

# Council Agenda



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## Summons to attend a meeting of Council

to be held on Wednesday 19 October 2011 at 7pm  
Guildhall, Abingdon

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Reed".

Margaret Reed  
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

A large print version of this agenda is available. In addition any background papers referred to may be inspected by prior arrangement.

Please note that this meeting will be held in a wheelchair accessible venue. If you would like to attend and have any special access requirements, please let the Democratic Services Officers know beforehand and they will do their very best to meet your requirements.

Members are reminded of the provisions contained in the code of conduct adopted on 30 September 2007 and standing order 34 regarding the declaration of personal and prejudicial interests.

Note: please remember to sign the attendance register.

# Agenda

## Open to the Public including the Press

### Map and vision

(Page 7)

A map showing the location of the venue for this meeting is attached. A link to information about nearby car parking is

[http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/transport/car\\_parking/default.asp](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/transport/car_parking/default.asp)

The council's vision is to build and safeguard a fair, open and compassionate community.

## PRAYERS

### 1. Apologies for absence

To receive apologies for absence.

### 2. Declarations of interest

To receive any declarations of personal or personal and prejudicial interests in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

### 3. Minutes

To adopt and sign as a correct record the council minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2011.

### 4. Urgent business and chairman's announcements

To receive notification of any matters which the chairman determines should be considered as urgent business and the special circumstances which have made the matters urgent, and to receive any announcements from the chairman.

### 5. Statements, petitions and questions from the public relating to matters affecting Council

Any statements, petitions and questions from the public under standing order 32 will be made or presented at the meeting.

## **6. Urgent business**

Any non exempt urgent business will be considered at this point in the meeting.

## **7. Petitions under standing order No.13**

To receive petitions from members of the council under standing order 13 (if any).

## **8. Questions under standing order 12**

To receive questions from members of the council under standing order 12 as follows:

1. Question from Councillor Jerry Patterson to the Leader of the Council. "Does the Leader of the Council believe in evidence based policies to run the Vale?"
2. Question from Councillor Bob Johnston to Councillor Elaine Ware. "Does the Councillor accept that successful policies to promote town centre vitality require a mixture of the economic, environmental and social strands?"
3. Question from Councillor Bob Johnston to Councillor Elaine Ware. "Does the Councillor accept that any Vale policy which increases air pollution in town centres is undesirable?"
4. Question from Councillor Bob Johnston to Councillor Elaine Ware. "Did she as a portfolio holder find the recent debate at Scrutiny on monitoring free car parking useful? "
5. Question from Councillor Jerry Patterson to Councillor Roger Cox. "Does the Councillor accept that the Council should use its best endeavour to maintain a five year supply of building land?"

## **9. Recommendations from the Cabinet and committees**

(Pages 8 - 17)

At its meeting on 8 July 2011 Cabinet considered a report on the council's car parking policy and agreed to introduce two hours free parking at all Vale car parks.

Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting on 24 August, considered a call-in of the decision. The committee did not recommend an alternative course of action. Council is asked to consider the following recommendation from Cabinet:

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:** to approve a supplementary revenue estimate of £75,000 to fund these changes in the current financial year, with the money taken from the new homes bonus reserve.

## **10. Virements**

(Pages 18 - 19)

In accordance with the virement policy, all virements of £10,000 and over and

virements across service areas require prior authorisation of the executive and must be reported to the council. Details are **attached** to this agenda.

## **11. Management restructure - amendment to the council's constitution**

At its meeting in December 2010 Council agreed to authorise the head of legal and democratic services to amend the constitution to reflect the re-allocation of duties to alternative heads of service following the retirement of Mike Mackay, Head of Commercial Services. Following the departure of a number of service managers the chief executive undertook a further review of the management structure. In deleting the post of head of commercial services from the establishment he confirmed the temporary arrangements reported at the December meeting and appointed service managers to cover the work of those service managers who had departed. One of these appointments, that of Liz Hayden as service manager for community safety, licensing, land charges and business support working to the head of legal and democratic services, involves the transfer of responsibility of community safety from the head of corporate strategy to the head of legal and democratic services.

