

Council Agenda



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Summons to attend the annual meeting of Council

to be held on Wednesday 20 May 2015 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', is written in a cursive style.

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. Election of chairman

To elect a chairman of the Council for the municipal year 2015/16.

2. Appointment of vice-chairman

To appoint a vice-chairman of the Council for the municipal year 2015/16.

3. Apologies for absence

To receive apologies for absence.

4. Minutes

To adopt and sign as a correct record the council minutes of the meeting held on 18 February 2015.

5. Declarations of interest

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

6. Chairman's announcements

To receive any announcements from the chairman.

7. 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.

8. Petitions under standing order 13

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

9. Election of leader of Council

To elect a leader of Council, in accordance with the council's executive arrangements agreed at the special council meeting on 8 December 2010, for a four year period ending on the day of the next post election annual meeting.

The leader of Council will report on:

- the appointment of the deputy leader of Council
- the membership of the Cabinet and the allocation of portfolios

10. Appointments to committees, panels and joint committees for 2015/16

To consider the report of the head of legal and democratic services on the appointment to those committees required to be politically balanced together with the Licensing Acts Committee, area committees and joint committees **(to follow)**.

11. Petition debate - Abingdon Outdoor Pool

A petition has been handed in to "Save Abingdon Outdoor Pool". The petition has in excess of 2,200 signatures in support.

The council's Petition Scheme states the following regarding petition debates at Council meetings:

When petitions containing more than 500 signatures are submitted, the petition organiser will be given five minutes to present the petition and the petition will then be discussed by councillors. Council will decide how to respond to the petition at this meeting.

In response to a petition, Council may decide to

- take the action the petition requests;
- not to take the action requested for reasons put forward in the debate;
- to commission further investigation into the matter, for example by a relevant committee;
- make recommendations to Cabinet, where the issue is one on which the Cabinet is required to make the final decision.

Council is invited to make any recommendations on these issues to the Cabinet for it to take into account in the future.

12. 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.

The leader of the council will report that on 23 February 2015 Councillor Mike Murray took a decision to undertake a Regulation 18 issues and scope consultation for the Science Vale Area Action Plan. The chairman of the scrutiny committee agreed to waive call-in to allow the consultation process to begin recognising that the committee had commented on the plan.

On 13 March 2015 Councillor Matthew Barber took a decision to transfer £45,000 from the capital contingency budget within the provisional capital programme to the approved capital programme and to create a capital budget for the purchase of new polling booths for the May 2015 elections. The chairman of the scrutiny committee agreed to waive call-in to allow a formal order before the end of the financial year and to ensure delivery in time for the elections.

On 17 March 2015 Councillor Matthew Barber took a decision to claim grant money from the Department of Communities and Local Government Building Foundations to fund the construction of the Milton Bioscience Research and Innovation Centre. The chairman of the scrutiny committee agreed to waive call-in because any delay caused by the call-in process could prejudice both the council's and the public's interests.

(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).