

Democratic Services

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12 April 2019

SUMMONS TO ATTEND

MEETING: WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLACE: COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL OFFICES, WOODGREEN, WITNEY
DATE: WEDNESDAY 24 APRIL 2019
TIME: 2.00 PM

RECORDING OF MEETINGS

The law allows the council's public meetings to be recorded, which includes filming as well as audio-recording. Photography is also permitted.

As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record any part of the proceedings please let the Committee Officer know before the start of the meeting.

A G E N D A

- 1. Minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2019 (copy attached)**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of interest from Councillors relating to items to be considered at the meeting, in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Local Code of Conduct, and any from Officers.
- 4. Receipt of Announcements**

To receive any announcements from The Chairman, Leader, Members of the Cabinet or the Head of Paid Service.
- 5. Participation of the Public**

To receive any submissions from members of the public, in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure.
- 6. Recommendations from the Executive and the Council's Committees**

Purpose:
To receive and consider recommendations made by the Cabinet and the Council's Committees from 7 March to 17 April 2019.

Recommendation:
That the recommendations set out in the Appendix to the report be adopted.

7. Reports of the Cabinet and the Council's Committees

To receive the reports of the following meetings of the Cabinet and the Council's Committees. Unless otherwise stated, copies are attached:

- | | | | |
|-----|--|---------------|-----------|
| (a) | Economic and Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee | 7 March 2019 | |
| (b) | Cabinet | 20 March 2019 | |
| (c) | Development Control Committee | 25 March 2019 | |
| (d) | Economic and Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee | 28 March 2019 | |
| (e) | Finance and Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee | 3 April 2019 | |
| (f) | Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee | 11 April 2019 | To follow |
| (g) | Cabinet | 17 April 2019 | To follow |

8. Notice of Motion – Local Government Funding

The following Motion has been received in the names of Councillors Rosa Bolger and Duncan Enright, namely:-

“This council recognises the division in our country brought on by an unstable political climate, and recognises the importance of a united West Oxfordshire, where all residents feel supported by and connected to their local government.

The LGA estimate that there is a £3.1 billion gap in local government funding in 2019/20 which is set to grow to £8 billion by 2024/25. This funding gap must be addressed within the Spending Review 2019 before redistribution of local government funding through the Fairer Funding Review. Councils will also need to be protected from funding cuts resulting from the re-distributional impact of the Fairer Funding Review. One way to do this is to allow Councils to retain some funding locally from growth in business rates since 2013. At present MHCLG is proposing a full reset of the Business Rate Retention Scheme in 2020, which is not necessary and is not in line with their proposals for resets of the system in the future. Allowing Councils to retain some business rate growth would reduce the impact on any transitional relief scheme.

This council therefore agrees to object to central government's continued funding cuts to local government services and speak out at every opportunity to ensure West Oxfordshire District Council is not seen to be supporting further cuts.

This council resolves to begin these communications by writing to The Chancellor, Philip Hammond, Robert Courts MP and other relevant ministers to oppose further funding cuts to local government services in every region of the UK.”

9. Notice of Motion – Council Reports: Equality and the Environment

The following Motion has been received in the names of Councillors Duncan Enright and Andrew Coles namely:-

“This Council is very concerned at the continued growth in use of voluntary sector emergency provisions such as food banks, and also recognises the increased demands on public services, resulting from inequality and insecurity.

The Council therefore agrees to add a statement at the end of each officer report, giving a statement or impact assessment of policies on equality and the environment in West Oxfordshire.

This will focus attention on the importance of tackling inequality, insecurity and environment, and encourage us all to look after each other and build strong community responses led by innovative and creative local government.”

10. Notice of Motion – Section 21, Housing Act 1988

The following Motion has been received in the names of Councillors Geoff Saul and Laetisia Carter namely:-

“This council believes strongly that a secure home is at the heart of all of our lives. It gives security, enables aspiration and gives children a stable home in which to grow up. This council believes that residents living in the private rented sector should have the security to build their lives and futures, and to become an active part of their community, just as residents in other housing tenures should expect. We note that nationally, the largest single reason for homelessness is eviction from the private rented sector. Council therefore resolves to call on the Government to abolish section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 which allows eviction without the landlord having to establish fault on the part of a tenant, on the basis that the removal of this unfair clause would help to make renting more secure, improve standards, increase tenant confidence and ultimately contribute towards making renting a viable long term alternative to home ownership or social rent for the millions who currently cannot access either.”

11. Notice of Motion – Environmental Problems During Development

The following Motion has been received in the names of Councillors Harry St. John and Ted Fenton:-

“That this Council asks the Development Control Committee to investigate and report back on how the use of clear and enforceable planning conditions and the imposition of monitoring fees might enable the better and more effective control of mainly environmental problems (e.g. dust, mud on roads, noise etc) during the construction period on larger development sites in our towns and villages; and charging of monitoring fees would help to offset some or ideally all of the cost of additional staff time in the enforcement team needed to enforce such conditions”.

12. Sealing of Documents (copy attached)

Purpose:

To note the documents sealed since the last report.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.



Giles Hughes
Head of Paid Service