

# Council Agenda



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Date: 8 July 2014  
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## Summons to attend a meeting of Council

to be held on Wednesday 16 July 2014 at 7.00 pm  
The Ridgeway (main hall first floor), The Beacon, (formerly Wantage Civic Hall), Portway, Wantage, OX12 9BY

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

Margaret Reed  
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

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# Agenda

## Open to the public including the press

### Council's vision

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 6 - 17)

To adopt and sign as a correct record the council minutes of the annual meeting held on 14 May 2014 (attached).

### 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 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.

1. Question from Councillor Debby Hallett to Councillor Mike Murray, Cabinet member for planning policy

The Vale consulted on its draft Local Plan 2029 in February 2013. How many responses were received, and could the Cabinet Member please tell me when the consequential changes made to that first draft Local Plan 2029 will be made public, and how he intends to highlight what has changed between the drafts?

2. Question from Councillor Jerry Patterson to Councillor Mike Murray, Cabinet member for planning policy

What is our five year housing land supply status as of this evening, and how is that calculated?

3. Question from Councillor Debby Hallett to Councillor Elaine Ware, Cabinet member for economy, leisure and property

What is the current policy for deciding about letting empty units in West Way Centre?

4. Question from Councillor Jim Halliday to the Leader of the Council, Councillor Matthew Barber

As the Leader is aware, during the early May Bank Holiday weekend I discovered that the Council's out-of-hours service could not be accessed by telephone, and that subsequently a temporary work-around was put in place for the remainder of the holiday period. Could he advise me of a) the cause of the problem, and b) what measures are being taken to prevent a re-occurrence, particularly, as he will recall that the out-of-hours service was also unobtainable during a previous holiday period of this administration?

5. Question from Councillor Julie Mayhew-Archer to the Leader of the Council, Councillor Matthew Barber

For how long were council tax bills for just the first three months of 2014 sent out by Capita with incorrect information in the explanatory notes, because the notes had been updated to apply to bills post April 1st? Does the Leader agree that it is up to the bill payer to find out the rules, not for the sender to ensure that the correct information is sent out?

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

To consider the following recommendations from the General Licensing Committee.

### Street Trading Policy

The General Licensing Committee, at its meeting on 7 July 2014, considered a revised

street trading policy following public consultation.

**GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: to**

1. adopt the proposed street trading policy to come into force on 1 October 2014 and
2. authorise the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to make any further minor editorial changes to the policy.

**10. Community Governance Review - final recommendations of the working group**

(Pages 18 - 67)

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

**11. 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).

**12. Notices of motion under standing order 11**

To receive notices of motion under standing order 11.

- (1) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Richard Webber, seconded by Councillor Dudley Hoddinott

'Council requests that Cabinet commit to a feasibility study and a public consultation for one or more new settlements in the Vale as solutions to our long term need for housing.'

- (2) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Julie Mayhew-Archer, seconded by Councillor Judy Roberts

‘Council urges the Cabinet to consider improvements to the Vale car parks, which businesses and the public would welcome, such as a pay on return or a number plate recognition system. This would prevent the growing number of fines which alienate people, particularly visitors, but have earned this council an astonishing £100,000 last year.’

- (3) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Jeanette Halliday, seconded by Councillor Andrew Skinner

‘This council requests the Chief Executive write to Oxfordshire County Council about the solid line marking on the Wootton Road/Dunmore Road roundabout, which is confusing drivers and could be potentially dangerous, and to suggest that lane markings be provided to enable drivers to approach the roundabout in the correct lane.’