

Council



Listening Learning Leading

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Summons to attend a meeting of Council

to be held on

THURSDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2017 AT 6.15 PM

at

**THE FOUNTAIN CONFERENCE CENTRE, HOWBERY PARK,
CROWMARSH GIFFORD**

Alternative formats of this publication are available on request. These include large print, Braille, audio cassette or CD, and email. For this or any other special requirements (such as access facilities) please contact the officer named on this agenda. Please give as much notice as possible before the meeting

MARGARET REED
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Note: Please remember to sign the attendance register.

Agenda

Map

A map showing the location of Howbery Park is attached, as is a plan showing the location of the Fountain Conference Centre on the Howbery Park site.

1 Apologies for absence

2 Minutes (Pages 9 - 13)

To adopt and sign as a correct record the council minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2016 - attached.

3 Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

4 Urgent business and chairman's announcements

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, and to receive any announcements from the chairman.

5 Public participation

To receive any questions or statements from members of the public that have registered to speak.

6 Petitions

To receive any petitions under the council's petition scheme.

7 Appointment of external auditors (Pages 14 - 16)

At its meeting on 23 January 2017 the Joint Audit and Governance Committee considered a report on the approach the council will follow in appointing its external auditors.

The report of the head of finance, which the Joint Audit and Governance Committee, considered on 23 January 2017, is attached.

RECOMMENDATION:

To opt in to the appointing person arrangements made by Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) for the appointment of external auditors.

8 Community Loan - Henley YMCA (Pages 17 - 19)

At its meeting on 1 February 2017 Cabinet considered a report on an application for a community loan from Henley YMCA. Cabinet agreed to recommend Council to approve the award of a community loan.

The report of the head of finance, which Cabinet considered on 1 February 2017, is attached.

RECOMMENDATION: to

1. approve the award of a community loan of £169,950 to Henley YMCA;
2. authorise the head of finance and the head of legal and democratic services to agree the conditions of the loan and the loan agreement;
3. approve a supplementary estimate of £169,950 to be added to the approved capital programme.

9 Treasury management mid-year monitoring 2016/17 (Pages 20 - 31)

Cabinet, at its meeting on 1 February 2017, considered a monitoring report on the treasury management activities for the first six months of 2016/17 and an update on the current economic conditions with a view to the remainder of the year.

The Joint Audit and Governance Committee had considered the report at its meeting on 23 January 2017 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, which Cabinet considered on 1 February 2017, is attached.

RECOMMENDATION: to approve the treasury management mid-year monitoring report 2016/17.

10 Treasury management strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20 (Pages 32 - 61)

Cabinet, at its meeting on 1 February 2017, considered a report on the council's treasury management strategy (TMS) for 2017/18 to 2019/20 and set out the expected treasury operations for this period.

The Joint Audit and Governance Committee considered the report at its meeting on 23 January 2017 and had not recommended any adjustments to the strategy. Cabinet agreed to recommend Council approve the strategy.

The report of the head of finance, which Cabinet considered on 1 February 2017, is attached.

RECOMMENDATION: to approve

1. the treasury management strategy 2017/18 set out in appendix A to the head of finance's report to Cabinet on 1 February 2017;
2. the prudential indicators and limits for 2017/18 to 2019/20 as set out in table 2, appendix A to the head of finance's report; and
3. the annual investment strategy 2017/18 set out in appendix A (paragraphs 26 to 66) and the lending criteria detailed in table 5 of appendix A to the head of finance's report.

11 Medium term financial strategy 2017/18 - 2021/22 (Pages 62 - 70)

Cabinet, at its meeting on 1 February 2017, considered a report on the medium term financial strategy for 2017/18 to 2021/22.

The report of the head of finance, which Cabinet considered on 1 February 2017, is attached.

Cabinet supported the draft strategy, however, it believed that it should be adjusted to state that the council would not borrow to fund capital expenditure unless financially advantageous to do so.

RECOMMENDATION: to approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2017/18 to 2021/22 as attached to the report of the head of finance to Cabinet on 1 February 2017, subject to amending paragraph 2.1(b) of the strategy to read: "To retain our debt-free status, i.e. we will not borrow to fund capital expenditure, unless financially advantageous to do so".

12 Revenue Budget 2017/18 and Capital Programme to 2021/22 (Pages 71 - 115)

Cabinet, at its meeting on 1 February 2017, considered a report on the council's revenue budget to 2017/18 and capital programme to 2021/22.

The budget report presented to Cabinet on 1 February 2017 recommended a revenue budget for 2017/18 that included a proposed £5 increase to the current band "D" council tax of £111.24, resulting in a band "D" council tax for 2017/18 of £116.24. However, at the meeting, Cabinet agreed to recommend a budget with no increase in council tax.

This decision changes some of the numbers quoted in the Cabinet report, and also Appendix A.1, Appendix C and Appendix F. Revised copies of these appendices are attached to the Council agenda. These should be read in conjunction with the original report. The addendum, also attached to the Council agenda, sets out the impact of the change on the report considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 1 February 2017.

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, which Cabinet considered on 1 February 2017 and the revised appendices A1, C and F, are attached.

The Scrutiny Committee will consider this report at its meeting on 9 February 2017. Any views or recommendations will be reported to Council.

RECOMMENDATION: to

1. set the revenue budget for 2017/18, as set out in the revised appendix A.1 attached to the Council agenda;
2. agree that the capital schemes listed in paragraph 33 to the report remain in the capital programme;
3. approve the capital programme for 2017/18 to 2021/22, as set out in appendix D.1 to the report, together with the capital growth bids, set out in appendix D.2 of the report;
4. set the council's prudential limits, as listed in appendix E to the report;
5. approve the medium term financial plan to 2021/22, as set out in the revised appendix F attached to the Council agenda;
6. allocate £1,000,000 to fund the Communities Capital and Revenue Grant Scheme.

13 Report of the leader of the council

To receive any updates from the Leader of the council.

14 Council tax 2017/18

To consider the report of the head of finance on the setting of the council tax for the 2017/18 financial year - report to follow.

15 Pay policy statement 2017/18 (Pages 116 - 119)

To consider the report of the head of HR, IT and technical services on adoption of a pay policy statement to meet the requirements of the Localism Act report attached.

16 Changes to the council's constitution

To consider the report of the monitoring officer on a proposed change to the constitution to clarify the decisions which can be taken by full council – report to follow.

17 Questions under Council procedure rule 34

No questions have been submitted under Council procedure rule 34.

18 Motions under Council procedure rule 41

To receive the following notice of motion under Council procedure rule 41:

Motion to be proposed by Councillor John Cotton, seconded by Councillor Jane Murphy:

This council supports proposals for a new countywide unitary authority and authorises the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the council, to work with other partner councils to develop a proposal for the creation of a new unitary council for Oxfordshire and present a detailed report to Council in due course.

MARGARET REED

Head of Legal and Democratic Services