Answer to Supplementary Question – Line 5, replace “I will loot from” with “I will say” and Penultimate line, replace “30%” with “35%”.

20/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

(Agenda Item 2)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Atkins, Mrs Fulljames, Malik, Pressel, Shouler and Dr Skolar.

21/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(Agenda Item 3)

The following declaration of interest was made:

Member	Item	Nature
Brighthouse	Item 9 – Service and Resource Planning 2010/11 to 2014/15	Personal - her husband was a director of Research Machines plc and her mother was in a nursing home

22/10 SECTION 85, LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - APPROVAL OF ABSENCE

(Agenda Item 4)

RESOLVED: to approve, for the purposes of Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, the absence of Councillor Shouler from any meeting of the Authority from the date of this meeting on the grounds of continuing ill-health.

23/10 APPOINTMENTS

(Agenda Item 6)

RESOLVED: to appoint Councillor Seale to the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee in place of Councillor Harbour.

24/10 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Agenda Item 7)

Mr Michael Haines petitioned Council about 'Saving our Subway at Headington Shopping Centre'.

The petition was referred to the Transport Decisions Committee.

Mr Mark Fysh, UNISON, addressed Council about Item 9 (Service and Resource Planning 2010/11 to 2014/15).

Ms Samantha Bowring (Abingdon Town Councillor) addressed Council about Item 9 (Service and Resource Planning 2010/11 to 2014/15) Annex 3 CS3 (£21,000 saving by changes to fire service cover in Abingdon and Didcot) expressing the concern of many people in Abingdon that this would mean a reduction in emergency cover.

The addresses were taken with Item 9.

25/10 MEDIUM TERM CORPORATE PLAN 2010/2011-2014/15

(Agenda Item 8)

Council considered the Council's Medium Term Corporate Plan 2010/2011-2014/15 (CC8). It was advised that the Plan would set out the challenges facing the County Council, the rationale for the Council's objectives, and would identify the priority and activities on which the Council would focus. It was also advised that the Strategy and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee had reviewed the draft Plan and had submitted comments to the Cabinet, who had approved the draft on 19 January 2010.

Council was advised that the Plan was in two parts:

- A broad strategy document presented to the Council for approval
- A delivery plan which would set out the detail of priorities and targets. This part of the Plan was still being developed and would be completed in the next few weeks. However, the Strategy & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee had seen a draft and commented on it. The intention was that the final version would be shared with Group Leaders before it was signed off.

Council was further advised that a summary of the key elements of the Medium Term Financial Plan would also be included in the final version of the Plan and a separate Annual Report would be produced in the summer,

which would provide a review of the previous year, highlighting achievements and challenges faced and commenting on the Council's performance.

RESOLVED: (on a motion by Councillor Mitchell and seconded by Councillor Robertson and carried by 48 votes to 9) to approve the Corporate Plan 2010/11-2014/15 subject to the inclusion of the delivery plan, a summary of the Medium Term Financial Plan and any changes in the text approved by the Chief Executive after consultation with the Leader of the Council.

26/10 SERVICE AND RESOURCE PLANNING 2010/11 TO 2014/15

(Agenda Item 9)

Council considered the Report of the Cabinet (CC9), the Supplementary Report by the Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer (CC9 Supplementary) and the Commentary on the Cabinet's Budget Proposals by the Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer as the Council's Section 151 Officer (CC9 Commentary). The Council also had before it budget proposals in the form of:- Amendments by the Liberal Democrat Group to the Cabinet's Revenue Budget (CC9 Liberal Democrat Group Amendments), Amendments by the Green Group to the Cabinet's Revenue Budget (CC9 Green Group Amendments) and Commentary by the Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer as the Council's Section 151 Officer (CC9 Commentary on Amendments).

Councillor Mitchell moved and Councillor Robertson seconded the Cabinet's recommendations on Service and Resource Planning 2010/11 to 2014/15 (CC9) as amended by the correction in Annex 5, Table 2, South Oxfordshire – Assumed Precept Due where "£64,070,678" should read "£64,070,978".

Councillor Patrick moved and Councillor Fooks seconded an amendment to the Cabinet's budget as set out in CC9 Liberal Democrat Group Amendments.

After debate, the amendment was lost by 47 votes to 9.

Councillor L Sanders moved and Councillor Sherwood seconded an amendment to the Cabinet's budget as set out in CC9 Green Group Amendments.

After debate, the amendment was lost by 48 votes to 3.

The substantive motion was then put to the vote and carried by 44 votes to 17.

RESOLVED:

(a) (in respect of revenue) to approve:

- (1) a budget for 2010/11 as set out in Annex 4 and a medium term plan to 2014/15 as set out in Annex 1;
- (2) a budget requirement for 2010/11 of £389.870m;
- (3) the Council Tax and Precept calculations for 2010/11 set out in Annex 5 to the report as amended by the correction in Table 2 of

South Oxfordshire – Assumed Precept Due where “£64,070,678” should read “£64,070,978” and in particular:

- (i) a precept of £281.192m; and
- (ii) a Council Tax for Band D equivalent properties of £1,161.71;
- (4) the use of the LABGI reserve funding as set out in Annex 2b;
- (5) the disposition of Dedicated Schools Grant as set out in Annex 6 to the report;
- (6) virement arrangements for 2010/11 as set out in Annex 7 to the report;
- (b) (in respect of treasury management) to approve:
 - (1) the Treasury Management Strategy Statement as at Annex 8 including the Prudential Indicators;
 - (2) that in relation to the 2010/11 strategy any further changes required be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer following consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and leaders of the Opposition and Labour group;
- (c) to approve the Minimum Revenue Provision Methodology Statement as set out in paragraphs 10 to 14 of Annex 9;
- (d) (in respect of Capital) to approve:
 - (1) the Capital Strategy at Annex 10 and Corporate Asset Management Plan at Annex 11;
 - (2) the Capital Programme for 2009/10 to 2014/15 as set out in the capital programme at Annex 12;
 - (3) the prudential indicators for capital set out in Annex 13 to the report.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing 2010