

These notes indicate the decisions taken at this meeting and the officers responsible for taking the agreed action. For background documentation please refer to the agenda and supporting papers available on the Council's web site (www.oxfordshire.gov.uk.)

If you have a query please contact Deborah Miller (Tel: 07920 084239; E-Mail: deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

COUNTY COUNCIL - TUESDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2020

<i>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AGENDA</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<p>1. Minutes</p> <p>To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2019 (CC1) and to receive information arising from them.</p>	<p>The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 November 2019 were approved and signed as an accurate record.</p>	
<p>2. Apologies for Absence</p>	<p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Sobia Afridi and Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles.</p>	<p>DLG (A. Newman)</p>
<p>3. Declarations of Interest</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Councillors Bartholomew, Gawrysiak, E. Smith, Thompson, Fawcett, Hannaby, Johnston, Webber, Rooke and Roberts, for the sake of transparency, declared non-pecuniary interests in Agenda Item 9 (Arrangements for SODC Local Plan following Holding Direction by the Secretary of State) on the basis that they were dual hatters.</p>	<p>DLG (A. Newman)</p>
<p>4. Official Communications</p>	<p>Council welcomed Councillor Pete Sudbury, newly elected County Councillor for Wallingford.</p> <p>Council received a statement which outlined the latest guidance in relation to the Corona Virus.</p> <p>Council sent its thoughts and warm wishes to Keith Mitchell and his family.</p> <p>Council paid tribute and held a</p>	<p>All to note</p>

...Decisions... Decisions...

COUNTY COUNCIL - TUESDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2020

<i>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AGENDA</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
	<p>minute's silence in memory of former County Councillor and Chairman of the Council, Ann Spokes Symonds and former County Councillor Phillip (John) Baston.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked members for their attendance at his Charity Concert which had raised money for the Soldiers of the Museum and the ABF Soldiers' Charity. The Chairman thanked Tim Stimpson and Sara Lenihan for their help in making the evening such a success.</p>	
<p>5. Appointments</p> <p>To make any changes to the membership of the Cabinet, scrutiny and other committees on the nomination of political groups.</p>	<p>Council Noted the appointments set out in the Schedule of Business.</p>	<p>DLG (S. Whitehead/ a. Newman)</p>
<p>6. Petitions and Public Address</p>	<p>Council received the following Petition and Public Address:</p> <p>A Petition from Mrs Beverley Darlison, on behalf of the Milton Heights Action Group requesting that the Council take all necessary steps to preserve and maintain the care and support of those at Hft Milton Heights who are threatened with the impending closure of the site.</p> <p>Public Address – Agenda Item 9</p> <p>Leader of South Oxfordshire District Council;</p> <p>Professor Richard Harding, CPRE;</p> <p>Ms Alice Bragg, A Better South Oxfordshire;</p> <p>Mr Mark Stevenson, The Clays Organic Market Garden;</p>	<p>CDAHS (S. Gibbens)</p>

...Decisions... Decisions...

COUNTY COUNCIL - TUESDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2020

<i>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AGENDA</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
	<p>Ms Mandy Rigault;</p> <p>Ms Ian Ashley;</p> <p>Dr Sue Roberts;</p> <p>Mr Robin Bennett, Chair of the Green Group SODC;</p> <p>Mr Peter Emery;</p> <p>Mr Ian Middleton;</p> <p>Dr Peter Kirby;</p> <p>SODC Councillor Leigh Rawlins;</p> <p>Ms Claire Bird.</p>	
<p>7. Pay Policy Statement - Report of the Remuneration Committee</p> <p>Report by the Director for Human Resources (CC7)</p> <p>The Remuneration Committee is required to report annually to Council on the Pay Policy Statement. The Remuneration Committee considered this report on 30 January 2020 and now submit it for approval to Council on 11 February 2020.</p> <p>The Council is RECOMMENDED to:</p> <p>(a) receive the report of the Remuneration Committee;</p> <p>(b) approve the revised Pay Policy Statement at Annex 1 to this report;</p> <p>(c) approve the Gender Pay Gap Data Summary at Annex 2 to this report.</p>	<p>Recommendations Agreed (nem con).</p>	<p>DHR</p>
<p>8. Corporate Plan and Service & Resource Planning 2020/21 - 2023/24</p> <p>Report by Director of Finance (CC8).</p>		

...Decisions... Decisions...

