

Minutes

of a meeting of the

Council



held on Wednesday, 18 February 2015 at 7.00 pm
at the The Ridgeway (main hall first floor), The Beacon, (formerly
Wantage Civic Hall), Portway, Wantage, OX12 9BY

Open to the public, including the press

Present:

Members: Councillors Mike Badcock (Chairman), Eric Batts (Vice-Chairman), John Amys, Marilyn Badcock, Matthew Barber, Yvonne Constance, Roger Cox, Margaret Crick, Charlotte Dickson, St John Dickson, Gervase Duffield, Jason Fiddaman, Jeanette Halliday, Jim Halliday, Jenny Hannaby, Anthony Hayward, Dudley Hoddinott, Simon Howell, Bob Johnston, Bill Jones, Mohinder Kainth, Pat Lonergan, Sandy Lovatt, Ron Mansfield, Sue Marchant, Julie Mayhew-Archer, Elizabeth Miles, Gill Morgan, Mike Murray, Jerry Patterson, Helen Pighills, Julia Reynolds, Judy Roberts, Fiona Roper, Robert Sharp, Val Shaw, Janet Shelley, Andrew Skinner, Melinda Tilley, Margaret Turner, Tony de Vere, Reg Waite, Elaine Ware, Catherine Webber, Richard Webber and John Woodford

Officers: David Buckle, Steven Corrigan, Simon Hewings, William Jacobs and Margaret Reed

Number of members of the public: 5

Co.60 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Debby Hallett, Angela Lawrence, Aidan Melville and Alison Thomson.

Co.61 Minutes

RESOLVED: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2014 as a correct record and agree that the Chairman sign them as such.

Co.62 Declarations of interest

None.

Co.63 Chairman's announcements

The chairman thanked all councillors for their hard work over the council's four year term and his chaplain, Glynis Beckett, for reading prayers before council meetings for the past two years.

Co.64 Statements, petitions and questions from the public relating to matters affecting the council.

Mary Gill asked the following question:

'We are grateful to Councillor Barber and the Council for allocating funds for short term improvements in the West Way Shopping Centre. It is apparent that the local people value and rely on the range of shops in the centre and Elms Parade, and that it serves us well as a local centre, notwithstanding the physical state of the buildings. The Draft Local Plan states that any proposal for development should 'support the role and function of Botley as a local service centre providing a well-integrated mix of shops and services to meet the day-to-day shopping needs of the area'. Could Councillor Barber say something about what actions he and Cabinet are now taking to ensure that this objective is satisfied, in whatever refurbishment or redevelopment takes place in the future?'

In response Councillor Matthew Barber, Leader of the council, responded that in the past the centre had been neglected and treated as an investment rather than an asset. He had met with West Way Concern and would meet with the parish council to seek a consensus on the way forward and achieve a new approach in accordance with the Local Plan.

Co.65 Urgent business

None.

Co.66 Petitions under standing order 13

None.

Co.67 Questions under standing order 12

1. Question from Councillor Jeanette Halliday to Councillor Matthew Barber, Cabinet Member for Legal and Democratic Services

As each individual elector has to register to vote annually in future, could the elections office send their current letter telling people they have successfully registered, with postal voting information on the back of the letter, to voters who are not registered for a postal vote, and a new letter to voters registered for a postal vote saying that their application has been successful and they are still registered for their postal vote WITHOUT the postal voting information on the back of this letter?

In response Councillor Matthew Barber stated that he would take up the suggestion with officers.

2. Question from Councillor Judy Roberts to Councillor Matthew Barber, Cabinet Member for Legal and Democratic Services

Would the leader be in agreement that a written response to all petitions is provided by the officer/committee to all councillors and the petition presenter?

In response Councillor Matthew Barber stated that this would depend on the nature and subject of the petition.

In response to a supplementary question he offered to discuss sensible improvements to the process with Councillor Judy Roberts.

