

Supplementary Papers

Council

held in the First floor, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, OX14 4SB
on Wednesday, 18 May 2022 at 7.15 pm

Open to the public including the press

15. Motions on notice (Pages 4 - 7)
Correspondence relating to Council motions are set out below.

To consider motions from councillors in accordance with Council procedure rule 38.

- (1) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Bethia Thomas, seconded by Councillor Bob Johnston:

Healthy food is vital to us all and food production and farming is an important economic and employment sector in our district, with agriculture at the heart of many of our communities. However, the rising costs of fuel and other supplies is creating increased pressure on farmers across the district, whilst government policies on international trade deals threaten to undermine UK food quality standards and risk putting farmers out of business – as well as exacerbating food insecurity in the UK. At the same time, significant increases in the cost of living are putting pressure on residents across the Vale, forcing them to make difficult choices regarding their household budgets, including the amount spent on food and heating.

The district council has a number of powers and opportunities that can help influence food production, support sustainable farming and distribution, reduce food waste, and promote healthy eating for the benefit of our residents and the environment, whilst supporting action to address climate change.

Council therefore resolves:

1. To create a Member Food and Farming Champion to promote local food production and distribution, as well as healthy eating in the Vale.
2. To encourage farming communities and agricultural businesses to respond to any consultation on our new Joint Local Plan and Oxfordshire Plan 2050.
3. To encourage developers to include community gardens and allotment provision within all new housing developments.
4. To encourage and promote high environmental health standards at all stages of food production, distribution and redistribution, and continue to support local businesses and 'farm-door' sales, recognising their positive impact on reducing the carbon emissions associated with food miles.
5. To maximise opportunities to highlight the importance of food and farming in our local economy via the press and through social media.
6. To continue to investigate ways we can support food redistribution organisations and food charities to address food poverty in the district, noting the work that has already been done in this regard.
7. To continue to promote ways we can reduce food waste through our waste service and the use of food recycling bins.
8. To continue to promote the use of waste food and the highlight the climate benefits this can bring.
9. To minimise food waste at any event that we may host that serves food, and to use such occasions to highlight the use of waste food, low carbon options, and locally sourced produce wherever possible.

- (2) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Eric de la Harpe, seconded by Councillor Samantha Bowring:

There have been a number of fatal road accidents in Oxfordshire recently involving cyclists. This is despite changes to the highway code which came into force on the 29 January 2022. The aim of these changes, which Council believes are to be commended, is to improve the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and horses on the highway by assigning a hierarchy of responsibility such that the heavier the mode of transport, the more responsibility the operator carries for the safety of others



135 Eastern Avenue
Milton Park
Milton
Oxfordshire
OX14 4SB

Cllr Andrew Gant
Cabinet Member for Highway Management
Oxfordshire County Council
County Hall
New Road
Oxford
OX1 1ND

Dear Cllr Gant,

I am writing on behalf of Vale of White Horse District Council in relation to the recent modifications made to the Highway Code designed to protect non-car users on our roads. We commend these changes – as we believe that they will further encourage active travel – and wish to ensure that all of Oxfordshire’s residents are au fait with the new rules. The Vale are, therefore, requesting that the County Council, as the highways authority, actively publicises these alterations as part of your road safety messaging.

In addition, we are also seeking assurances that all future transport schemes in our district reflect the latest changes to the Highway Code and encourage active travel by default. The Council particularly wishes to ensure that cycle infrastructure is delivered in accordance with the standards set out in HM Government’s Cycle Infrastructure Design Guidance.

The Vale is committed to encouraging cycling and walking. We, therefore, regard it as vitally important that Oxfordshire County Council takes action to establish active travel as a safe and viable alternative to the motor vehicle.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours Sincerely,



135 Eastern Avenue
Milton Park
Milton
Oxfordshire
OX14 4SB

Cllr Liz Leffman
Leader of the Council
Oxfordshire County Council
County Hall
New Road
Oxford
OX1 1ND

Dear Cllr Leffman,

I am writing on behalf of Vale of White Horse District Council in relation to Oxfordshire's Transport and Connectivity Plan. We welcome your commitment to reducing the use of motor vehicles and are encouraged by the goal of making walking, cycling, public and shared transport the natural first choice for residents.

In order to help deliver on our shared vision of a zero-carbon transport system in Oxfordshire, the Vale are, therefore, asking that the County Council reflects the aspirations contained within the Transport and Connectivity Plan when responding to planning consultations across the county.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours Sincerely,

Cllr Liz Leffman
Leader of the Council
Oxfordshire County Council
County Hall
New Road
Oxford
OX1 1ND

Councillor Emily Smith
Leader of the Council

Emily.Smith@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Tel: 01235 422644
135 Eastern Avenue
Milton Park
Oxon
OX14 4SB

27 May 2022

Dear Cllr Leffman,

I am writing on behalf of Vale of White Horse District Council in relation to Oxfordshire's Transport and Connectivity Plan. We recently debated and passed unanimously, a motion welcoming your commitment to reducing the use of motor vehicles and are encouraged by the goal of making walking, cycling, public and shared transport the natural first choice for residents.

As you know, one key way we as a district council are able to influence the move towards more active travel and public transport use is through the planning process. However, we are often limited in what we can insist developers provide in relation to transport infrastructure by the responses from the highways department. As technical consultees, our planning committee are limited in their ability to ensure active travel infrastructure is provided because the comments from the County via the OneVoice response system are less ambitious that we would like to see.

In order to help deliver on our shared vision of a zero-carbon transport system in Oxfordshire, the Vale are, therefore, asking that the County Council as technical consultees on highways matters fully reflects the aspirations contained within the Transport and Connectivity Plan when responding to planning consultations across the county which will in turn add weight to the efforts of the Vale in pursuing more active travel and public transport focused developments.

I would be very happy to discuss the recent debate at Vale further and to discuss how we can collectively ensure the excellent policies in your emerging Local Transport and Connectivity Plan are put into action.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E Smith', written in a cursive style.

Councillor Emily Smith
Leader of the Council