COUNTY COUNCIL - TUESDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2020

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AGENDA	DECISIONS	ACTION
<p>This report is the culmination of the Service & Resource Planning process for 2020/21 to 2023/24. It sets out the Cabinet's proposed budget for 2020/21, medium term financial plan to 2023/24 and capital programme to 2029/30, together with a number of strategies and policies that the Council is required to approve for the 2020/21 financial year.</p> <p>The report is divided into four main sections which are outlined below:</p> <p>Section 1 – Leader of the Council's overview (To follow) Section 2 – Corporate Plan Section 3 – Statutory Report by Director of Finance (Chief Finance Officer) Section 4 – Budget Strategy and Capital Programme</p> <p>The Council is RECOMMENDED to:</p> <p>(a) approve the Corporate Plan 2020-2024 as set out in Section 2 and delegate authority to the Corporate Director Customers and Organisational Development in consultation with the Leader and relevant portfolio holder(s) to make appropriate changes to the priority's framework.</p> <p>(b) have regard to the statutory report of the Director of Finance (at Section 3) in approving recommendations c to e below;</p> <p>(c) (in respect of the budget and medium-term financial plan) approve: (1) the council tax and precept calculations for 2020/21 set out in Section 4.3 and in particular: (i) a precept of £391,445,480;</p>	<p>Before the Council was the report and annexes, an Addenda setting out the changes to the Cabinet's proposed revenue budget for 2020/21 and Medium Term Financial Plan for 2021/22 to 2023/24 arising from information received after the publication of Council papers on 3 February and the Labour and Liberal Democrat Group's joint amendment and the Leader's Budget Speech as set out in Annex 2 to the Schedule of Business.</p> <p>With the consent of Council, Councillor Hudspeth moved his motion, amended at the suggestion of the labour and Liberal Democrat Group as set out in bold italics below:</p> <p>The Council is RECOMMENDED (in respect of revenue) to approve a budget for 2020/21 and a medium term financial plan for 2020/21 – 2023/24 including the amendment as proposed by the Labour Group & Liberal Democrat Group to approve the allocation of £200k in 2020/21 to develop an up to date assessment of the services young people in Oxfordshire want and need. To identify whether these services are currently being delivered and to investigate future service delivery options to meet that need. This funding will be met from the Budget Priorities Reserve.</p> <p>The motion as amended was carried by 60 votes to 0, with 1 abstention.</p>	<p>DF (H. Doney/E/ Greenland)</p>

COUNTY COUNCIL - TUESDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2020

<i>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AGENDA</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<p><i>(ii) a council tax for band D equivalent properties of £1,527.44;</i></p> <p><i>(2) a budget for 2020/21 as set out in Section 4.4;</i></p> <p><i>(3) a medium-term plan for 2020/21 to 2023/24 as set out in Section 4.1 (which incorporates changes to the existing medium-term financial plan as set out in Section 4.2;</i></p> <p><i>(4) virement arrangements to operate within the approved budget for 2020/21 as set out in Section 4.5;</i></p> <p><i>(5) the Financial Strategy for 2020/21 at Section 4.6;</i></p> <p><i>(6) the Earmarked Reserves and General Balances Policy Statement 2019/20 at Section 4.7 including</i></p> <p><i>(i) the Chief Finance Officer's recommended level of General Balances for 2020/21 (Section 4.7), and</i></p> <p><i>(ii) the planned level of Earmarked Reserves for 2019/20 to 2023/24 (Section 4.7.1)</i></p> <p><i>(7) the use of Dedicated Schools Grant (provisional allocation) for 2020/21 as set out in Section 4.8.</i></p> <p><i>(d) (in respect of capital) approve:</i></p> <p><i>(1) the Capital & Investment Strategy for 2020/21 – 2029/30 including the Prudential Indicators and Minimum Revenue Provision Methodology</i></p>		

...Decisions... Decisions...

COUNTY COUNCIL - TUESDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2020

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AGENDA	DECISIONS	ACTION
<p>Statement as set out in Section 4.9;</p> <p>(2) a Capital Programme for 2019/20 to 2029/30 as set out in Section 4.9.1 which includes new capital proposals set out in Section 4.9.2 and the Highways Maintenance Programme to 2024/25 set out in Section 4.9.3; and</p> <p>(3) the Investment Strategy for 2020/21 set out in Section 4.9.4.</p> <p>(e) (in respect of treasury management) approve:</p> <p>(1) the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for 2020/21 at Section 4.9.5 including the Treasury Management Prudential Indicators and the Specified Investment and Non-Specified Investment Instruments.</p> <p>(2) the continued delegation of authority to withdraw or advance additional funds to/from external fund managers to the Treasury Management Strategy Team;</p> <p>(3) that any further changes required to the 2020/21 strategy be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Finance;</p> <p>(f) delegate authority to the Leader of the Council, following consultation with the Director of Finance and the Cabinet Member</p>		

...Decisions... Decisions...