3. Question from Councillor Pat Lonergan to Councillor Mike Murray, Cabinet Member for Planning Policy

Notwithstanding the procedure for housing site selection outlined last month by the Cabinet Member for Planning Policy, do you expect the people of Abingdon to believe that there were not plenty of sites outside the Oxford Green Belt which could have been included in the list of strategic sites, had there been the will, and that the 200-house limit was a technical consideration, rather than an administrative convenience?

In response Councillor Mike Murray referred to the briefings, public meetings and consultation information which illustrated that a rigorous process of site allocation had been undertaken to find suitable, available, deliverable, viable and sustainable locations for development. The 200 home threshold had been applied throughout the process and was a level better able to contribute to improving both infrastructure and facilities.

4. Question from Councillor Tony de Vere to Councillor Elaine Ware, Cabinet Member for Economy Leisure and Property

Please can you tell me when you or any other member of the cabinet last met representatives of Scottish Widows to discuss the Charter area?

In response Councillor Elaine Ware confirmed that she would be meeting with representatives of Aberdeen Asset Management (formerly Scottish Widows) on Wednesday 25 February to discuss the current situation and proposals for the way forward. In addition she had given a personal undertaking to Councillor Tony de Vere to brief the Abingdon district councillors once she had something substantial to report.

In response to a supplementary question Councillor Elaine Ware undertook to check when councillors were last briefed on developments and respond in writing.

5. Question from Councillor Catherine Webber to Councillor Elaine Ware, Cabinet Member for Economy, Leisure and Property

Has the Cabinet member modified her stated position in a written answer to the question asked in Council two years ago that air quality considerations should not be allowed to impede economic growth?

Councillor Elaine Ware responded that she had not modified her stance since her response of 19 October 2011.

In response to a supplementary question Councillor Elaine Ware stated that an air quality action plan was available for Marcham.

6. Question from Councillor Jim Halliday to Councillor Mike Murray, Cabinet Member for Planning Policy

Assuming that he looked into a variety of ways of publishing information about the local plan, please could he give the estimated cost of printing an 8 page newspaper and distributing it to 59,499 residential properties?

Councillor Mike Murray responded that two leaflets were distributed to residential properties at a cost of £34,000.

In response to a supplementary question regarding the need for two leaflets

Councillor Mike Murray stated that each leaflet covered a different consultation – one a local plan leaflet and the other on CIL and the design guide.

7. Question from Councillor Debby Hallett to Councillor Elaine Ware, Cabinet Member for Economy Leisure and Property

Last year, Councillor Ware told us wifi in Botley was operational. However, I've visited the West Way Shopping Centre several times since the New Year, and could find no Vale wifi network. When will people in the West Way Shopping Centre in Botley be able to access the free wifi provided by the Vale?

In response Councillor Elaine Ware stated that that there had been a technical problem with the system and the service provider was dealing with it. She was hopeful that it would be fully operational within a week.

8. Question from Councillor Jenny Hannaby to Councillor Matthew Barber, Leader of the council

Can Matthew Barber confirm that local members and Grove Parish Council had seen the final 106 agreements being signed off by landowners and were they content?

In response councillor Matthew Barber reported that, whilst there had been a delay in the process because of a land ownership issue, the parish council had been kept informed. Both the parish council and the local members would have the opportunity to comment on the agreement.

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

Does the Leader intend to follow the example set by Councillor Hudspeth of Oxfordshire County Council, and abolish the post of chief executive?

Councillor Matthew Barber responded that he did not.

In response to a supplementary question Councillor Matthew Barber confirmed that he had no plans to abolish the position although he understood why other local authorities had taken the decision to do so.

10. Question from Councillor Jenny Hannaby to Councillor Elaine Ware, Cabinet Member for Economy, Leisure and Property

Please can she confirm that local Vale councillors have been, and will be, invited to meetings of the recently-formed Steering Group for the Beacon?

