



WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Tuesday, 17 May 2022

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CABINET

You are summoned to a meeting of the Cabinet which will be held in the Council Chamber, Woodgreen, Witney, OX28 1NB on **Wednesday, 25 May 2022 at 2.00 pm.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Giles Hughes".

Giles Hughes
Chief Executive

To: Members of the Cabinet

Councillors: Andy Graham (Leader), Duncan Enright (Deputy Leader), Joy Aitman, Lidia Arciszewska, Dan Levy, Andrew Prosser, Mathew Parkinson, Carl Rylett and Geoff Saul.

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 Democratic Services officers know prior to the start of the meeting.

AGENDA

1. **Notice of Decisions (Pages 5 - 8)**
To receive notice of the decisions taken at the meeting held on 20 April 2022.
2. **Apologies for Absence**
To receive any apologies for absence.
3. **Declarations of Interest**
To receive any declarations from Members on any items to be considered at the meeting.
4. **Participation of the Public**
To receive any submissions from members of the public, in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure.
5. **Receipt of Announcements**
Purpose:
To receive any announcements from the Leader of the Council or Members of the Cabinet.
6. **Whistle-Blowing Policy (Pages 9 - 26)**
Purpose
To present Cabinet with an updated Whistle-Blowing Policy for adoption.
To update and replace the existing Whistle-Blowing Policy to highlight key legislation and the roles and responsibilities of Members, Officers and other parties.

Recommendation
 - a) That Cabinet approves and adopts the Policy attached to this report and;
 - b) That Cabinet authorise the Chief Executive to approve future minor amendments to the Policy in consultation with the Counter Fraud and Enforcement Unit, Legal Services and the Leader of the Council.
7. **Discretionary Funding Policy - Energy Council Tax Rebate 2022 (Pages 27 - 34)**
Purpose
The Government has announced a package of support known as the Energy Bills rebate. There are two elements to the support. One being a mandatory scheme and the second being a discretionary scheme. The purpose of this report is to formally agree the criteria for the discretionary scheme and approve the Policy.

Recommendation
It is recommended that the Cabinet:
 - a) Approve the eligibility criteria, as set out in Annex A; and
 - b) Delegate the distribution of surplus funds to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance as details in para 2.9 of this report.
8. **Community Infrastructure Levy (Pages 35 - 40)**
Purpose
To provide an update on the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in

West Oxfordshire.

Recommendation

- a) That Cabinet note the content of the report; and
- b) Agree that of the four potential options identified, that Option 2 be progressed in terms of taking CIL forward in West Oxfordshire.

9. **Disposal and development of land at Walterbush Road, Chipping Norton for Custom Build Zero Carbon Homes (Pages 41 - 50)**

Purpose

To agree to the funding option, to seek approval to enter into a legal agreement with the enabling developer GreenAxis to develop eight custom build net-zero carbon homes, and to dispose of the land for that purpose.

Recommendation

That Cabinet agree:

- a) to support the development of eight net zero carbon affordable homes at Walterbush road as set out in 3.1 and Annex C;
- b) to allocate S.106 funding of £40,000 for the planning fee, as part of the gap funding to provide affordable homes and to enter into a legal agreement with GreenAxis, the developer, to enable them to apply for planning permission to develop eight homes on the site;
- c) to allocate further S.106 funding of £221,000 as gap funding to cover the cost of providing the homes as affordable with a 20% discount against market value;
- d) to dispose of the site, once planning permission has been obtained, so that GreenAxis can enter into legal and financial agreements with the individual residents who will be buying the homes;
- e) to enter into agreements/impose covenants with GreenAxis and future occupiers requiring that the 20% discount remains in perpetuity based on the high level provision set out in this report; and
- f) to delegate authority to agree the final terms of the above agreements to the Chief Finance Officer and Interim Head of Legal Services.

10. **Appointment of Representatives to Outside Bodies 2022/23 (Pages 51 - 56)**

Purpose

To consider the appointment of representatives to Outside Bodies for 2022/2023.

Recommendations

That Council makes appointments to the bodies listed in Annex A and notifies of any appointments to vacant positions.