COUNTY COUNCIL - TUESDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2020

<i>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AGENDA</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<p><i>for Finance, to make appropriate changes to the budget for 2020/21.</i></p>		
<p>9. Arrangements for SODC Local Plan following Holding Direction by the Secretary of State.</p> <p>Report by the Corporate Director for Place & Growth (CC9) To Follow</p> <p>South Oxfordshire District Council submitted its Local Plan to the Planning Inspectorate for examination in March 2019. In October 2019, following a period in which the new South Oxfordshire administration were considering either withdrawing or significantly amending their Local Plan, they were issued with a Holding Direction by the Secretary of State. This has had the effect of preventing them from withdrawing their plan. Since October discussions have been taking place between the District Council and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to try and find a way to allow the due process of examining the Local Plan to continue. The holding direction remains in place.</p> <p>In his most recent letter to South Oxfordshire District Council on the 7th January 2020, the Secretary of State reiterated that the Government is committed to ensuring every area has an up to date and suitably ambitious Local Plan in place. In addition to considering Local Plan intervention under section 21 and 27 the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 ("the 2004 Act"), he also stated that he is considering whether it is appropriate to exercise powers under section 27A of, and paragraph 7B of Schedule A1 to, the 2004 Act and invite Oxfordshire County Council to prepare the South Oxfordshire Local Plan.</p> <p>Paragraph 7B of Schedule A1 to the 2004</p>	<p>The amendment by Councillor Liz Brighthouse was carried by 43 votes to 16, with 2 abstentions as follows:</p> <p>Given that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SODC has not been able to come up with suggestions which would change the previously agreed Local Plan in a way which would honour the promises made to residents when they were elected. 2. The SODC Local Plan has implications beyond the District. 3. The houses proposed in the Plan to be developed in Grenoble Road and the associated opening of the Cowley Branch Line will meet both the desperate need for housing close to Oxford and the need for such a development to be cognisant of the Climate Emergency. 4. The traffic issues in Didcot need to be addressed urgently: <p>In the event of the receipt of an invitation by the Secretary of State to prepare or revise the South Oxfordshire Local Plan pursuant to powers under section 27A of, and paragraph 7B of Schedule A1 to, the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Council is RECOMMENDED to accept such an</p>	<p>CDPG (J. Larkcom)</p>

...Decisions... Decisions...

COUNTY COUNCIL - TUESDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2020

<i>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AGENDA</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<p>Act provides:</p> <p>“If the Secretary of State—</p> <p>(a) thinks that a lower-tier planning authority are failing or omitting to do anything it is necessary for them to do in connection with the preparation, revision or adoption of a development plan document, and</p> <p>(b) invites the upper-tier county council to prepare or revise the document, the upper-tier county council may prepare or revise (as the case may be) the development plan document.”</p> <p>Paragraph 44 of the <u>Explanatory Notes</u> as set out in the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017 (the amending legislation) states: “Where a county council accepts the invitation, they are responsible for preparing the document and having it examined. They may then approve the document (or approve it subject to modifications recommended by the inspector)”.</p> <p>The Secretary of State’s letter of 7th January asked South Oxfordshire District Council to outline, by 31st January 2020, any exceptional circumstances as to why they do not have a plan in place that should be taken into account when a decision on next steps is made. The Secretary of State’s decision is awaited as to how he now intends to proceed, including whether to formally invite the County Council to prepare the South Oxfordshire Local Plan. Should the County Council agree to accept any such invitation then it would require satisfactory assurances that, as set out under the provisions of the 2004 Act, its costs would be fully recovered.</p> <p><i>In the event of the receipt of an</i></p>	<p>invitation subject to satisfactory assurances being received in relation to the recovery of its costs.</p> <p>The procedural amendment moved by Councillor Jane Hanna at the Meeting to withdraw the Motion pending further legal advice was lost by 38 votes to 16, with 5 abstentions.</p> <p>The substantive motion as amended was carried by 39 votes to 16, with 4 abstentions.</p> <p>RESOLVED: (39 votes to 16, 4 abstentions)</p> <p>Given that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SODC has not been able to come up with suggestions which would change the previously agreed Local Plan in a way which would honour the promises made to residents when they were elected. 2. The SODC Local Plan has implications beyond the District. 3. The houses proposed in the Plan to be developed in Grenoble Road and the associated opening of the Cowley Branch Line will meet both the desperate need for housing close to Oxford and the need for such a development to by cognisant of the Climate Emergency. 4. The traffic issues in Didcot need to be addressed urgently: <p>In the event of the receipt of an invitation by the Secretary of State to prepare or revise the South</p>	

...Decisions... Decisions...

COUNTY COUNCIL - TUESDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2020

<i>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AGENDA</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<i>invitation by the Secretary of State to prepare or revise the South Oxfordshire Local Plan pursuant to powers under section 27A of, and paragraph 7B of Schedule A1 to, the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Council is RECOMMENDED to accept such an invitation subject to satisfactory assurances being received in relation to the recovery of its costs.</i>	Oxfordshire Local Plan pursuant to powers under section 27A of, and paragraph 7B of Schedule A1 to, the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Council is RECOMMENDED to accept such an invitation subject to satisfactory assurances being received in relation to the recovery of its costs.	

ANNEX
