



County Council

9 July 2019

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 Glenn Watson on **07776 997946** or glenn.watson@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, 9 July 2019 at 10.30 am

Council Chamber - County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND



Yvonne Rees
Chief Executive

June 2019

Committee Officer: **Deborah Miller**
Tel: 07920 084239; 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 buffet luncheon will be provided

AGENDA

1. Minutes (Pages 1 - 6)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2019 (**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. Senior Joint Leadership Roles

Since the implementation of the joint working partnership between Oxfordshire County Council and Cherwell District Council a series of senior joint roles have been implemented on a combination of permanent and interim arrangements. These are currently expected to deliver around 600k of savings per annum shared between the two organisations. There is a clear ambition for CDC and OCC to continue to develop the partnership for several reasons:

- To explore the potential of enhanced two tier working to improve the 'joining up' of services, improving the experience of service users
- To explore the benefits of enhanced two tier working to improve locality working
- To support the financial sustainability of both organisations (i.e. sharing management roles where appropriate reduces the costs of management overhead)
- To align and develop approaches to major strategic opportunities such as the growth deal.
- To align service delivery in areas such as commissioning, housing and social services, to manage demand and improve customer access.

The recent Peer Challenge at Oxfordshire County Council made a clear recommendation to stabilise the senior management arrangements by completing the review of the joint working partnership between OCC and CDC. Likewise, CDC needs to clarify and stabilise senior management arrangements as it winds down its joint working arrangements with SNC. The report (**TO FOLLOW**) recommends approval of two senior officer roles.

10. Report of the Cabinet

Report of the Cabinet Meetings held on 14 May 2019 and 18 June 2019 (CC10).

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

11. Motion from Councillor Suzanna Bartington

“Recycling delivers multiple environmental and health benefits, including conservation of natural capital, reduction in energy consumption and mitigation of pollutant emissions. The critical role of recycling for sustainable development, is reflected in ambitious targets within the Government 25-Year Environment Plan and Resources and Waste Strategy (Defra, 2018).

In 2017/18, Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) was named the best performing county council disposal authority in England for household waste recycling, with an overall rate of over 57%. This success reflects OCC's commitment to partnership working with the City and District Councils to continuously improve waste services and protect our natural environment.

However, performance could be further improved, through coordinated action to identify areas for improvement, disseminate best practice and strive for optimal performance. These efforts would aim to improve overall rates and reduce geographical variation across Oxfordshire:

- SODC 63%
- Vale of White Horse 60.4%
- WODC 59.6%
- Cherwell 55.6%
- Oxford City 50.8%

This Council calls on the Cabinet Member for Environment to instigate a programme to achieve this goal through four key objectives:

- (a) Implement closer partnership working between constituent authorities, sharing best practice and working collaboratively to identify barriers and facilitators for improvement.
- (b) Consider the benefits and any disadvantages of standardisation of collection, waste containers, and quality monitoring.
- (c) Explore measures to minimise the environmental impacts of domestic waste.
- (d) Encourage public engagement initiatives such as clearer labelling to raise awareness and promote behavioural change among residents.”

12. Motion from Councillor Laura Price

“The Growth Deal is set to bring £215 million to Oxfordshire as part of the agreement with Central Government to deliver homes and infrastructure.

There is a risk that many of our residents will not experience the benefit of growth and at worst a fear that there could be a negative impact on our communities.

To ensure that future growth in Oxfordshire enhances the lives and outcomes of all our residents, Council calls upon the Leader of the Council to request that the Growth Board create an Inclusive Growth Commission. Comprised of independent experts, the Commission will gather and then consider evidence from across the County and make recommendations that will inform the future approach.”

13. Motion from Councillor Mike Fox-Davies

“Many of my Parishes have new housing developments all of which include roads and other infrastructure which will become OCC responsibility to maintain in the future.

The position in standard procedures for highways agreements (further to the Highways Act 1980) allows for OCC to take a bond to ensure that associated infrastructure is delivered with all speed and to the standard that allows OCC to adopt the new development roads once the developer has maintained them for a year.

At many of these developments, the housing is either fully or almost complete, but there are long lists of unfinished works preventing OCC from adopting the roads and associated infrastructure, many of which have been outstanding for many months or even years.

Taking one example, the housing development has been finished for five years, the developer has banked their profits from the housing sales, but there is a list of over 70 defects (not minor) which are still outstanding.

As the estate has not been adopted, there are many issues which cannot be addressed (such as traffic controls/parking/lighting defects).

This Council therefore demands that the Communities Directorate use all legal powers available to ensure that maximum pressure is brought to bear on developers to enable all new developments to be adopted with speed and efficiency.”

14. Motion From Councillor Deborah McIlveen

“Living costs in Oxfordshire are high and pay is relatively low. High housing costs mean that employers in the public and private sectors struggle to recruit and retain staff. There are vacancies in all areas of the public sector and this is affecting service delivery. Housing costs in Oxfordshire have risen at a similar rate to those in London where workers in the Public Sector are paid a London Living Wage of £10.55 per hour.

