

Minutes



Listening Learning Leading

OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF

Council

HELD AT 6.00PM ON 30 AUGUST 2012

AT COUNCIL OFFICES, CROWMARSH GIFFORD

Present:

Mrs J Carr (Chairman)

Mrs A Badcock, Mr R Bell, Mr D Bretherton, Mrs D Brown, Mrs C Collett, MBE, Mr S Connel, Mr B Cooper, Ms K Crabbe, Mrs M Davies, Mr D Dodds, Mrs E A Ducker, MBE, Mr M Gray, Mr W Hall, Mr T Harbour, Mrs E Hards, Mr N Harris, Mr P Harrison, Mr M Hiles, Mrs E Hodgkin, Mr M Leonard, Ms L Lloyd, Mr I Lokhon, Mrs A Midwinter, Rev'd A Paterson, Ms A Purse, Mr C Quinton, Mr A Rooke, Mr B Service, Mr R Simister, Mr D Turner, Mrs M Turner, Ms R Wallis.

Apologies:

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Ms J Bland, Mr F Bloomfield, Mr J Cotton, Mrs P Dawe, Mrs E Gillespie, Mr M Harris, Mr S Harrod, Dr C Hood, Mrs P Slatter, Mr M Welply and Mrs J Wood.

Officers:

Mr D Buckle, Mr A Down, Mrs M Reed and Mrs J Thompson

11. Chairman's announcements

Council noted that Councillor Mr Terry Joslin had tendered his resignation from the council on 29 August.

The Chairman congratulated the Mayor of Henley, Mrs Elizabeth Hodgkin, on Henley Town Council's Olympics celebration event which she had attended.

The Chairman reminded councillors that they were invited to the Corporate Strategy team's Afternoon Tea to raise money for the Chairman's charities.

12. Electoral Review

Council considered the report of the Chief Executive setting out the draft of the Council's submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England on warding arrangements as it reduces in size from 48 to 36 members. Council was

reminded that this was a response to a consultation and that the Boundary Commission would determine the final warding arrangements.

The Chief Executive responded to questions and comments as follows:

- The location and number of polling stations would be reviewed once the new boundaries were agreed;
- The Boundary Commission had contacted all parish councils and the council had contacted the four town councils. To date the Boundary Commission had received 16 responses to their consultation.
- The appendix to the report set out the proposed text of the council's response to the Boundary Commissions consultation, to be amended in light of the decisions of this meeting.
- The council was constrained by the Boundary Commission's timetable for this review of warding arrangements.
- Some compromises had to be made to maintain the ward sizes within the limits set and to avoid wards of a mixed rural and urban character. This and the need to maintain the best geographical links led to a number of the changes proposed.
- The housing projections in the council's core strategy were used to estimate the electoral numbers used to determine the proposed wards.

A motion to approve the proposals for new warding arrangements and the consultation response set out in the Chief Executive's report was moved and seconded.

An amendment to change the names of the wards in Didcot from Didcot All Saints, Didcot Hadden and Didcot Park to Didcot West, Didcot North and East, and Didcot South respectively was moved, seconded, and carried when put to the vote.

An amendment to propose a single three-member ward covering the whole of Henley town was moved and seconded but lost when put to the vote.

An amendment to the proposed boundary between Wheatley and Forest Hill wards to have the ward boundary along the existing Holton parish boundary was moved and seconded but lost when put to the vote.

RESOLVED:

to approve the submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England attached as Appendix A to the report of the Chief Executive considered at this meeting with amendments to Paragraph 7 (and consequential amendments to the headings in paragraphs 8-10) to replace the words:

"Didcot All Saints" with Didcot West

"Didcot Hadden" with Didcot North and East

"Didcot Park" with Didcot South.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm.

Chairman

Date