In order to ensure the council's constitution reflects these changes Council is asked to authorise the head of legal and democratic services to make the necessary changes to the council's constitution.

**RECOMMENDATION:** to authorise the head of legal and democratic services to make the necessary changes to the council's constitution to reflect the allocation of community safety to the head of legal and democratic services and the permanent reallocation of services following the retirement of the head of commercial services.

## **12. The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003. Appointments to the Independent Remuneration Panel**

At its meeting on 21 May 2008 Council appointed the following persons to the Independent Remuneration Panel until May 2011:

1. Dr Robert Smith
2. Dr Charles Swaisland
3. Mr Marc Thompson
4. Mr James Davies
5. Mr Stephen King

Council is asked to re-appoint the above to undertake reviews of the Members' Allowances Scheme.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council appoint the following persons to the Independent Remuneration Panel to undertake a review of the Members' Allowances Scheme until May 2016:-

- (1) Dr Robert Smith
- (2) Dr Charles Swaisland

- (3) Mr Marc Thompson
- (4) Mr James Davies
- (5) Mr Stephen King

### **13. Report of the leader of the council**

#### **(1) Urgent executive decisions**

In accordance with the overview and scrutiny procedure rules, an executive decision can be taken as a matter of urgency, if any delay by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the council's or the public's interest. Treating the decision as a matter of urgency must be agreed by the chair of the Scrutiny Committee and must be reported to the next meeting of the council, together with the reasons for urgency.

To receive any details of urgent executive decisions taken since the last ordinary meeting of the council, (if any).

#### **(2) Delegation of executive functions**

To receive details of any changes to the scheme of delegation to Cabinet members.

#### **(3) Matters affecting the authority arising from meetings of joint committees, partnerships and other meetings**

To receive the report of the leader (if any).

### **14. Notices of motion under standing order 11**

To receive the following notices of motion under standing order 11.

1. Motion to be proposed by Councillor Kate Precious and seconded by Councillor John Amys:

" The Council notes the great success of the Vale's Community Safety Partnership's Faringdon Project to improve public confidence, public safety and encourage community cohesion. This Council welcomes the work of the Partnership across the District and restates commitment to the Partnership. The Council also requests the Partnership to investigate initiating similar projects in the Vale, particularly in Grove, where there concern over anti-social behaviour is a significant issue."

2. Motion to be proposed by Councillor Richard Webber and seconded by Councillor Jenny Hannaby:

"This Council believes that all receipts from the "New Homes Bonus" should be spent on infrastructure within the Vale."

3. Motion to be proposed by Councillor Dudley Hoddinott and seconded by Councillor Debby Hallett.

“Council requests the Chief Executive to write to Eric Pickles MP to ask that the £250 million fund for weekly collections of waste be distributed on a per capita basis among all the waste collection authorities so that it can be used to pay for more recycling.”

4. Motion to be proposed by Councillor Bob Johnston and seconded by Councillor Ron Mansfield.

“This Council believes that the current proposal by the Parliamentary Boundary Commission to place Radley in a future Henley Constituency is fundamentally flawed. Radley has nothing in common with the proposed new Henley and is physically separated from it by the Thames, with no direct road connection whatsoever. This Council believes that if a rebalancing in the number of electors is required to equalise the new constituencies, then this would be better achieved by transferring a suitably sized area in the Gosford/Yarnton/Water Eaton area adjacent to similar areas which are already proposed to form part of the new Henley Constituency. This would leave Radley as an integral part of its present constituency. Council resolves to make representations accordingly.”

5. Motion to be proposed by Councillor Yvonne Constance and seconded by Councillor Matthew Barber

“Council instructs the chief executive to consult with group leaders on the process for recognizing those who have made a significant contribution to the Vale of White Horse by creating Freemen of Vale”.

6. Motion to be proposed by Councillor Matthew Barber and seconded by Councillor Roger Cox

“That this council’s current vision statement “to build and safeguard a fair, open and compassionate community” is replaced with the following “taking care of your interests throughout the Vale with Enterprise, Energy and Efficiency”.”

## **Exempt information under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972**

None