

DELEGATED DECISIONS BY CABINET MEMBER FOR PLACE, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION

MINUTES of the meeting held on Thursday, 26 February 2026 commencing at 2.00 pm and finishing at 2.25 pm

Present:

Voting Members: Councillor Judy Roberts – in the Chair

Officers: Jack Ahier (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Paul Fermer (Director of Environment and Highways), Timothy Mann (Programme Lead – South), Beccy Micklem (Team Leader – Landscape and Nature Recovery).

The Cabinet Member considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting [, together with a schedule of addenda tabled at the meeting/the following additional documents:] and agreed as set out below. Copies of the agenda and reports [agenda, reports and schedule/additional documents] are attached to the signed Minutes.

18/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda No. 1/26)

There were none.

19/26 QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS (Agenda No. 2/26)

There were none.

20/26 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS (Agenda No. 3/26)

There were two requests to address the meeting, which can be seen below:

Item 6 – Approve and Authorise the Award of the HIF1 Clifton Hampden Bypass Construction Contract

- Gregory O’Broin
- Richard Tamplin

21/26 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Agenda No. 4/26)

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2026 were approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

22/26 BIODIVERSITY ACTION AT OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (JAN 2023-DEC 2025)
(Agenda No. 5/26)

The Chair introduced the item to the meeting.

Officers confirmed that the report had been prepared to report how the Council was fulfilling its 'strengthened' biodiversity duty under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (as amended). Approval to publish the report had been recommended to fulfil statutory obligations.

The period covered by the report was from January 2023 to December 2025.

The Chair thanked officers and agreed to the recommendations in the report.

RESOLVED to:

- a) Approve the 'Biodiversity Action at Oxfordshire County Council Jan 2023-Dec 2025' report for publication.**

23/26 APPROVE AND AUTHORISE THE AWARD OF THE HIF1 CLIFTON HAMPDEN BYPASS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT
(Agenda No. 6/26)

The Chair introduced the item to the meeting, invited speakers to make their addresses and responded to their points in turn.

The Chair confirmed that the HIF1 scheme was separated into 3 sections; the Didcot Science Bridge, the Culham River Crossing and the Clifton Hampden Bypass. This decision related to the construction contract for the Clifton Hampden Bypass. Officers confirmed the intention of the wider scheme was to improve connectivity between Didcot and Culham, reducing congestion and to support the delivery of 12,000 homes being built in the vicinity.

Officers confirmed that the recommendation was to delegate the award of the contract to the Director of Environment and Highways. If approved, the main construction was due to begin in April and last for 18 months.

Officers noted that the scheme was fully funded from 4 different sources, with contingency funding that had not currently been drawn into from Homes England.

Officers confirmed that there would be quarterly updates with parish councils to keep them informed on the progress of the scheme and that e-newsletters had also been introduced.

The Chair noted that she felt the scheme would be worthwhile to alleviate congestion in Clifton Hampden and also make it a better environment for children attending the primary school.

The Chair thanked speakers for their contributions, officers for their work and agreed to the recommendations in the report.

RESOLVED to:

a) Delegate authority to the Director of Environment and Highways to award the Stage Two NEC4 Engineering and Construction Contract for the HIF1 Clifton Hampden Bypass scheme to John Graham Construction Limited under the Crown Commercial Service Construction Works and Associated Services Framework RM6088, Lot 4.1 (England and Wales) subject to:

- (i) agreement of the target cost (within the released budget),**
- (ii) agreement of the programme for the works and**
- (iii) finalising the contract terms.**

..... in the Chair

Date of signing