Paying a Local Living Wage will enable people to take up job opportunities in Oxfordshire and according to employers would

- improve staff's quality of work;
- decrease Absenteeism;
- with better retention lower human resources costs.

It enables people to live on their wages and reduces in work benefits via Universal Credit. Paying the local Living Wage increases investment in the local economy.

Oxfordshire County Council asks the Cabinet to set up a working group with health partners and the Oxfordshire System Workforce Group to investigate implementation of a Living Wage in Oxfordshire.”

Pre-Meeting Briefing

There will be a pre-meeting briefing at County Hall on **Monday 8 July 2019 at 10.15 am** for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Group Leaders and Deputy Group Leaders

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OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held on Tuesday, 21 May 2019 commencing at 10.30 am and finishing at 12.30 pm.

Present:

Councillor Gill Sanders – in the Chair

Councillors:

Sobia Afridi	Mrs Anda Fitzgerald-O'Connor	Charles Mathew
Lynda Atkins	Mike Fox-Davies	Glynis Phillips
Jamila Begum Azad	Stefan Gawrysiak	Susanna Pressel
Hannah Banfield	Pete Handley	Laura Price
David Bartholomew	Jane Hanna OBE	Eddie Reeves
Dr Suzanne Bartington	Jenny Hannaby	G.A. Reynolds
Tim Bearder	Neville F. Harris	Judy Roberts
Maurice Billington	Steve Harrod	Dan Sames
Liz Brighouse OBE	Damian Haywood	John Sanders
Paul Buckley	Mrs Judith Heathcoat	Les Sibley
Kevin Bulmer	John Howson	Emily Smith
Nick Carter	Ian Hudspeth	Roz Smith
Mark Cherry	Tony Ilott	Lawrie Stratford
Dr Simon Clarke	Bob Johnston	Alan Thompson
Yvonne Constance OBE	Liz Leffman	Emma Turnbull
Ian Corkin	Lorraine Lindsay-Gale	Michael Waive
Arash Fatemian	Mark Lygo	Liam Walker
Neil Fawcett	D. McIlveen	Richard Webber
Ted Fenton	Kieron Mallon	
Nicholas Field-Johnson	Jeannette Matelot	

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.

26/19 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR FOR THE 2019/20 COUNCIL YEAR (Agenda Item)

Before inviting nominations for the office of Chairman of the Council, Councillor Gill Sanders (the retiring Chairman) took the opportunity to reflect on her year in office as Chairman of the Council, and in particular her civic duties. She thanked her husband who had been her consort, for his support and friendship throughout the year, her Personal Assistant and the Monitoring Officer for their support. She then presented her personal

assistant (Neil Clayton) and her husband with small gifts as a token of her appreciation for their help and support during the Year.

Councillors Brighthouse, Hudspeth, Webber and Atkins paid tribute to the outgoing Chairman thanking her for her work and effort over the year.

The Monitoring Officer, Nick Graham then invited nominations for the office of Chairman of the Council for the 2019/20 Council Year.

Councillor Hudspeth moved and Councillor Brighthouse seconded that Councillor Les Sibley be elected as Chairman of the Council for the 2019/20 Council Year.

There being no other nominations and no dissent, Councillor Les Sibley was duly declared elected. Upon election, Councillor Les Sibley read out and signed the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

RESOLVED: that Councillor Les Sibley be elected as Chairman of the Council for the 2019/20 Council Year.

27/19 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2019/20 COUNCIL YEAR

(Agenda Item 2)

The Chairman called for nominations for the office of Vice-Chairman. Councillor Webber proposed and Councillor Hudspeth seconded that Councillor John Howson be elected Vice-Chairman for the 2019/20 Council Year. There being no further nominations and no dissent, Councillor John Howson was declared elected. Councillor Howson read and signed the statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

RESOLVED: (nem con) that Councillor John Howson be elected as Vice-Chairman for the 2019/20.

28/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

(Agenda Item 4)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Gray, Griffiths, Hibbert-Biles and Rooke.

29/19 MINUTES

(Agenda Item 3)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2 April 2019 were approved and signed as an accurate record.

30/19 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Agenda Item 7)

Ms Emily Fitzherbert presented a petition on behalf of 179 Oxfordshire County Council employees requesting that the pension fund disinvest from the Fossil Fuel Industry.

The Chairman received the Petition to the Director for Finance for consideration.

31/19 REPORT OF THE CABINET

(Agenda Item 8)

The Cabinet received the report of the Cabinet.

In relation to paragraph 9 (Question from Councillor Leffman to Councillor Constance) Councillor Constance agreed that it might be possible to extend the cycling tour to a follow up event the next day, but asked Councillor Leffman to let her know what concerns in particular she had around road closures etc to see if there was any way she could help.

In relation to paragraph 10 (Question from Councillor Johnston to Councillor Constance) Councillor Constance undertook to provide Councillor Johnston with a written answer detailing in respect of the Lodge Hill Slip, whether or not the exact parcels of land have been identified and whether or not CPO would be necessary.

