

# County Council

4 May 2020

## Agenda

*If you wish to view proceedings please click on this [live stream link](#).  
However, that will not allow you to participate in the meeting.*

## 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](mailto: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***

**Monday, 4 May 2020 at 10.30 am**

***Due to guidelines imposed on social distancing by the Government  
this meeting will be held remotely***

*Due to the current guidelines regarding social distancing this meeting of the County Council will be held remotely. Normally requests to speak at a public meeting are requested by 9 am on the preceding day to the published date of a meeting. However, during the current situation and to facilitate these new arrangements we are asking that requests to speak are submitted by 9am **four** working days before the meeting i.e. 9 am on Wednesday 29 April together with a transcript of your presentation emailed to [deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk)*

***If you wish to view proceedings please click on this [live stream link](#).  
However, that will not allow you to participate in the meeting.***



Yvonne Rees  
Chief Executive

April 2020

Committee Officer: **Deborah Miller**  
Tel: 07920 084239; E-Mail: [deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

In order to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, notice is given that the meeting 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.

# AGENDA

## 1. Minutes (Pages 1 - 14)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2020 (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. Chairman's Announcements

## 5. Petitions and Public Address

## 6. Constitution Changes (Pages 15 - 26)

Report by the Director for Law & Governance (CC6)

The report sets out for information proposed temporary changes necessary for the effective running of remote meetings during the restrictions brought about by the corona virus pandemic. The changes are in line with, and give practical effect to, The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 that came into force on 4 April 2020. The Regulations enable all local authority meetings before 7 May 2021 to be held remotely and removes the requirement for the annual meeting this year.

**Council is RECOMMENDED to:**

- (a) Note the amendments set out in the Annex that the Monitoring Officer has made following publication of the Regulations to give effect to the principles of open decision making and public engagement;**
- (b) Determine whether an Annual Council meeting be held remotely;**
- (c) Note the emergency powers set out at Annex 3;**
- (d) Agree that the Director of Law and Governance in consultation with the**

***Chairman of the Council be authorised to make minor changes to the process and, as necessary, the Constitution in the light of practical experience of remote working.***

## **7. Appointment of Monitoring Officer on an Interim basis**

Report by the Chief Executive (CC7) **REPORT TO FOLLOW**

As a result of the current Monitoring Officer, Nick Graham, leaving the Council it is necessary for the Council to re-appoint an officer to this statutory role. The report sets out the procedural requirements in making such an appointment.

## **8. Members' Allowances Scheme 2020/21 (Pages 27 - 28)**

Report by the Director for Law and Governance (CC8)

Each year, the Council must approve a Members' Allowances Scheme. Before doing so it must consider the views of its Independent Remuneration Panel.

The COVID-19 restrictions on holding meetings have legally prevented Council from meeting until now to consider adopting a Scheme for 2020/21. The report sets out proposals for approving a scheme this year in light of the pandemic.

***Council is RECOMMENDED to:***

- (a) to agree that the Members' Scheme of Allowances for 2020/21 should be the same as that which applied during 2019/20;***
- (b) to hold a further review of allowances once the business of the Council has sufficiently returned to normal following the COVID-19 pandemic, and in any case ahead of the May 2021 County elections.***

## **9. Oxfordshire Minerals And Waste Local Plan: Review Of Oxfordshire Statement Of Community Involvement (Pages 29 - 70)**

Report by the Director for Planning & Place (CC9)

The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) is a statutory planning document that sets out how Oxfordshire County Council will involve the community (consultees, stakeholders and other interested parties) in preparing and reviewing the Minerals and Waste Local Plan and making decisions on planning applications for minerals, waste and County Council developments. The Council must comply with its SCI in preparing local plan documents.

The current SCI was adopted by the Council in March 2015. The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012(as amended) requires SCI's to be reviewed every 5 years. In view of these Regulations, and the legislative changes that have been made under the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017, it is now an appropriate and relevant time to update the Statement of Community Involvement to incorporate these changes.

**Council is RECOMMENDED to:**

- (a) ***adopt the Oxfordshire Statement of Community Involvement with the amendments as shown in Annex 1; and***
- (b) ***delegate to the Corporate Director for Place and Growth the approval of the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Statement of Community Involvement at Annex 1, subject to any further minor changes to be made in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment.***

## **10. Dispensations**

Section 85(1) Local Government Act 1972 requires a member of a Local Authority to attend at least one meeting of the Authority within a six month consecutive period, in order to avoid being disqualified as a Councillor.

Whilst no notification has been received by the Monitoring Officer seeking approval for an extension to the usual six month attendance rule, if at the date of the meeting there are any Councillors that, by virtue of not be able to attend, would fall foul of that rule, then Council is **RECOMMENDED** to grant a dispensation pursuant to S85(1) Local Government Act 1972 for such a Councillor.

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