

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING OF COUNCIL – 10 FEBRUARY 2026

SCHEDULE OF BUSINESS

ITEM/TIME	ITEM	PROPOSALS (M = Motion; SEC = Second; Am = Amendment S = Statement; Q = Question; REC = Recommendation to be determined)
1 10:30	Minutes (Page 9) To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2025 (CC1) and to receive information arising from them.	
2	Apologies for Absence	
3	Declarations of Interest	
4 10:35 25 mins	Official Communications Oxfordshire County Council has again been awarded gold in the Armed Forces Employer Recognition Scheme recognising its ongoing commitment to the armed forces community. The Gold Award is the highest honour for employers who demonstrate exceptional advocacy, flexible HR policies, and sustained support for defence. First awarded to the council in 2020, this year's revalidation highlights the authority's ongoing commitment to supporting veterans and reservists, as well as adult cadet volunteers and the spouses and partners of armed forces personnel who work in the council. Congratulations to all involved. The Oxfordshire recipients of awards in the New Year's Honours are listed in Annex 1 of the Schedule of Business. Congratulations to all those honoured.	

	<p>A list of events attended by the Chair and Vice-Chair since the December Council meeting is included in Annex 2.</p> <p>In particular, the Chair thanks those who attended his Gala Dinner on 30 January and those who could not attend but donated to the charities. £816 was raised from this event, which will be distributed between the Chair's three charities: Abingdon Riding for the Disabled, Oxford United in the Community and OXSRAD.</p> <p>The Council has been informed of the passing of two former county councillors in recent months.</p> <p>Former Cllr David Nicholson was elected as the Liberal Democrat Member for Woodstock Division in 1997 and stood down ahead of the 2001 elections. He was a member of the Education Committee, Schools Performance & Quality Sub-Committee, Community Education (Youth & Adult) Sub-Committee and Public Protection Committee during his term of office.</p> <p>Former Cllr Nicholson was also a member of West Oxfordshire District Council, representing the Witney East Ward from 2003 to 2007 and a parliamentary candidate.</p> <p>Former Leader of the Council, Ian Hudspeth, had been a member of Bladon Parish Council, and West Oxfordshire District Council, before becoming the Conservative Member for Woodstock Division on 5th May 2005, a seat he held until May 2021.</p> <p>Ian held the Cabinet portfolio for Transport Implementation, later Transport from 2007, changing to take on the Growth & Infrastructure portfolio from 2009 until 2011.</p> <p>He was elected Leader of the Council in May 2012, a position he held until 2021. He remained active in politics and stood again</p>	
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	for election in May 2025 even though he was not elected.	
5	<p>Appointments</p> <p>The Monitoring Officer has been notified of amendments to the Scheme of Delegation for Cabinet Members and reports this to the Council as the Proper Officer.</p> <p>The report is included at Page 5 of Addenda 4.</p>	
<p>6</p> <p>11:00</p> <p>20 mins</p>	<p>Petitions and Public Address</p> <p><i>Any person may address the Council on an item on the agenda subject to the provisions in CPR 10.2 of the Constitution</i></p> <p>Petitions – 3 minutes to speak (10.1.2(i))</p> <p>Public Address – 3 minutes to speak (10.2.1)</p>	<p>Petitions</p> <p>Linda Goodhead – Weight Limit on Hinksey Hill</p> <p>Public Address</p> <p>Item 8: Debbie Davies Richard Drew Steve Bolingbroke</p>
<p>7</p> <p>11:20</p> <p>20 mins</p>	<p>Pay Policy Statement 2026/27 (Page 23)</p> <p>Movers 5 mins and speaking in debate 3 minutes, CPR 15.4.2</p> <p>Council is RECOMMENDED to:</p> <p>a) Approve and adopt the 2026/27 pay policy statement and agree to its publication on the council website and intranet, as required by The Localism Act 2011 (the Act) and the Code of Practice on Data Transparency.</p>	<p>M Fawcett SEC Leffman S Phillips S Barlow S Baines</p>
<p>10</p> <p>11:40</p>	<p>Budget and Business Planning Report 2026/27 to 2030/31 (Page 39)</p> <p><i>Movers 10 mins, seconders 5 mins and speaking in debate 5 minutes, CPR 15.4.2</i></p> <p>The Council is RECOMMENDED to:</p> <p>a. have regard to the statutory report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer) (at Section 3) in approving recommendations b to d below;</p>	<p>For timings and speakers see below</p>

	<p>b. (in respect of the budget and medium term financial strategy – at Section 4) approve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the council tax and precept calculations for 2026/27 set out in Section 4.3 and in particular: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a precept of £567,372,273.74 (ii) a council tax for band D equivalent properties of £2,006.78; (2) a budget for 2026/27 as set out in Section 4.4; (3) a medium term financial strategy for 2026/27 to 2030/31 as set out in Section 4.1 (which incorporates changes to the existing medium term financial strategy as set out in Section 4.2); (4) the Financial Strategy for 2026/27 at Section 4.5; (5) the Earmarked Reserves and General Balances Policy Statement 2026/27 at Section 4.6 including <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer)'s recommended level of General Balances for 2026/27 (Section 4.6), and (ii) the planned level of Earmarked Reserves for 2026/27 to 2030/31 (Section 4.6.1) <p>c. (in respect of capital – at Section 5) approve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the Capital & Investment Strategy for 2026/27 to 2036/37 including the Prudential Indicators and Minimum Revenue Provision Methodology Statement as set out in Section 5.1; (2) a Capital Programme for 2026/27 to 2036/37 as set out in Section 5.4 which includes new capital proposals set out in Section 5.3. <p>d. (in respect of treasury management – at Section 5) approve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for 2026/27 at Section 5.2 including the Treasury Management 	
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	<p>Prudential Indicators and the Specified Investment and Non-Specified Investment Instruments.</p> <p>(2) that any further changes required to the 2026/27 strategy be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer) in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Transformation.</p>	
45 mins	LUNCH there will be a 45 minute break for lunch. This will likely start between 12:30 and 13:15 at a natural break in the proceedings.	

Debate on Item 8 – Budget and Business Planning 2026/27-2030/31

Budget	Order of Debate	Speakers	Time Limits
Cabinet Motion	Introduction	(M) Leffman (SEC) Levy	10 mins 5 mins
Labour & Cooperative Amendment	Introduction and debate	(M) Brighthouse (SEC) Baines Crichton Creed Epps Saul Pressel Edosomwan Rawlins Phillips Cherry	10 mins 5 mins All 5 mins
	Right of Reply	Brighthouse Leffman	5 mins 5 mins
Oxfordshire Alliance Amendment	Introduction and debate	(M) Walker (SEC) Mallon Gant Baines Overton Garnett Brant Epps	10 mins 5 mins All 5 mins

	Right of Reply	Middleton Walker Leffman	5 mins 5 mins
Green Group Amendment	Introduction and debate	(M) Middleton (SEC) Markham Gregory Baines Higgins Garnett Roberts	10 mins 5 mins All 5 mins
	Right of Reply	Middleton Leffman	5 mins 5 mins
Substantive motion	Debate	Brighouse Gaul Baines Bearder Coles Smith Edosomwan Gordon Creed Thomas Cherry Epps Phillips Hanna	All 5 mins
	Right of Reply	Leffman	5 mins