In response Councillor Elaine Ware stated that the Beacon Project Board had agreed that the members of the Steering Group would come primarily from the community and that the group would be a sounding board to gain feedback from users and the local community rather than a decision making group. Members of the group include a regular customer, a local resident, a representative of King Alfred's Academy, a representative from the company providing technical support to the venue, one of the Wantage Town Co-ordinators and one Wantage Charlton ward councillor. Arrangements were in hand for the inaugural meeting of the Steering Group to take place in March.

Co.68 Community infrastructure levy - draft charging schedule

Council considered the recommendations of Councillor Mike Murray, Cabinet member for planning policy, on the consultation comments received on the Community Infrastructure Levy Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule and changes to the Draft Charging Schedule for public consultation and submission to the Secretary of State for formal examination.

RESOLVED:to

1. publish for public consultation the Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule and supporting documents (Viability Study, Draft Regulation 123 list, Infrastructure Planning and Funding Gap Report, Infrastructure Delivery Plan, responses on the CIL Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule, Statement of the Representations Procedure) as appended to the Cabinet member decision for a period of four weeks, and thereafter
2. authorise the Head of Planning in consultation with the Cabinet member for planning policy to submit the Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule and supporting documents and evidence, together with the Consultation Statement and summary of consultation responses received, to the Secretary of State for independent examination in accordance with the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended).
3. authorise the head of planning in consultation with the Cabinet member for planning policy, to make minor changes and corrections to the Draft Charging Schedule and associated documents; and
4. review the adopted Charging Schedule initially after two years from adoption and undertake regular reviews of the Charging Schedule thereafter.

Co.69 Treasury management mid-year monitoring report 2014/15

Council considered Cabinet's recommendations, made at its meeting on 6 February 2015, on the treasury management activities for the first six months of 2014/15.

RESOLVED: to

1. approve the treasury management mid-year monitoring report 2014/15; and
2. note that Cabinet is satisfied that the treasury activities are carried out in accordance with the treasury management strategy and policy.

Co.70 Treasury management and investment strategy 2015/16

Council considered Cabinet's recommendations, made at its meeting on 6 February 2015, on the treasury management strategy, the annual investment strategy and the prudential indicators.

RESOLVED: to

1. approve the treasury management strategy 2015/16 as set out in appendix A to the head of finance's report to Cabinet on 6 February 2015;
2. approve the prudential indicators and limits for 2015/16 to 2017/18 as set out in table 2, appendix A to the head of finance's report;

Vale of White Horse District Council – Council minutes

Wednesday, 18 February 2015

3. approve the annual investment strategy 2015/16 set out in appendix A to the head of finance's report and the lending criteria detailed in table 5.

Co.71 Revenue budget 2015/16 and capital programme to 2019/20

The chairman referred to regulations which came into force on 25 February 2014 that required councils to record the names of those councillors voting in favour, against or abstaining from any vote on the budget, including amendments, and the council tax. In accordance with the regulations she would call for a named vote on each of these matters at this meeting.

The chairman reminded councillors that they were not entitled to vote on any issue affecting the level or administration of the council tax or other decisions which might affect the making of any such calculation such as the budget, if they were over two months in arrears with their council tax payments. Where such circumstances applied, councillors were under a statutory obligation to disclose the restriction placed on them and refrain from voting at the relevant meeting. No councillor made any such declaration.

Council noted the report of the chief finance officer on the robustness of the budget estimates and the adequacy of the reserves.

Councillor Matthew Barber, Cabinet member for finance, presented the Cabinet's proposals for the revenue budget 2015/16 and capital programme to 2019/20.

Councillor Matthew Barber moved and Councillor Roger Cox seconded a motion to approve Cabinet's recommendations as follows:

That Council:

- (a) sets the revenue budget for 2015/16 as set out in the appendix A.1 to the head of finance's report to Cabinet on 6 February 2015;
- (b) approves the capital programme for 2015/16 to 2019/20 as set out in appendix D.1 to the head of finance's report, together with the capital growth bids set out in appendix D.2 of the head of finance's report;
- (c) sets the council's prudential limits as listed in appendix E to the head of finance's report; and
- (d) approves the medium term financial plan to 2019/20 as set out in appendix F.1 to the head of finance's report.