In relation to paragraph 10 (Question from Councillor Fox-Davies to Councillor Constance) Councillor Constance undertook to give agreement in principal that all applications in relation to the Reservoir would be treated in the same and that the County would continue to push for a Public Inquiry.

32/19 SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

(Agenda Item 9)

Council had before it a report (CC9) which provided a summary of the work of the Council's overview and scrutiny function in 2018-19. The Function included the Council's three Overview and Scrutiny Committees and joint scrutiny arrangements. The report had been considered and agreed by the Audit & Governance Committee and the Performance Scrutiny Committee prior to Council.

The Chairman of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Fatemian reported that Councillor Susanna Pressel was leaving the Committee after many years. He thanked Councillor Susanna Pressel for her work and contribution to the Committee.

RESOLVED: (on a motion by Councillor Brighthouse, seconded by Councillor Hannaby and carried nem con) to receive the report.

33/19 AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL 2018

(Agenda Item 10)

Council had before it the Annual Report of the Audit & Governance Committee which summarised the work that had been undertaken both as a Committee and through the support of the Audit Group in 2018/19.

Councillor Nick Carter moved and Councillor Ilot seconded that the Council received the report. In moving the recommendation, Councillor Carter thanked the Independent Chairman of the Audit Working Group, Dr Geoff Jones for his work on the Working Group and the Committee.

Following debate, the motion was put to the vote and was carried nem con.

RESOLVED: (nem con) to receive the report.

34/19 COMMITTEES AND REVIEW OF POLITICAL BALANCE

(Agenda Item 11)

The Council was required by the local Government & Housing Act 1989 to review the political balance on its committees on an annual basis. The Council had before it a report (CC11) which set out how the rules operate and sought approval for adjustments which were necessary to achieve the balance across and within committees to comply with the rules. The Council also had before it Annex 2 which set out the political balance on the committees and Annex 3 showing the membership of all committees, together with a number of additional changes set out in the schedule of business for the meeting.

Councillor Les Sibley moved and Councillor John Howson seconded that the recommendations set out in the report and on the face of the Agenda be adopted.

Councillor Howson informed the Council that on page 89 Councillor Howson should appear under the Liberal Democrat heading and Councillor Pressel should appear under the Labour Heading.

Councillor Webber informed the Council of the following additional change at the Meeting:

Pension Fund Committee – Councillor Roz Smith in place of Councillor John Howson.

Following debate, the motion was put to the vote and was carried nem con.

RESOLVED: (nem con)

- (a) to confirm the political balance on committees shown in Annex 2 to the report;

- (b) to appoint to committees the councillors and co-opted members shown in Annex 3, subject to the changes reported at the Meeting; and
- (c) to note the executive appointments in Annex 3 in relation to Oxfordshire Growth Board scrutiny arrangements and advisory sub groups.

35/19 COMMITTEE DATES 2020/21

(Agenda Item 12)

Council had before it a report (CC12) which sought agreement to the schedule of meeting dates proposed for the 2020/21 Council Year. The schedule had been drawn up to reflect the various rules regarding frequency of meetings set out in the Council's Constitution. Members' attention was drawn to the following proposed change to previous patterns: to move the April Meeting of Council so that it falls outside of the School Holidays.

RESOLVED: (on a motion from Councillor Les Sibley, seconded by Councillor John Howson and carried nem con) to agree the schedule of meeting dates for 2020/21 and in particular to agree to waive Rule 2.1 of the Council Procedure Rules to allow the April 2020 meeting of full Council to be held on 31 March 2021 to avoid the Easter School Holiday.

36/19 CABINET MEMBERSHIP AND DELEGATION OF CABINET FUNCTIONS

(Agenda Item 13)

Under the Council's Constitution, the Leader of the Council was required to inform the Annual Meeting of the Council of the delegations that he had made, as Leader of the Council, in relation to the functions of the Cabinet. Council had before it a report (tabled at the Meeting and attached to the signed copy of the minutes) which confirmed a minor change to the responsibility of the Cabinet Member for Transformation by adding Climate Change under his area of responsibility and a minor change to the Cabinet Member for Environment by adding Transport under her area of responsibility.

RESOLVED: (on a motion by Councillor Hudspeth, seconded by Councillor Heathcoat and carried nem con) to note the delegations made by the Leader of the Council with regard to the functions of the Cabinet.

37/19 OFFICER SCHEME OF DELEGATION

(Agenda Item 14)

At its Annual Meeting, Council was required to agree the officer scheme of delegation within the Council's Constitution.

Since the approval of the officer scheme of delegation at last year's Annual Meeting (May 2018), the Council had entered into a partnership with Cherwell District Council. Certain changes had been made to the senior

management team as a result of this partnership or through natural succession following changes in personnel. Some of the titles had changed since the last scheme of delegation was approved, however the actual scheme of delegation remains essentially the same.

RESOLVED: (on a motion by Councillor Sibley, seconded by Councillor Howson and carried nem con) to approve the Officer Scheme of Delegation (Part 7.2 of the Constitution) as in the Annex 2 to the report.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing