

# Council Agenda



Contact: Steven Corrigan, Democratic Services Manager  
Telephone number 01235 547675  
Email: [steven.corrigan@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:steven.corrigan@southandvale.gov.uk)  
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Website: [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

## Summons to attend a meeting of Council

to be held on Wednesday 15 July 2015 at 7.00 pm  
The Ridgeway, The Beacon, 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. Apologies for absence

To receive apologies for absence.

### 2. Minutes

(Pages 5 - 10)

To adopt and sign as a correct record the council minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2015 (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 Helen Pighills to Councillor Charlotte Dickson, Cabinet member for leisure.

In June 2013, after completion of the Leisure and Sports Facilities Study, the Cabinet member for leisure told Council there was to be a 'follow up piece of work' that would include surveys of community or village halls. In December 2014, the Cabinet member told us the report on this survey would be available in the summer of 2015. When can we expect this report to be published?

2. Question from Councillor Catherine Webber to Councillor Mike Murray, Cabinet member for planning policy.

What policies are in place regarding housing development in or adjacent to our air quality management areas (AQMAs)?

3. Question from Councillor Bob Johnston to Councillor Matthew Barber, Leader of the council.

Why was the north east area committee disbanded and merged with Abingdon, making that committee twice the size of the other area committees?

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

The loss of the last petrol station in Botley is an environmental concern when it means thousands of extra cars must travel on the already over-capacity A34 to Peartree, Heyford Hill or Abingdon in order to fill the tank. What policy changes could the Vale consider to address this environmental sustainability issue?

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

On 7 July 2015 Councillor Mike Murray, Cabinet member for planning policy, took decisions to recommend Council to make the Drayton and Great Coxwell neighbourhood plans part of the Development Plan for Vale of White Horse. The individual Cabinet member decisions were circulated to all councillors on 7 July 2015.

### **Recommendations to Council:**

1. to make the Drayton Neighbourhood Plan part of the Development Plan for Vale of White Horse;
2. to make the Great Coxwell Neighbourhood Plan part of the Development Plan for Vale of White Horse.

## **10. 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).

## **11. 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 Gervase Duffield:**

This Council requests that the Environment Agency commission an independent review into the implications of the proposed Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme, especially relating to possible flood risks in areas of the Vale downstream of Abingdon.

### **(2) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Gervase Duffield:**

That this Council thanks the staff for their hard work during the recent round of elections in the Vale. The complexity of the elections this year is noted given the combination of parliamentary, district and parish council elections all being held on one day meant that well over 1,300 nomination papers had to be checked and well in excess of 130,000 ballot papers were counted over the three days of the count. The efforts of the electoral staff and others throughout the Council and beyond is recognised and appreciated.

Council also welcomes the consultation and Interim Report published by the Returning Officer into the conduct of the elections. Council notes that the Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee will review the above report and a further report covering the cost of the district and parish elections and make any further recommendations to Council in due course.