

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the

Strategic Planning Committee

Held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Woodgreen, Witney, Oxfordshire OX28 1NB
at 2.34 pm on **Wednesday, 20 May 2026**

PRESENT

Councillors: Andy Goodwin (Chair), , Andrew Beaney, Adam Clements, Sandra Cosier, Steve Cosier, Rachel Crouch, Jane Doughty, Roger Faulkner, Nick Field-Johnson, Phil Godfrey, David Jackson, Edward James, Jan Lund, Andrew Lyon, Hannah Massie, Michele Mead, David Melvin, Rosie Pearson, Elizabeth Poskitt, Nigel Ridpath, James Robertshaw, Geoff Saul, Tim Sumner, Jack Treloar, Sarah Veasey and Liam Walker

Election of Chair

The Chair of the Council, Councillor Carl Rylett, opened the meeting.

The Strategic Planning Committee would be comprised of the following members:

- Andy Goodwin
- Steve Cosier
- Sandra Cosier
- David Melvin
- Phil Godfrey
- David Jackson
- Jan Lund
- Hannah Massie
- Adam Clements
- Elizabeth Poskitt
- Michele Mead
- Liam Walker
- Sarah Veasey
- Roger Faulkner
- Andrew Beaney
- James Robertshaw
- Tammy Abarno
- Jack Treloar
- Rachel Crouch
- Andrew Lyon
- Mark Walker
- Geoff Saul
- Genny Early
- Rosie Pearson

The Chair of the Council, Carl Rylett, requested nominations for the position of Chair of Strategic Planning Committee for the Municipal year 2026/2027. Councillor Mark Walker nominated Councillor Andy Goodwin for the position of Chair of Strategic Planning Committee Councillor Elizabeth Poskitt seconded the nomination and the vote was carried.

Strategic Planning Committee **Resolved** to:

- I. Appoint Councillor Andy Goodwin to the position of Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee for the municipal year 20206/2027.

2 Appointment of Vice-Chair

Councillor Andy Goodwin proposed Councillor Mark Walker for the position of Vice-Chair for Strategic Planning Committee for the municipal year of 2026/2027. Councillor Elizabeth Poskitt seconded the nomination and the vote was carried.

The Strategic Planning Committee **Resolved** to:

- I. Appoint Councillor Mark Walker as the Vice- Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee for the municipal year of 2026/2027.

3 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Genny Early and Tammy Abarno. Councillor Jane Doughty substituted for Councillor Tammy Abarno.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

5 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Chair noted that there had been a letter received from a Witney Resident regarding Witney Road Solar Farm which had been sent to the whole Council. The Chair advised that the planning officers were reviewing the application and the letter and would look at the issues raised. The Chair stated that on request of the letter they had reviewed the draft minutes alongside officers and they were satisfied with their accuracy.

There was no discussion on the minutes. These were proposed and seconded and put to a vote where they were agreed unanimously.

The strategic planning committee resolved to:

- I. Approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 20 October 2025.

6 Appointment of the Development Management Sub-Committee

The Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, Councillor Andy Goodwin proposed that the Strategic Planning Committee agree to appoint the Development Management Sub-Committee. This was agreed by the members of the Strategic Planning Committee.

The Strategic Planning Committee **Resolved** to:

1. Appoint 12 members to the Development Management Sub-Committee in accordance with political proportionality and the wishes of political groups (5 Liberal Democrat, 4 Conservative, 2 Labour, 1 Green), as set out in Annex A.
2. Note that any Member of a Member's political group, having undertaken planning training, is permitted to substitute for a Member of the Development Management Sub-Committee, in accordance with the wishes of the Member being substituted.

The following councillors were appointed to the Development Management Sub-Committee:

- Andy Goodwin
- Steve Cosier
- Phil Godfrey
- Elizabeth Poskitt
- David Jackson
- Andrew Beaney
- Tammy Abarno
- Sarah Veasey
- Roger Faulkner
- Mark Walker
- Andrew Lyon
- Genny Early

The Chair reminded members of the planning training on Monday 1 June at 2pm and the site visit on Thursday 4 June at 09.30am.

The Meeting closed at 3.37 pm

CHAIR