Councillor Richard Webber moved and Councillor Dudley Hoddinott seconded an amendment to the above budget in the following terms:

That Council sets the revenue budget and capital programme taking account of the proposed changes as set out in the schedule – "Liberal Democrat budget proposal"(attached to the minute book copy of these minutes) to:

- create budgets to support the introduction of a council newsletter
- reorganise the grants scheme
- provide for additional air quality monitoring
- delete the data capture revenue provision
- offer top up grants for parishes undertaking neighbourhood plans
- provide capital funding for Lodge Hill junction improvements

- allocate funding for transport infrastructure schemes in Wantage/Grove
- support the Wantage and Grove leisure facility.

A number of councillors spoke in support of the amendment. The capital growth bids would allow important transport infrastructure projects to be progressed. Additional funding would be made available to address concerns from residents about the lack of information about council business and a confusing grants scheme. Additional funding would be made available to improve air quality monitoring and provide incentives for parish councils to undertake neighbourhood plans.

A number of councillors spoke against the amendment and in favour of the Cabinet budget proposals. Transport infrastructure programmes should be funded by developers and not the taxpayer. The removal of the data capture project would hamper efforts to improve the planning process and enforcement. Additional funding for neighbourhood planning was not required as parishes already received funding and interest was high within the Vale.

The chairman called for a recorded vote on the amendment which was lost with the votes recorded as follows:

For	Against	Abstentions
Councillors:	Councillors:	Councillors:
Margaret Crick	John Amys	
Tony de Vere	Marilyn Badcock	
Jeanette Halliday	Mike Badcock	
Jim Halliday	Matthew Barber	
Jenny Hannaby	Eric Batts	
Dudley Hoddinott	Yvonne Constance	
Bob Johnston	Roger Cox	
Pat Lonergan	Charlotte Dickson	
Ron Mansfield	St John Dickson	
Sue Marchant	Gervase Duffield	
Julie Mayhew-Archer	Jason Fiddaman	
Elizabeth Miles	Anthony Hayward	
Jerry Patterson	Simon Howell	
Helen Pighills	Bill Jones	
Judy Roberts	Mohinder Kainth	
Val Shaw	Sandy Lovatt	
Andrew Skinner	Gill Morgan	
Catherine Webber	Mike Murray	
Richard Webber	Julia Reynolds	
John Woodford	Fiona Roper	
	Robert Sharp	
	Janet Shelley	
	Meilinda Tilley	
	Margaret Turner	
	Reg Waite	
	Elaine Ware	
Totals: 20	26	Nil

Councillors supporting the Cabinet's budget revenue and capital proposals expressed the view that it included increased investment in services and capital projects with council tax frozen for a fifth year.

Vale of White Horse District Council – Council minutes

The chairman called for a recorded vote on the motion which was carried with the votes recorded as follows:

For	Against	Abstentions
Councillors:	Councillors:	Councillors:
John Amys	Margaret Crick	
Marilyn Badcock	Tony de Vere	
Mike Badcock	Jeanette Halliday	
Matthew Barber	Jim Halliday	
Eric Batts	Jenny Hannaby	
Yvonne Constance	Dudley Hoddinott	
Roger Cox	Bob Johnston	
Charlotte Dickson	Pat Lonergan	
St John Dickson	Ron Mansfield	
Gervase Duffield	Sue Marchant	
Jason Fiddaman	Julie Mayhew-Archer	
Anthony Hayward	Elizabeth Miles	
Simon Howell	Jerry Patterson	
Bill Jones	Helen Pighills	
Mohinder Kainth	Judy Roberts	
Sandy Lovatt	Val Shaw	
Gill Morgan	Andrew Skinner	
Mike Murray	Catherine Webber	
Julia Reynolds	Richard Webber	
Fiona Roper	John Woodford	
Robert Sharp		
Janet Shelley		
Meilinda Tilley		
Margaret Turner		
Reg Waite		
Elaine Ware		
Totals: 26	20	Nil

