

Council



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Date: 9 February 2016
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Summons to attend a meeting of Council

**to be held on Wednesday 17 February 2016 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 7 - 16)

To adopt and sign as a correct record the council minutes of the meeting held on 16 December 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 the following questions from members of the council under standing order 12.

1. Question from Councillor Bob Johnston to Councillor Mike Murray, Cabinet member for planning policy

Could the Cabinet member please explain the policy and scheme for collecting money paid from developers in lieu of affordable housing, to build affordable housing elsewhere? For example, we have £1 million in reserve from the Old Gaol. How will that be used for affordable housing?

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

Could the Cabinet member please update us on the council's response to the government's current consultation on changes to the National Planning Policy Framework, which ends on 22 February 2016?

3. Question from Councillor Emily Smith to Councillor Roger Cox, Cabinet member for planning (development management and enforcement)

Of all the homes granted full and outline planning permission since 2011, how many have been completed, how many are not yet started, and what actions have Vale taken to speed up construction and make sure homes are delivered as soon as possible?

9. Corporate services procurement

At its meeting on 28 January 2016, Cabinet considered the strategic director's report on the procurement of corporate services. The corporate services project had commenced in April 2014, attracting three new district council partners (Hart, Havant Borough, and Mendip) in addition to the council's existing partner, South Oxfordshire District Council.

The Joint Scrutiny Committee had met on 21 January 2016 and supported the recommendations contained in the report.

Both South Oxfordshire's and the Vale of White Horse's Cabinets met together informally to discuss the officer's report.

Cabinet agreed with the recommendations set out in the report subject to an amendment to consult the chairman of the Scrutiny Committee on finalising the terms of reference of the joint scrutiny committee and also consultation with the relevant Cabinet member on the terms of reference of the joint committee.

The report of the strategic director, which Cabinet considered on 28 January 2016, was circulated to all councillors. Please bring this report to the meeting. Hard copies are available on request.

RECOMMENDATION: to

1. agree to establish a corporate services joint scrutiny committee in accordance with the draft terms of reference outlined in appendix 4 to the strategic director's report;

2. authorise the chief executive, in consultation with the chairman of the Scrutiny Committee, to finalise the terms of reference of the committee;
3. authorise the head of legal and democratic services to appoint members and substitutes to the committee in accordance with the wishes of the relevant group leader(s) and make consequential changes to the constitution.

10. Treasury management mid-year monitoring report 2015/16

Cabinet, at its meeting on 5 February 2016, considered the treasury management mid-year monitoring report of the head of finance.

The Joint Audit and Governance Committee had considered the report at its meeting on 25 January 2016 and had not recommended any adjustments to the strategy as a result of the first six months' activities. Likewise, Cabinet concluded that the treasury management activities had operated within the agreed parameters set out in the approved treasury management strategy.

The report of the head of finance, considered by the Cabinet on 5 February 2016, was circulated to all councillors. Hard copies are available on request.

RECOMMENDATION: to approve the treasury management mid-year monitoring report 2015/16.

11. Treasury management and investment strategy 2016/17

Cabinet, at its meeting on 5 February 2016, considered the report of the head of finance on the treasury management strategy, the annual investment strategy and the prudential indicators.

The Joint Audit and Governance Committee considered the report at its meeting on 25 January 2016 and had not recommended any adjustments to the strategy. Cabinet agreed to recommend Council approve the strategy as attached to the report.

The report of the head of finance, considered by the Cabinet on 5 February 2016, was circulated to all councillors. Hard copies are available on request.

RECOMMENDATION: to

1. approve the treasury management strategy 2016/17 as set out in appendix A to the head of finance's report to Cabinet on 5 February 2016;
2. approve the prudential indicators and limits for 2016/17 to 2018/19 as set out in table 2, appendix A to the head of finance's report;
3. approve the annual investment strategy 2016/17 set out in appendix A to the report (paragraphs 25 to 60) and the lending criteria detailed in table 5 to the head of finance's report.

12. Revenue budget 2016/17 and capital programme to 2020/21

Cabinet, at its meeting on 5 February 2016, considered the report of the head of finance on the draft revenue budget 2016/17, and the capital programme to 2020/21.

Cabinet resolved to agree that the Cabinet member for finance, in conjunction with the head of finance, may make minor adjustments to the report and prudential indicators should they prove necessary prior to submission to Council. Any adjustments will be reported to Council.

The report of the head of finance, considered by the Cabinet on 5 February 2016, was circulated to all councillors. Hard copies are available on request.

The Scrutiny Committee will consider this report at its meeting on 11 February 2016. Any views or recommendations will be reported to Council.

RECOMMENDATION: to

1. set the revenue budget for 2016/17 as set out in the appendix A.1 to the head of finance's report to Cabinet on 5 February 2016;
2. approve the capital programme for 2016/17 to 2020/21 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;
4. approve the medium term financial plan to 2020/21 as set out in appendix F.1 to the head of finance's report;
5. authorise the head of finance, in consultation with the cabinet member for finance, to issue an efficiency statement to government in order to secure a four year settlement, if this is considered to be beneficial to the council.

13. Council tax 2016/17

To consider the report of the head of finance regarding the setting of the council tax for the 2016/17 financial year (**report to follow**).

14. Pay policy statement 2016/17

(Pages 17 - 21)

To consider 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 (**report attached**).

15. Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme - discharge of planning functions

(Pages 22 - 24)

To consider the report of the head of planning on the proposed Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme (OFAS) and seek approval for the delegation to Oxfordshire County Council of any planning responsibilities that would otherwise be exercised by Vale of White Horse District Council in relation to the OFAS (**report attached**).

16. Joint Staff Committee

(Page 25)

At its meeting in July 2008 Council established a Joint Staff Committee with South Oxfordshire District Council to manage the appointments process for the employment of officers to the senior management team and make recommendations on appointments to

Council. The Committee comprises three members from each Council.

In light of the forthcoming retirement of David Buckle, Chief Executive, Council is invited to agree revised terms of reference for the Committee to progress the recruitment of a chief executive and appoint councillors to sit on the Committee (to be the Leader of the council, one Conservative member and one Liberal Democrat member in accordance with the political balance of the council).

Revised terms of reference for the Committee are **attached**.

17. 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).

18. 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 Judy Roberts, seconded by Councillor Ed Blagrove.

Council agrees to change the name of the Abingdon Area Committee to the Abingdon and Northeast Area Committee, to more accurately reflect the ward locations of committee members.

(2) Motion proposed by Councillor Debby Hallett, seconded by Councillor Catherine Webber.

Council reconfirms its commitment to Localism principles as laid out by Government in general, and to Neighbourhood Planning in particular, and will continue to both help communities create and adopt Neighbourhood Plans and support their plans once adopted.