

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held on Tuesday, 12 September 2017 commencing at 10.30 am and finishing at 4.00 pm.

Present:

Councillor Zoé Patrick – in the Chair

Councillors:

Sobia Afridi	Stefan Gawrysiak	Susanna Pressel
Lynda Atkins	Mark Gray	Laura Price
Jamila Begum Azad	Carmen Griffiths	Eddie Reeves
Hannah Banfield	Jenny Hannaby	G.A. Reynolds
David Bartholomew	Neville F. Harris	Judy Roberts
S.E. Bartington	Steve Harrod	Alison Rooke
Maurice Billington	Mrs Judith Heathcoat	Dan Sames
Liz Brighthouse OBE	Hilary Hibbert-Biles	Gill Sanders
Paul Buckley	John Howson	John Sanders
Nick Carter	Ian Hudspeth	Les Sibley
Mark Cherry	Tony Ilott	Emily Smith
Yvonne Constance OBE	Dr Kirsten Johnson	Roz Smith
Ian Corkin	Bob Johnston	Lawrie Stratford
Helen Evans	Liz Leffman	Alan Thompson
Arash Fatemian	Lorraine Lindsay-Gale	Emma Turnbull
Neil Fawcett	Mark Lygo	Michael Waive
Ted Fenton	D. McIlveen	Liam Walker
Nicholas Field-Johnson	Kieron Mallon	Richard Webber
Mrs Anda Fitzgerald-O'Connor	Jeannette Matelot	
Mike Fox-Davies	Glynis Phillips	

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.

147/17 MINUTES

(Agenda Item 1)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2017 were approved and signed subject to showing Councillor Ted Fenton under Apologies and Absence.

Matters Arising

At the suggestion of Councillor Webber, the Chairman agreed to ask officers to give further consideration to the follow-up mechanism used to report back on issues raised at Council.

Councillor Harris indicated that he was dissatisfied with the amendment to the last Minutes and that he wished to make it clear that his point was much more subtle than appeared in the Minutes.

148/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

(Agenda Item 2)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bulmer, Clarke, Handley and Mathew.

149/17 OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

(Agenda Item 4)

The Chairman thanked all those who had given so generously for the Maggie's Culture Crawl of Oxford which would be held on 29th September to raise funds for centres all over the country which had been set up to support anyone or their relatives and friends who are touched by cancer. Anyone who still wished to send a donation or join her was very welcome to do so and an email with a link to the JustGiving page would be sent round.

The Chairman reminded members that she would be holding her Charity dinner on Saturday 9th December at County Hall. The Oxford Guild of Chefs would be producing the meal. Any donations towards the charity auction and the raffle prizes would be welcome.

Council congratulated staff on being awarded silver Employer Recognition Award which was part of a scheme which supported the work the Council undertake with reservists as part of the Army Covenant which was signed several years ago. There was a cabinet displaying all the awards that we have collected on behalf on the Council in the Reception Area in the entrance of County Hall.

The Chairman drew attention to the magnificent Medieval Mosaic which went on display in the Grand Jury Room as part of the Open Doors event in Oxford over the weekend. This piece of art was in the Guinness Book of Records and replicated the Bayeux Tapestry. The mosaic would be on display for the next 3 months.

The Chairman encouraged all members to attend the safeguarding briefing scheduled at the close of the Council meeting.

150/17 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Agenda Item 6)

Council received the following petitions and public address:

Dr Sheikh Ramzy spoke in support of Agenda Item 16 (Motion from Councillor Jamila Azad calling for an independent review of hate crime legislation, including measures to tackle online hatred and abuse);

Mr Chris Church spoke in support of Agenda Item 15 (Motion from Councillor John Sanders) calling for a councillor-led inter-council Air Pollution Action Group to identify measures to reduce air pollution.

151/17 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(Agenda Item 8)

15 questions with notice were asked. Details of the questions and answers and supplementary questions and answers (where asked) are set out in Annex 1 to the minutes.

In relation to question 5 (Question to Councillor Constance from Councillor Hannaby, Councillor Constance gave an undertaking to follow up on the suggestion that the Council extend its current maintenance Contract.

In relation to question 7 (Question to Councillor Hibbert-Biles from Councillor Howson, Councillor Hibbert-Biles gave an undertaking to include representations about funding for SEN transport now that the DfE is having a review on the Guidance in relation to SEN Transport.

In relation to question 10 (Question to Councillor Constance from Councillor John Sanders, Councillor Constance agreed to walk the route with Councillor Sanders to discuss the points raised in his question.

In relation to question 11 (Question to Councillor Constance from Councillor Pressel, Councillor Constance gave an undertaking to follow up with officers on how the Council worked with the City Council on the Botley Road improvements.