RESOLVED: to

1. set the revenue budget for 2015/16 as set out in the appendix A.1 to the head of finance's report to Cabinet on 6 February 2015;
2. approve the capital programme for 2015/16 to 2019/20 as set out in appendix D.1 to the head of finance's report, together with the capital growth bids set out in appendix D.2 of the head of finance's report;
3. set the council's prudential limits as listed in appendix E to the head of finance's report; and
4. approve the medium term financial plan to 2019/20 as set out in appendix F.1 to the head of finance's report.

Co.72 Council tax 2015/16

Council considered the report of the head of finance on the setting of the Council Tax for the 2015/16 financial year.

In accordance with regulations requiring councils to record the names of those councillors voting in favour, against or abstaining from any vote on the council tax the Chairman called for a recorded vote with the voting being as follows:

For	Against	Abstentions
Councillors:	Councillors:	Councillors:
John Amys		Margaret Crick
Marilyn Badcock		Tony de Vere
Mike Badcock		Jeanette Halliday
Matthew Barber		Jim Halliday
Eric Batts		Jenny Hannaby
Yvonne Constance		Dudley Hoddinott
Roger Cox		Bob Johnston
Charlotte Dickson		Pat Lonergan
St John Dickson		Ron Mansfield
Gervase Duffield		Sue Marchant
Jason Fiddaman		Julie Mayhew-Archer
Anthony Hayward		Elizabeth Miles
Simon Howell		Jerry Patterson
Bill Jones		Helen Pighills
Mohinder Kainth		Judy Roberts
Sandy Lovatt		Val Shaw
Gill Morgan		Andrew Skinner
Mike Murray		Catherine Webber
Julia Reynolds		Richard Webber
Fiona Roper		John Woodford
Robert Sharp		
Janet Shelley		
Meilinda Tilley		
Margaret Turner		
Reg Waite		
Elaine Ware		
Totals:		
26	Nil	20

RESOLVED:

1. to note that at its meeting on 10 December 2014 the council calculated the council tax base 2015/16:
 - (a) for the whole council area as **47,563.1** [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]; and
 - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a parish precept relates as in column 1 of appendix 1 of the report of the head of finance to council on 18 February 2015.
2. that the council tax requirement for the council's own purposes for 2015/16 (excluding parish precepts) is £5,550,138
3. that the following amounts be calculated for the year 2015/16 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:

- (a) £74,189,445 being the aggregate of the amounts which the council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by parish councils.
- (b) £65,612,694 being the aggregate of the amounts which the council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
- (c) £8,576,751 being the amount by which the aggregate at (3)(a) above exceeds the aggregate at (3)(b) above, calculated by the council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its council tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B) of the Act).
- (d) £180.32 being the amount at (3) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the council, in accordance with Section 31(B) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year (including parish precepts).
- (e) £3,026,613 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act, as set out in column 2 of appendix 1.
- (f) £116.69 being the amount at (3)(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (3) above by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no parish precept relates.

4. to note that for the year 2015/16 Oxfordshire County Council has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Band A	£821.64
Band B	£958.58
Band C	£1,095.52
Band D	£1,232.46
Band E	£1,506.34
Band F	£1,780.22
Band G	£2,054.10
Band H	£2,464.92

5. to note that for the year 2015/16 the Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Band A	£109.13
Band B	£127.32
Band C	£145.51
Band D	£163.70
Band E	£200.08
Band F	£236.46
Band G	£272.83
Band H	£327.40

6. that the council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in appendix 3 of the report of the head of finance to Council on 18 February 2015 as the amounts of council tax for 2015/16 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings shown in appendix 3.

7. to note the allocation of the town and parish element of the council tax reduction scheme grant payable to each parish shown in appendix 4 of the report of the head of finance to Council on 18 February 2015.

