

Council Agenda



Contact: Steven Corrigan, Democratic Services Manager
Telephone number 01235 547675
Email: steven.corrigan@southandvale.gov.uk
Date: 11 February 2014
Website: www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Summons to attend a meeting of Council

to be held on Wednesday 19 February 2014 at 7.00 pm
Civic Hall, Portway, Wantage

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'M Reed'.

Margaret Reed
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Alternative formats of this publication are available on request. These include large print, Braille, audio, email and easy read. For this or any other special requirements (such as access facilities) please contact the officer named on this agenda. Please give as much notice as possible before the meeting.

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/sites/default/files/Wantagecar%20parks.jpg>

The council's vision is to take care of your interests across the Vale with enterprise, energy and efficiency.

1. Apologies for absence

To receive apologies for absence.

2. Minutes

(Pages 8 - 20)

To adopt and sign as a correct record the council minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2013 (previously published).

3. Declarations of interest

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

4. Chairman's announcements

To receive any announcements from the chairman.

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

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

6. Urgent business

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.

7. Petitions under standing order 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.

Question from Councillor Richard Webber to the Leader of the council, Councillor Matthew Barber

Is the Leader aware that there is a commonly held perception in the area that Vale of White Horse District Council and South Oxfordshire District Council are effectively merged?

9. Recommendations from Cabinet, individual Cabinet members, and committees

To consider the following recommendations from Cabinet, individual Cabinet members, or committees since the last Council meeting held on 11 December 2013.

(1) Office accommodation

Cabinet, at its meeting on 7 February 2014, considered the report of the strategic director on office accommodation.

The report of the Strategic Director, considered by the Cabinet on 7 February 2014, was circulated to all councillors. Please bring this report to the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: to approve a revenue virement for £170,000 from identified underspending budgets in 2013/14 to cover the refurbishment costs of Abbey House, Abingdon.

(2) Treasury management mid-year monitoring report 2013/14

Cabinet, at its meeting on 7 February 2014, considered the treasury management mid-year monitoring report of the Head of Finance.

The report of the Head of Finance, considered by the Cabinet on 7 February 2014, was circulated to all councillors. Please bring this report to the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: to approve the Head of Finance's report.

(3) Treasury management and investment strategy 2014/15

Cabinet, at its meeting on 7 February 2014, considered the report of the Head of Finance on the treasury management strategy, the annual investment strategy and the prudential indicators.

The report of the Head of Finance, considered by the Cabinet on 7 February 2014, was circulated to all councillors. Please bring this report to the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL to:

- (a) approve the treasury management strategy 2014/15 as set out in Appendix A to the Head of Finance's report;
- (b) approve the prudential indicators and limits for 2014/15 to 2016/17 as set out in table 2, appendix A to the report;
- (c) approve the annual investment strategy 2014/15 set out in appendix A to the report and the lending criteria detailed in table 5.

(4) Budget 2014/15

The setting of the budget is covered in agenda item 10.

10. Revenue budget 2014/15 and capital programme to 2018/19

The Cabinet, at its meeting on 7 February 2014, considered a report on the council's revenue budget 2014/15, medium term financial plan to 2018/19 and capital programme to 2018/19.

The Cabinet's budget proposal is bound separately and will follow this agenda.

The Scrutiny Committee will consider this item at its meeting on 12 February 2014. Any alternative recommendation will be circulated prior to the Council meeting.

11. Council tax 2014/15

To consider the report of the Head of Finance regarding the setting of the council tax for the 2014/15 financial year (**report to follow**).

12. Declaration of vacancy - Wantage Charlton

(Pages 21 - 22)

To consider the report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (**report attached**).

13. Community governance reviews

(Pages 23 - 92)

To consider the report of the Chief Executive on behalf of the Community Governance Review Working Group (**report attached**).

14. Pay policy statement 2014/15

(Pages 93 - 96)

To consider the report of the Head of HR, IT and Customer Services on the adoption of a pay policy statement to meet the requirements of the Localism Act (report attached).

15. Report of the Leader of the council

(1) Urgent cabinet decisions

In accordance with the overview and scrutiny procedure rules, a cabinet 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 chairman 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 cabinet decisions taken since the last ordinary meeting of the council, (if any).

(2) Delegation of cabinet functions

To receive details of any changes to the leader's scheme of delegation.

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

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

16. Notices of motion under standing order 11

To receive notices of motion under standing order 11.

(1) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Jim Halliday, seconded by Jeanette Halliday

The Council notes that the Oxfordshire County Council is currently considering installing an extra pedestrian crossing in Ock Street, Abingdon and moving the location of the existing crossing in Marcham Road. Council is concerned that this will not only cause potential safety issues, but may also have air quality implications due to the likelihood of increased queuing traffic - particularly in Marcham Road, Ock Street, Spring Road and Drayton Road. It therefore asks the Chief Executive to relay these concerns to both the OCC Highways Team and the County Councillors representing Abingdon.

(2) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Jerry Patterson, seconded by Andrew Skinner

Council resolves that the Vale's Abbey House building will continue to be branded as the "Vale of White Horse District Council", and that the signs and Vale Coat of Arms at the front and side entrances since the building's opening in 1992, will remain permanently in

place where they are, regardless of any other authority or organisation sharing the accommodation. Furthermore, Council resolves that the official address of the Vale of White Horse District Council will continue to be at Abbey House.

- (3) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Jenny Hannaby, seconded by Sue Marchant

Council notes that Network Rail is shortly to start an extensive programme of bridge works within the District, and that these have the potential to cause considerable inconvenience to Vale residents unless carefully planned and scheduled. Council therefore asks its officers to work together with the County Council and Network Rail to ensure the disruption is kept to a minimum and that all the relevant parish and town councils are kept fully informed.

- (4) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Debby Hallett, seconded by Catherine Webber

Council resolves to fulfil its legal responsibility to create Air Quality Action Plans for Botley and for Marcham.

- (5) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Tony de Vere, seconder to be confirmed

Council requests Cabinet to consider modifying the grants scheme so that applications that have Vale-wide benefits are handled in a more equitable and transparent manner than currently seems to be happening.

- (6) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Julie Mayhew-Archer, seconded by Richard Webber

Council congratulates all the council officers involved and all the flood action groups for their successful work in minimising the worst effects of the recent flooding in the Vale. Council will continue to support flood management and relief efforts and encourages all possible public participation.