

Tuesday, 20 July 2021

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COUNCIL

You are summoned to a meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Woodgreen, Witney on **Wednesday, 28 July 2021 at 2.00 pm.**



Giles Hughes
Chief Executive

To: All Members of the Council

Recording of Proceedings – The law allows the public proceedings of Council, Cabinet, and Committee Meetings to be recorded, which includes filming as well as audio-recording. Photography is also permitted. By participating in this meeting, you are consenting to be filmed.

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

AGENDA

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 7 - 12)
To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2021.
2. **Apologies for Absence**
To receive any apologies for absence
3. **Declarations of Interest**
To receive any declarations from Members of the Committee on any items to be considered at the meeting
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. **Petition: Witney North Local Plan Housing Allocation** (Pages 13 - 16)
Purpose:
To report on the presentation of a petition calling for the reconsideration of the Local Plan strategic housing site allocation at Witney North, and provide some comment to be taken into account
Recommendation:
That Council considers the petition calling for it to reconsider the North Witney Local Plan Housing Allocation, in the context of the information and comment contained in the report.
7. **Recommendations from the Executive and the Council's Committees or Sub-Committees** (Pages 17 - 20)
Purpose:
To receive and consider recommendations made by the Cabinet and the Council's Committees since its last meeting.
Recommendation:
That the recommendations set out in Annex I to the report be adopted.
8. **Report of the Cabinet and the Council's Committees** (Pages 21 - 70)
To receive the reports of the following meetings of the Cabinet and the Council's Committees. Unless otherwise stated, copies are attached:
 - (a) [Cabinet](#) [26 May 2021](#)
 - (b) [Licensing Committee](#) [28 May 2021](#)
 - (c) [Finance and Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee](#) [2 June 2021](#)

(d)	Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee	10 June 2021	
(e)	Cabinet	16 June 2021	
(f)	Economic and Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee	17 June 2021	
(g)	Audit and General Purposes Committee	24 June 2021	
(h)	Economic and Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee	8 July 2021	
(i)	Finance and Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee	14 July 2021	
(j)	Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee	15 July 2021	To follow
(k)	Cabinet	21 July 2021	
(l)	Urgency Committee	23 July 2021	

9. **Question on Notice**

The following has been submitted by Councillor Andrew Coles, to be asked of the Leader of the Council, Councillor Michele Mead:

“The Leader of the Council will be aware that the plastic waste West Oxfordshire residents put in their blue-lid bins for recycling currently gets sent to Turkey for processing. The Leader will also, I'm sure, be aware of the recent report highlighting that in many cases plastics don't in fact end up being recycled due to poor infrastructure in places like Turkey and the sheer volume of plastic waste coming from countries like the UK. What reassurances can the Leader give the residents of West Oxfordshire that their plastics are indeed recycled and are not just left dumped somewhere or piled into huge mountains, burned or left to spill into rivers and the sea. And if she is unable to reassure us, can I ask what steps the council is planning to take to address this?”

In accordance with the Council's procedures, the Leader may answer by: (i) a direct oral answer; or (ii) where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, by reference to that publication; or (iii) where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated later to all Members of the Council.

10. **Climate Action Biannual Report (Pages 71 - 88)**

Purpose:

To present (i) a biannual report on the climate action taken by West Oxfordshire District Council in response to the climate and ecological emergency during the last six months: February-July 2021; (ii) the Council's Biodiversity Work Programme, 2021-2023; and (iii) a proposal to continue the Better Housing Better Health service with the National Energy Foundation (NEF) in 2021/2022.

Recommendations:

- (a) That the contents of the biannual report on climate action for West Oxfordshire, and of the WODC Biodiversity Work Programme, 2021-2023 included in [Annex I](#)

be noted; and

- (b) That the continuation of the Better Housing Better Health service with the National Energy Foundation (NEF) in 2021/2022 be approved.

11. **Appointment of Temporary Parish Councillors** (Pages 89 - 92)

Purpose:

To approve the appointment of temporary members of Bladon Parish Council and consider the future arrangements for temporary appointments to parish councils in the District.

Recommendations:

- (a) That approval is given for the making of an Order under section 91 of the Local Government Act 1972 appointing District Councillors Julian Cooper and Elizabeth Poskitt as temporary members of the Bladon Parish Council;
- (b) That the appointments shall be effective until the Bladon Parish Council is quorate (i.e. it has three members of the Council in place, excepting the temporary appointees);
- (c) That, in the event of either of the temporary appointees specified above subsequently being unable or not willing to fulfil the role of temporary parish councillor, the Monitoring Officer shall be authorised to appoint such other person(s) as deemed appropriate; and
- (d) That, should any other Parish Council in the District require the District Council to appoint one or more temporary councillors in order for it to be able to function, the Monitoring Officer shall be authorised to make such appointments if they need to be made more promptly than the date of the next meeting of either the Audit and General Purposes Committee or the Council.

12. **Updates to the Constitution and Establishment of a Constitution Working Group** (Pages 93 - 100)

Purpose:

To seek Council approval for the establishment of a Constitution Working Group to conduct a full review of the Constitution.

Recommendations:

- (a) That Parts 7 & 8 of the Constitution be deleted;
- (b) That a Constitution Working Group be established, in accordance with the terms of reference set out at Annex A; and
- (c) That the proposed work plan for the Constitution Working Group at Annex B be noted.

13. **Appointment of Monitoring Officer** (Pages 101 - 104)

Purpose:

To update members on arrangements to cover the Monitoring Officer role.

Recommendation:

That the Chief Executive be authorised to appoint an interim Monitoring Officer for the Council for a period of up to six months, following liaison with the Group Leaders.

14. **Notice of Motion - Climate and Ecological Emergency**

The following Motion has been received in the names of Councillors Liz Leffman and Mathew Parkinson, namely:-

“On 20 September 2020, an Early Day Motion entitled the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill was tabled in the House of Commons. A second reading is to be held shortly. While the Government’s recent Ten Point Plan is an important step towards

tackling the UK's carbon emissions, this Bill recognises that our carbon footprint extends beyond the UK's borders. The Bill calls for:

- the UK to make and enact a serious plan to combat climate change. This means dealing with our real fair share of emissions so that we don't go over critical global rises in temperature*
- our entire carbon footprint be taken into account (in the UK and overseas)*
- the protection and conservation of nature here and overseas along supply chains, recognising the damage we cause through the goods we consume*
- those in power not to depend on technology to save the day, which is used as an excuse to carry on polluting as usual*
- people to have a real say on the way forward in a citizens' assembly with bite*

Many residents have made it clear through social media and by forming campaign groups that they want to see this Bill succeed, and Oxfordshire County Council has already given the Bill its support. This Council agrees with the principles of this Bill and supports residents in their efforts to see it come into law. We ask the Leader of this Council to write to our MP, asking him to support this Bill and its principles when it returns to the House of Commons”.

15. Notice of Motion - Planning Applications

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

“This Council believes planning works best when developers and the local community work together to shape local areas and deliver necessary new homes; and therefore calls on the Government to protect the right of communities to shape individual planning applications”.

16. Emergency and Urgency Delegations (Pages 105 - 106)

Purpose:

To note decisions taken under the emergency and urgency delegation arrangements approved by Council on 13 May 2020.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

17. Appointment of Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer (Pages 107 - 110)

Purpose:

To determine the appointment to the statutory roles of Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer.

Recommendation:

That the Chief Executive, Giles Hughes, be appointed and designated as the Council's Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer, with immediate effect.

18. Sealing of Documents (Pages 111 - 112)

Purpose:

To note the documents sealed since the last report.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.