8. to determine that the council's basic amount of council tax for 2015/16 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Co.73 Pay policy statement 2015/16

Council considered the report of the head of HR, IT and technical services on the adoption of a pay policy statement to meet the requirements of the Localism Act.

RESOLVED: to approve the pay policy statement for 2015-16 attached to the report of the head of HR, IT and technical services to Council on 18 February 2015.

Co.74 Post fire update

David Buckle, Chief Executive, provided an update on developments since the fire at the Crowmarsh offices. He reported that Oxfordshire County Council had offered additional office space within Abbey House and that Old Abbey House would house the democratic and elections teams. Contract negotiations were ongoing regarding a temporary office location at Milton Park. He anticipated officers moving in during May.

He thanked all councillors for their hard work over the council's four year term, wished those standing for re-election good fortune and those standing down best wishes for life beyond the council.

Co.75 Report of the leader of the council

Councillor Matthew Barber, Leader of the council, thanked the emergency services for their calm response to the fire at the Crowmarsh offices. He thanked officers for their flexibility and tenacity in responding to the current situation and for ensuring minimal disruption to services.

He asked for, and received, Council agreement to ask the Chairman to write to the Chief Fire Officer on behalf of the council and express its thanks for the response to the fire.

Co.76 Notices of motion under standing order 11

Council considered the following motions submitted under standing order 11.

- (1) Motion proposed by Councillor Jim Halliday and seconded by Councillor Pat Lonergan:

Council requests that the Chief Executive write to the County Council highlighting Vale Council's continued concern about the Wootton Road/Dunmore Road/Copenhagen Drive roundabout: Subsequent to 16 July 2014 (when Council last debated the matter), the County Council has carried out changes to the road markings and undertaken to carry out further monitoring. However, the latest changes appear not to have reduced driver confusion, but have resulted in longer queues at peak times. Council requests the County Council to carry out a thorough review of the roundabout and its approach roads.

RESOLVED:

To request that the Chief Executive write to the County Council highlighting Vale Council's continued concern about the Wootton Road/Dunmore Road/Copenhagen Drive roundabout: Subsequent to 16 July 2014 (when

Council last debated the matter), the County Council has carried out changes to the road markings and undertaken to carry out further monitoring. However, the latest changes appear not to have reduced driver confusion, but have resulted in longer queues at peak times. Council requests the County Council to carry out a thorough review of the roundabout and its approach roads.

- (2) Motion proposed by Councillor Jeanette Halliday and seconded by Councillor Jim Halliday:

Council notes that despite Vale Council's formal objection, the Cabinet of Oxfordshire County Council has recently agreed that the pedestrian crossing on Marcham Road, Abingdon, should be re-sited and an additional pedestrian crossing installed on Ock Street, and that the impact of the changes on traffic flow and pedestrian safety should be monitored. Recognising that one of this Council's main concerns was the possible impact on air quality in the vicinity, Council requests that appropriate air quality monitoring should be installed on Ock Street, Spring Road, Marcham Road, and Drayton Road as soon as reasonably practical so that a full set of "before" and "after" measurements can be obtained.

RESOLVED:

To note that despite Vale Council's formal objection, the Cabinet of Oxfordshire County Council has recently agreed that the pedestrian crossing on Marcham Road, Abingdon, should be re-sited and an additional pedestrian crossing installed on Ock Street, and that the impact of the changes on traffic flow and pedestrian safety should be monitored. Recognising that one of this Council's main concerns was the possible impact on air quality in the vicinity, Council requests that appropriate air quality monitoring should be installed on Ock Street, Spring Road, Marcham Road, and Drayton Road as soon as reasonably practical so that a full set of "before" and "after" measurements can be obtained.

- (3) Motion proposed by Councillor Bob Johnston and seconded by Councillor Jerry Patterson:

This Council calls for any full review of the Oxford Green Belt to be carried out in an open and transparent manner. It should be held in public with an independent Chairman and able to take evidence from all interested bodies, including members of the public. Once formulated any draft should be subject to an EiP (Examination in Public) followed by a final report with recommendations to be ratified by all the Councils involved.