152/17 REPORT OF THE CABINET

(Agenda Item 9)

Council received the report of the Cabinet.

In relation to paragraph 1 (Section 75 Agreement – Update 2017) (Question from Councillor Rooke to Councillor Stratford), Councillor Stratford undertook to provide Rooke with a written answer detailing what systems are in place to support staff through the process of the Care Quality Commission's review of high DETOC figures in Oxon and should the result lead to a reduction in government funding, how will the Cabinet Member ensure that any loss to the pooled budget is geared in relation to the proportions of DETOC figures which are directly the responsibility of the County Council.

In relation to paragraph 1 (Section 75 Agreement – Update 2017) (Question from Councillor Price to Councillor Stratford), Councillor Stratford undertook

to provide Price with a written answer detailing what elements of the pooled budget are contributing towards the care and support directly related to the now permanently closed acute hospital beds and what the potential risks to the budget are now that the CCG now plan to close further beds.

In relation to paragraph 2 (City Centre Transport Improvements and Experimental Queen Street Closure) (Question from Councillor Johnston to Councillor Constance), Councillor Constance undertook to provide Councillor Johnston with a written answer detailing whether there are any contingency plans in place should the government decide not to close Queen Street.

In relation to paragraph 2 (City Centre Transport Improvements and Experimental Queen Street Closure) (Question from Councillor Howson to Councillor Constance), Councillor Constance undertook to provide Councillor Howson with a written answer detailing why the Westgate Travel Plan did not feature in the report that went to Cabinet in July and explaining why having spent £400,000 on the Worcester street junction the Council are spending more money redeveloping that junction again, despite the fact that councillors were told last week that there is going to be a joint County and City study with consultants to look at the whole problem of transport, pedestrians and cycling within the City and the cost of that Study.

153/17 TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2016/17 OUTTURN

(Agenda Item 10)

The Council had before them a report by the Chief Finance Officer (CC10) which set out the Treasury Management activity undertaken in the financial year 2016/17 in compliance with the CIPFA Code of Practice. The report included Debt and Investment activity, Prudential Indicator Outturn, Investment Strategy, and interest receivable and payable for the financial year.

Councillor Bartholomew moved and Councillor Hudspeth seconded the recommendations set out in the report and on the face of the agenda.

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

RESOLVED: (nem con) to note the Council's Treasury Management Activity in 2016/17.

154/17 OXFORDSHIRE MINERALS & WASTE LOCAL PLAN: PART 1 - CORE STRATEGY - INSPECTOR'S REPORT AND ADOPTION

(Agenda Item 11)

The County Council had a statutory duty to prepare a new Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan, to provide an effective planning strategy and policies for the supply of minerals and management of waste in the county, consistent with environmental, social and economic needs, to replace the existing Minerals and Waste Local Plan which was adopted in 1996. The Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Part 1 – Core Strategy (the

Plan) was approved by the County Council in March 2015 and submitted for independent examination by a planning inspector in December 2015. Following a hearing held in September 2016, the Inspector issued an Interim Report.

The Interim Report provided the Inspector's conclusions on the amounts of provision that needed to be made for mineral working and waste management over the Plan period to 2031. He concluded that the provision for mineral working should be as the Council proposed in the submitted Plan, based on the Local Aggregate Assessment 2014. The Interim Report also covered certain legal and procedural matters, including the need for further Strategic Environmental Assessment / Sustainability Appraisal (SEA/SA) work to be undertaken and stated that modifications to the Plan needed to be proposed.

The further SEA/SA work required was undertaken and a comprehensive new SEA/SA report prepared. Proposed modifications to the Plan were drafted in response to the Inspector's Interim Report and in the light of representations made on the Plan and discussion at the examination hearing and the further SA/SEA work. Following agreement by Cabinet in January 2017, the proposed modifications and the new SEA/SA report were published for public consultation in February 2017.

All responses to this consultation that were received by the Council were passed to the Inspector. The Inspector considered these responses and issued his Final Report on the examination of the Plan on 15 June 2017. The Inspector concluded that the Plan as submitted had a number of deficiencies in respect of soundness and legal compliance, which meant that he recommended non-adoption of it as submitted, but that with his recommended main modifications the Plan satisfied legal requirements and met the criteria for soundness and was capable of adoption.

The Inspector's Final Report confirmed the findings of his Interim Report. His recommended main modifications were largely the same as the Council's proposed modifications that were published in February 2017 but he had made a small number of alterations to bring certain polices into line with national policy and ensure soundness of the Plan.

Following approval by Cabinet on 18 July 2017, the Council had before it the Plan with the main modifications recommended by the Inspector, together with additional modifications that do not affect the polices for Adoption.

Councillor Constance moved and Councillor Hudspeth seconded that Council approve the recommendations set out in the report and on the face of the Agenda.

Following a lengthy debate, the motion was put to the vote and was carried by 53 votes to 3, with 2 abstentions.

RESOLVED: (by 53 votes to 3, 2 abstentions) to:

- (a) adopt the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Part 1 – Core Strategy with the main modifications recommended by the Inspector in his final report (Appendix B) at Annex 3B, the additional modifications at Annex 4 and any further minor additional modifications made under b)i below, in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 section 23(3) (as amended);
- (b) authorise the Director for Planning & Place to:
 - i. make any further minor additional modifications which may be necessary, such as formatting changes and typographical corrections, in order to publish the plan; and
 - ii. carry out the steps required by The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, Regulation 26 for making the plan and other documents and information publically available and notifying specified persons as soon as reasonably practicable after the plan is adopted.

155/17 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR LIZ LEFFMAN

(Agenda Item 12)

Councillor Leffman moved and Councillor Rooke seconded the following Motion:

“This Council notes that in spite of repeatedly advertising vacancies, the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group has been unable to recruit enough GPs and other clinical staff to meet local need.

Many patients now have to wait for at least 4 weeks for a non-emergency appointment with their GP. This is in part due to the difficulty of attracting GP’s to serve in rural areas, especially where house prices are high and GP premises require significant investment. It is a problem shared with other counties, and is acknowledged by the SPARSE Rural Group of the Rural Services Network, which has given backing to a proposal to offer GPs a “rural weighting” as part of their remuneration. Similar to the accepted practice of ‘London weighting’, such a scheme would aim to attract the needed physicians and in turn facilitate better provision of health services across the county.

This Council believes that a “rural weighting” is needed in order to attract GPs to the county and relieve pressure on accident and emergency services. This Council therefore asks the Leader of the Council to request Oxfordshire MPs to lobby the Secretary of State for Health to introduce a scheme of ‘rural weighting’ for GPs who accept positions in rural counties such as Oxfordshire.”

Councillor Brighouse moved and Councillor Price seconded the following amendment in bold italics and strikethrough:

“This Council notes that in spite of repeatedly advertising vacancies, the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group has been unable to recruit enough GPs and other clinical staff to meet local need.

Many patients now have to wait for at least 4 weeks for a non-emergency appointment with their GP. This is in part due to the difficulty of ~~in~~ attracting GP’s to serve in rural areas **Oxfordshire**, especially where house prices are high. ~~and GP premises require significant investment. It is a problem shared with other counties, and is acknowledged by the SPARSE Rural Group of the Rural Services Network, which has given backing to a proposal to offer GPs a “rural weighting” as part of their remuneration. Similar to the accepted practice of ‘London weighting’, such a scheme~~ **Oxfordshire although a rural County has all the challenges in recruiting staff due to the cost of living as exists in London. Introducing a weighting scheme such as operates in London** would aim to attract the **much** needed physicians and in turn facilitate better provision of health services across the County.

This Council believes that a “rural weighting” **this** is needed in order to attract GPs **and other clinicians** to the county and **so** relieve pressure on **Accident and Emergency Services**. This Council therefore asks the Leader of the Council to request Oxfordshire MPs to lobby the Secretary of State for Health to introduce a “**London Weighting**” **type** scheme of ‘rural weighting’ for GPs **and clinical staff** who accept positions in rural counties such as Oxfordshire.”

Following debate, the amendment was put to the vote and was carried by 48 votes to 10.

The substantive motion as amended was put to the vote and was agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: (Unanimous)

“This Council notes that in spite of repeatedly advertising vacancies, the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group has been unable to recruit enough GPs and other clinical staff to meet local need.

Many patients now have to wait for at least 4 weeks for a non-emergency appointment with their GP. This is in part due to the difficulty in attracting GP’s to serve in Oxfordshire, where house prices are high. Oxfordshire although a rural County has all the challenges in recruiting staff due to the cost of living as exists in London. Introducing a weighting scheme such as operates in London would attract the much needed physicians and in turn facilitate better provision of health services across the County.

This Council believes that this is needed to attract GPs and other clinicians to the county and so relieve pressure on Accident and Emergency Services. This Council therefore asks the Leader of the Council to request Oxfordshire MPs to lobby the Secretary of State for Health to introduce a “London

Weighting” type scheme for GPs and clinical staff who accept positions in Oxfordshire.”

156/17 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR MARK CHERRY

(Agenda Item 13)

With the agreement of Council, Councillor Cherry moved and Councillor Reeves seconded his motion as amended at the suggestion of Councillor Reeves below in strikethrough:

"Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department needs at least £165 million pounds to get Oxfordshire roads fit for purpose. Unfortunately though, it has to work with a highways budget for Oxfordshire roads of around £20 million a year.

Council asks the leader of Oxfordshire County Council write to the Minister for Transport to ask that he give urgent consideration to the importance of extra funding for our ~~failing~~ roads in Oxfordshire.”

Councillor Smith moved and Councillor Johnston seconded the following amendment as shown below in bold italics and strikethrough:

"Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department needs at least £165 million ~~pounds~~ to get Oxfordshire roads fit for purpose. Unfortunately though, it has to work with a highways budget for Oxfordshire roads of around £20 million a year.

Council asks the leader of Oxfordshire County Council write to the Minister for Transport to ask that he give urgent consideration to the importance of extra funding for our failing roads in Oxfordshire.”—***Council also asks Cabinet to consider prudential borrowing as an additional way to ensure ongoing investment in our local roads***”

Following debate, the amendment was put to the vote and was lost by 46 votes to 12, with 1 abstention.

The Substantive motion as amended was then put to the vote and was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: (Unanimous)

"Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department needs at least £165 million pounds to get Oxfordshire roads fit for purpose. Unfortunately though, it has to work with a highways budget for Oxfordshire roads of around £20 million a year.

Council asks the leader of Oxfordshire County Council write to the Minister for Transport to ask that he give urgent consideration to the importance of extra funding for our roads in Oxfordshire.”

157/17 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR EMMA TURNBULL

(Agenda Item 14)

With the consent of Council, Councillor Turnbull moved an alteration to her motion at the suggestion of Councillors Reeves and Johnson as follows in bold italics and strikethrough:

Oxfordshire has a growing number of ***children and young people (CYP)*** as having complex social, emotional and mental health needs. Some of these ***CYP*** have experienced conflict and ***all*** need timely access to services including specialist psychological assessment. Counselling or therapy to help them through the crisis and rebuild their lives.

The local CAMHS has been struggling to meet the needs of these young people. Figures for June 2017 show that only 53% of young people get their first routine appointment within 12 weeks of referral (target is 75%). There are currently 1,114 ***CYP*** waiting to access mental health services in Oxfordshire.

The CAMHS provides excellent care, but is a service currently unable to offer quick, flexible intervention to help young people in distress. This is having a detrimental effect on schools, which lack the expertise, training and resources to manage their pupils' complex needs.

There is a real, growing need to provide young people in distress with access to one-to-one or group-based specialist services that help alleviate trauma and build resilience while they wait for longer term ***assessment and treatment***. These services should be freely accessible to young people through the locality teams working from our family and children's centres.

This Council, recognising this ***urgent*** need, calls on Cabinet to investigate the cost and practicality to set up a specialist emotional and mental wellbeing service ***for CYP*** for consideration in the 2018 budget. This service would complement and support the mental health awareness work that is being done in schools, but would focus on providing rapid, flexible support for young people in distress.

Following debate, the motion as amended was put to the vote and was carried by 55 votes to 0.

RESOLVED: (55 votes to 0)

“Oxfordshire has a growing number of children and young people (CYP) as having complex social, emotional and mental health needs. Some of these CYP have experienced conflict and all need timely access to services

including specialist psychological assessment. Counselling or therapy to help them through the crisis and rebuild their lives.

The local CAMHS has been struggling to meet the needs of these young people. Figures for June 2017 show that only 53% of young people get their first routine appointment within 12 weeks of referral (target is 75%). There are currently 1,114 CYP waiting to access mental health services in Oxfordshire.

The CAMHS provides excellent care, but is a service currently unable to offer quick, flexible intervention to help young people in distress. This is having a detrimental effect on schools, which lack the expertise, training and resources to manage their pupils' complex needs.

There is a real, growing need to provide young people in distress with access to one-to-one or group-based specialist services that help alleviate trauma and build resilience while they wait for longer term assessment and treatment. These services should be freely accessible to young people through the locality teams working from our family and children's centres.

This Council, recognising this urgent need, calls on Cabinet to investigate the cost and practicality to set up a specialist emotional and mental wellbeing service for CYP for consideration in the 2018 budget. This service would complement and support the mental health awareness work that is being done in schools, but would focus on providing rapid, flexible support for young people in distress.”

158/17 MOTIONS 15, 16 AND 17

(Agenda Item 15)

The time being after 3.52 pm, motions 15, 16 and 17 were considered dropped in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13.5.5.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing