

Minutes



Listening Learning Leading

OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF

Council

HELD AT 6.00PM ON 17 MAY 2012

AT COUNCIL OFFICES, CROWMARSH GIFFORD

Present:

Mr F Bloomfield (Chairman) – in the chair for the election of Chairman.

Ms A Badcock, Mr R Bell, Ms J Bland, Mr D Bretherton, Mrs D Brown, Mrs J Carr, Mrs C Collett, MBE, Mr S Connel, Mr B Cooper, Ms K Crabbe, Mr P Cross, Mrs M Davies, Mrs P Dawe, Mr D Dodds, Mrs E A Ducker, MBE, Mr M Gray, Mr W Hall, Mr T Harbour, Mrs E Hards, Mr M Harris, Mr N Harris, Mr P Harrison, Mr M Hiles, Mrs E Hodgkin, Mr T Joslin, Mr M Leonard, Ms L Lloyd, Mr I Lokhon, Mrs A Midwinter, Mrs J Nimmo-Smith, Rev'd A Paterson, Ms A Purse, Mr C Quinton, Mr A Rooke, Mr R Simister, Mrs P Slatter, Mr D Turner, Mrs M Turner, Ms R Wallis, Mr M Welply and Mrs J Wood

Apologies:

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Mr L Docherty, Mrs E Gillespie, Dr C Hood, Mr S Harrod and Mr B Service

Officers:

Mr D Buckle, Mr S Corrigan, Mr M Hewer, Mr M Prosser, Mrs M Reed and Mrs A Robinson

Mr Bloomfield welcomed Ms Lloyd to the council following her election in the Chinnor by election. He reviewed his year as Chairman of the council, thanked councillors for all their support and Mrs Carr, as Vice-Chairman, and Mr Hewer for their assistance during the year.

Mrs Ducker and Mr Turner paid tribute to Mr Bloomfield in recognition of his work as Chairman of the council during the past year.

1. Election of Chairman

Mrs J Carr was nominated as Chairman.

RESOLVED: to appoint Mrs J Carr as Chairman of the council for the ensuing year.

Mrs Carr presented Mr Bloomfield with the chain of office.

Mrs Carr signed her declaration of acceptance of office, presented Mr Bloomfield with the past Chairman's badge, Mr Carr with the escort's badge and made an acceptance speech.

Mrs Carr in the chair.

2. Appointment of Vice-Chairman

Mrs D Brown and Mrs A Midwinter were nominated as Vice-Chairman.

RESOLVED: to appoint Mrs D Brown as Vice-Chairman of the council for the ensuing year.

The Chairman presented Mrs Brown with the chain of office.

Mrs Brown signed her declaration of acceptance of office, made an acceptance speech and presented Mr Brown with the escort's badge.

3. Minutes

RESOLVED: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2012 as a correct record and agree that the Chairman sign them.

4. Chairman's announcements

The Chairman advised Council of her chosen charities for her year of office - Helen and Douglas House Hospice Care and Emmaus of Oxford.

She reminded councillors of the forthcoming charity quiz in support of her chosen charities and those of the Chairman of Vale of White Horse District Council.

5. Leader of Council report

Mrs Ducker advised Council that she had appointed Ms Badcock to the Cabinet in place of Mrs Brown with the health and housing portfolio. Mr Service would take on responsibility for community safety and represent the council on the South and Vale Community Safety Partnership and the Oxfordshire Safer Communities Partnership Board. All other portfolios remain unchanged and she did not propose any changes to the current executive scheme of delegation as set out in the council's constitution.

6. Appointments to committees and panels for 2012/13

Council considered the report of the head of legal and democratic services on the appointment of those committees which are required to be politically balanced together with the Community Investment Fund Panel, Licensing Acts Committee and the Standards Committee.

The Chairman referred to the following recommendation tabled at the meeting covering these appointments to reflect the withdrawal of the proposal for a joint scrutiny committee, the result of the recent Chinnor by election and the allocation of an additional Planning Committee seat to the Conservative group, a NNDR Appeals Panel seat to the Liberal Democrat group and a Housing Appeals Panel seat to each of the Independent and Labour groups to reflect their membership on the council.

That for the 2012/13 municipal year Council:

1. appoints the committees and panels and allocates seats to each political group as set in the schedule circulated at the meeting subject to 10 seats being allocated to the Conservative Group on the Planning Committee, one seat on the NNDR Appeals Panel being allocated to the Liberal Democrat group and one seat each on the Housing Appeals Panel being allocated to the Independent and Labour groups;
2. appoints councillors and substitutes to sit on the committees and panels as set out in the schedule circulated at the meeting;
3. appoints councillors to the Licensing Acts Committee as set out in the schedule circulated at the meeting;
4. appoints councillors and substitutes to the Community Investment Fund Panel as set out in the schedule circulated at the meeting;
5. appoints committee chairmen and vice-chairmen as set out in the schedule circulated at the meeting;
6. appoints Mr N Harris to the Independent group's seat on the Housing Appeals Panel and one of the Conservative group's seats on the NNDR Panel;
7. appoints Mr B Service, Mrs M Davies, Mrs P Dawe and Mrs A Midwinter as the district councillors on the Standards Committee;
8. appoints Dr C Hood as the council's representative on the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Mrs E Gillespie as substitute;
9. appoints Mr B Service as the council's representative and Mr J Cotton as substitute on the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel
10. authorises the head of legal and democratic services to make appointments to any vacant committee or panel and substitute positions in accordance with the wishes of the relevant group leader

Prior to the vote on the above motion the Labour group offered the Independent group its seat on the Community Investment Fund Panel. The Independent group had offered its seat on the Housing Appeals Panel to Mr N Harris.

RESOLVED to:

1. appoint the following committees and panels for the 2012/13 year and to appoint the membership, substitutes and chairmen and vice-chairmen as indicated to sit on them:

Names				
Planning Committee, 14 Members				
Conservative (10)	Henley Residents (1)	Independent (1)	Labour (1)	Liberal Democrat (1)
Joan Bland	Jeni Wood	Ann Midwinter	Terry Joslin	Roger Bell
John Cotton				
Phil Cross				
Elizabeth				

Names				
Planning Committee, 14 Members				
Conservative (10)	Henley Residents (1)	Independent (1)	Labour (1)	Liberal Democrat (1)
Gillespie(Vice-Chairman)				
Alan Rooke				
Robert Simister				
Pearl Slatter (Chairman)				
Margaret Turner				
Rachel Wallis				
Mike Welply				
SUBSTITUTES				
Conservative (10)	Henley Residents (1)	Independent (3)	Labour (3)	Liberal Democrat (3)
Felix Bloomfield	Elizabeth Hodgkin	Celia Collett	Bernard Cooper	David Bretherton
Steve Connel		Mark Gray	Margaret Davies	Anne Purse
Kristina Crabbe		Marc Hiles	Eleanor Hards	David Turner
Pat Dawe				
Leo Docherty				
Paul Harrison				
Stephen Harrod				
Malcolm Leonard				
Imran Lokhon				

Names	Scrutiny Committee, 13 Members			
Conservative (9)	Henley Residents (1)	Independent (1)	Labour (1)	Liberal Democrat (1)
Joan Bland(Vice-Chairman)	Elizabeth Hodgkin	Celia Collett	Eleanor Hards(Chairman)	David Turner
Steve Connel				
John Cotton				
Kristina Crabbe				
Pat Dawe				
Leo Docherty				
Will Hall				
Paul Harrison				
Stephen Harrod				
SUBSTITUTES				
Conservative (9)	Henley Residents (1)	Independent (3)	Labour (3)	Liberal Democrat (3)
Felix Bloomfield	Jeni Wood	Mark Gray	Bernard Cooper	Roger Bell
Phil Cross		Marc Hiles	Margaret Davies	Anne Purse
Tony Harbour		Ann Midwinter	Terry Joslin	David Bretherton
Marcus Harris				
Lynn Lloyd				
Rob Simister				
Margaret Turner				
Rachel Wallis				
Mike Welply				

Names	Audit Committee, 8 Members		
Conservative (5)	Independent (1)	Labour (1)	Liberal Democrat (1)
John Cotton	Mark Gray	Margaret Davies	David Bretherton
Kristina Crabbe			
Phil Cross(Vice-Chairman)			
Paul Harrison			
Mike Welply(Chairman)			
SUBSTITUTES			
Conservative (5)	Independent (3)	Labour (3)	Liberal Democrat (3)
Pat Dawe	Celia Collett	Bernard Cooper	Anne Purse
Leo Docherty	Marc Hiles	Eleanor Hards	Roger Bell
Stephen Harrod	Ann Midwinter	Terry Joslin	David Turner
Chris Hood			
Rob Simister			

Names	General Licensing Committee, 10 Members		
Conservative (7)	Independent (1)	Labour (1)	Liberal Democrat (1)
Joan Bland	Ann Midwinter	Terry Joslin	Anne Purse
Pat Dawe			
Elizabeth Gillespie(Vice-Chairman)			
Malcolm Leonard(Chairman)			
Pearl Slatter			
Margaret Turner			
Mike Welply			
SUBSTITUTES			
Conservative (7)	Independent (3)	Labour (3)	Liberal Democrat (3)
Will Hall	Celia Collett	Bernard Cooper	David Bretherton
Tony Harbour	Mark Gray	Margaret Davies	Roger Bell
Stephen Harrod	Marc Hiles	Terry Joslin	David Turner
Marcus Harris			
Chris Hood			
Lynn Lloyd			
Alan Rooke			

Names	Licensing Acts Committee, 10 Members		
Conservative (7)	Independent (1)	Labour (1)	Liberal Democrat (1)
Joan Bland	Ann Midwinter	Eleanor Hards	David Bretherton
Pat Dawe(Vice-Chairman)			
Elizabeth Gillespie			
Malcolm Leonard			
Lynn Lloyd			
Margaret Turner(Chairman)			
Rachel Wallis			

Names	NNDR Appeals Panel, 5 Members	
Conservative (2)	Liberal Democrat (1)	Non-group councillors (2)
Elizabeth Gillespie	Anne Purse	Neville Harris
Malcolm Leonard		Christopher Quinton
SUBSTITUTES		
Conservative (3)	Liberal Democrat (3)	
Tony Harbour	David Bretherton	
Paul Harrison	David Turner	
Mike Welply	Roger Bell	

Names	Housing Appeals Panel, 5 Members	
Conservative (3)	Labour (1)	Non group councillor (1)
Pat Dawe	Bernard Cooper	Neville Harris
Lynn Lloyd		
Pearl Slatter		
SUBSTITUTES		
Conservative (3)	Labour (3)	
Phil Cross	Margaret Davies	
Marcus Harris	Eleanor Hards	
Alan Rooke	Terry Joslin	

Names					Community Investment Fund Panel, 12 Members				
Conservative (8)		Henley Residents (1)		Independent (2)		Liberal Democrat (1)			
Joan Bland		Jeni Wood		Mark Gray		Roger Bell			
Pat Dawe				Ann Midwinter					
Elizabeth Gillespie									
Will Hall(Chairman)									
Alan Rooke									
Pearl Slatter									
Rachel Wallis									
Conservative (8)		Henley Residents (1)		Independent (3)		Liberal Democrat (1)			
						Anne Purse			
						David Bretherton			
						David Turner			

2. appoint Mr N Harris to the Independent group's seat on the Housing Appeals Panel and one of the Conservative group's seats on the NNDR Appeals Panel;
3. appoint Mr C Quinton to the vacant seat on the NNDR Appeals Panel;
4. appoint Mrs A Midwinter to the Labour group's seat on the Community Investment Fund Panel
5. appoint Mr B Service, Mrs M Davies, Mrs P Dawe and Mrs A Midwinter as the district councillors on the Standards Committee;
6. appoint Dr C Hood as the council's representative on the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Mrs E Gillespie as substitute;
7. appoint Mr B Service as the council's representative and Mr J Cotton as substitute on the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel;
8. authorise the head of legal and democratic services to make appointments to any vacant committee or panel and substitute positions in accordance with the wishes of the relevant group leader

7. Localism Act: standards of conduct

Council considered the report of the monitoring officer that set out the background to and current position concerning the revised code of conduct for councillors. Council was invited to adopt the revised code of conduct with effect from 1 July 2012, make amendments to the council's constitution as a result of adoption of the new standards framework, agree the appointment of the proper officer for dealing with code of conduct complaints and appoint two independent persons to act as consultees on code of conduct complaints.

In response to questions Margaret Reed, Monitoring Officer, advised that the independent persons could not be part of the committee arrangements but would be consulted during the complaints process. A record of meetings of the monitoring officer and independent persons would be kept. The Audit and Corporate Governance Committee, as the committee responsible from 1 July 2012 for dealing with code of conduct complaints, could receive an annual report similar to that currently submitted to the Standards Committee.

Council recorded its thanks to all those independent members who had given their time as members of the Standards Committee.

RESOLVED: to

1. adopt the code of conduct set out in appendix 1 to the report of the monitoring officer to the annual meeting of Council on 17 May 2012 as the code of conduct which is expected of councillors and co-opted members of South Oxfordshire District Council with effect from 1 July 2012, or such later date as may be specified in regulations for the implementation of the new standards framework, and in place of the council's existing code of conduct;
2. authorise the monitoring officer to add to the code of conduct the relevant text from the secondary legislation concerning disclosable pecuniary interests;
3. designate the monitoring officer as the proper officer for receipt of code of conduct complaints and the audit and corporate governance committee as the committee responsible from 1 July 2012 for dealing with allegations about potential breaches of the code of conduct that the monitoring officer considers it inappropriate for officers to deal with;
4. approve the amendments to the constitution arising from the new standards framework as set out in the electronic copy of the constitution on the council's website for the annual meeting of the council on 17 May 2012;
5. subject to 1 to 4 above, authorise the head of legal and democratic services to include the code of conduct in the constitution and to make any consequential amendments to the constitution arising from the adoption of the code including minor or consequential amendments required for clarification, consistency and compliance with the council's style guide;

6. appoint Carole Burchett and David Lockie as independent persons for a period consistent with the anticipated secondary legislation that sets out the terms of such appointments during the transitional period to the new standards of conduct framework.

The meeting closed at 6.50pm.

Chairman