Councillor Mike Murray moved and Councillor Sandy Lovatt seconded an amendment as set out below with words deleted shown with a strikethrough and additional words shown in bold.

This Council calls for any ~~full~~ review of the Oxford Green Belt to be carried out in an open and transparent manner. ~~It should be held in public with an independent Chairman and able to take evidence from all interested bodies, including members of the public. Once formulated any draft should be subject to an EiP (Examination in Public) followed by a final report with recommendations to be ratified by all the Councils involved.~~ **It should be supported by properly commissioned professional evidence, and any changes to the Green Belt should be made through a local plan review process by the relevant responsible Local Planning Authority and subject to Examination in Public all in accordance with the NPPF and NPPG, such as is the case in the Vale.**

Those councillors in support of the original motion expressed the view that a review of the green belt was necessary to determine which areas warranted continued protection from development. However, other councillors expressed the view that, in accordance with government planning rules, such a review should be undertaken within the Local Plan process and that the demand for housing necessitated building in areas of the green belt.

The chairman called for a recorded vote on the amendment which was carried with the voting recorded as follows:

For	Against	Abstentions
Councillors:	Councillors:	Councillors:
John Amys	Margaret Crick	
Marilyn Badcock	Tony de Vere	
Mike Badcock	Jeanette Halliday	
Matthew Barber	Jim Halliday	
Eric Batts	Jenny Hannaby	
Yvonne Constance	Dudley Hoddinott	
Roger Cox	Bob Johnston	
Charlotte Dickson	Pat Lonergan	
St John Dickson	Ron Mansfield	
Gervase Duffield	Sue Marchant	
Jason Fiddaman	Julie Mayhew-Archer	
Anthony Hayward	Elizabeth Miles	
Simon Howell	Jerry Patterson	
Bill Jones	Helen Pighills	
Mohinder Kainth	Judy Roberts	
Sandy Lovatt	Val Shaw	
Gill Morgan	Andrew Skinner	
Mike Murray	Catherine Webber	
Julia Reynolds	Richard Webber	
Fiona Roper	John Woodford	
Robert Sharp		
Janet Shelley		
Meilinda Tilley		
Margaret Turner		
Reg Waite		
Elaine Ware		
Totals:		
26	20	Nil

The chairman called for a recorded vote on the substantive motion as amended which was carried with the voting recorded as follows:

For	Against	Abstentions
Councillors:	Councillors:	Councillors:
John Amys	Margaret Crick	
Marilyn Badcock	Tony de Vere	
Mike Badcock	Jeanette Halliday	
Matthew Barber	Jim Halliday	
Eric Batts	Jenny Hannaby	
Yvonne Constance	Dudley Hoddinott	
Roger Cox	Bob Johnston	

Vale of White Horse District Council – Council minutes

Charlotte Dickson	Pat Lonergan	
St John Dickson	Ron Mansfield	
Gervase Duffield	Sue Marchant	
Jason Fiddaman	Julie Mayhew-Archer	
Anthony Hayward	Elizabeth Miles	
Simon Howell	Jerry Patterson	
Bill Jones	Helen Pighills	
Mohinder Kainth	Judy Roberts	
Sandy Lovatt	Val Shaw	
Gill Morgan	Andrew Skinner	
Mike Murray	Catherine Webber	
Julia Reynolds	Richard Webber	
Fiona Roper	John Woodford	
Robert Sharp		
Janet Shelley		
Meilinda Tilley		
Margaret Turner		
Reg Waite		
Elaine Ware		
Totals:		
26	20	Nil

RESOLVED:

That this Council calls for any review of the Oxford Green Belt to be carried out in an open and transparent manner. It should be supported by properly commissioned professional evidence, and any changes to the Green Belt should be made through a local plan review process by the relevant responsible Local Planning Authority and subject to Examination in Public all in accordance with the NPPF and NPPG, such as is the case in the Vale.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm