

Council



Listening Learning Leading

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Summons to attend a meeting of Council

to be held on

THURSDAY 15 JULY 2021 AT 6.00 PM

at

FIRST FLOOR, 135 EASTERN AVENUE, MILTON PARK, MILTON, OX14 4SB

To watch this meeting, follow this link to the council's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTj2pCic8vzucpzlaSWE3UQ>

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MARGARET REED
Head of Legal and Democratic

Agenda

1 Apologies for absence

To record apologies for absence.

2 Minutes (Pages 6 - 16)

To adopt and sign as a correct record the Council minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2021 - 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 chair's announcements

To receive notification of any matters which the chair determines should be considered as urgent business and the special circumstances which have made the matters urgent, and to receive any announcements from the chair.

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 from the public.

7 Review of planning application town and parish trigger arrangements for decision making (Pages 17 - 22)

To consider the report of the head of legal and democratic – attached.

8 Appointment of the council's monitoring officer, interim monitoring officer, electoral registration officer and returning officer (Pages 23 - 28)

To consider the report of the deputy chief executive – transformation and operations – attached.

9 Report of the leader of the council

To receive the report of the leader of the council.

10 Questions on notice

To receive questions from councillors in accordance with Council procedure rule 33.

- A. Question from Councillor Jane Murphy to Councillor Sue Cooper, Leader of the council

It is clear that the growing budget deficit cannot be bridged by income raising activity; to claim otherwise would be to mislead councillors and residents.

As the budget is a Council responsibility and not limited to the administration, will the Leader ask the Section 151 Officer to bring a report to Cabinet and Full Council on the full impact of all decisions taken?

- B. Question from Councillor Ken Arlett to Councillor Sue Cooper, Leader of the council

At the end of June an inspector granted planning permission on appeal. The reason given was that South Oxfordshire District Council only had 4.21 years of land supply instead of the minimum five years. South Oxfordshire District Council is suggesting that it has 5.33 years of land supply.

What was the land supply level at the time of the appeal? If the answer is over five years as has been suggested, what action will the Leader and district council planning officers be taking against the inspector's decision?

- C. Question from Councillor Stefan Gawrysiak to Councillor Anne-Marie Simpson, Cabinet member for planning

Recently "Bioabundance" have pursued three requests for permission to pursue a judicial review through the courts.

Can the Cabinet portfolio holder for planning please state:-

- a) The cost of these cases to the district councils
- b) The hours of officer's/legal time spent preparing the district council's defence

- D. Question from Councillor Celia Wilson to Councillor Sue Cooper, Leader of the council

Will you, as Leader of the council, support (and encourage others to support) the principle and process of achieving a Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) in Didcot, to serve people living in both the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse parts of Didcot town and in the surrounding villages ?

If so, would your support include any or all of the following measures, or others:

- work cross-authority and cross-party to encourage South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and Oxfordshire County Council to make it their policy to promote the proposal actively to Oxfordshire Clinical

Commissioning Group (OCCG)

- become active in pressing the OCCG to commit to providing Didcot MIU as a matter of urgency
- provide financial support and attendance at public meetings on the matter
- Be instrumental in introducing appropriate public transport to serve the Unit from the more difficult areas
- other financial and community involvement led by local councillors and organisations

11 Motions on notice

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

- (1) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Tim Bearder, seconded by Councillor Andrea Powell:

This Council recognises that after four years of delays to the long-awaited environment bill we are still without crucial laws to restore nature and tackle climate change.

We are alarmed by the 68% decline in global wildlife populations since 1970 and feel we must take measures to act in the face of Conservative high population growth aspirations for the Oxford/Cambridge Arc.

We welcome plans to extend the Chilterns AONB but recognise that all our residents deserve access to nature.

With this in mind this Council agrees to support, in principle, the creation of new protected areas in Oxfordshire.

Some outline plans have already been devised by local groups, like plans in Otmoor, which have the widespread support of local people and parish councils.

These kinds of plans fit with the government's stated 25 Year Environment Plan commitments and its pledge to protect 30% of the UK's land by 2030.

To ensure we are 'spade ready' for any expressions of interest, Council asks the Leader to bring a paper to Cabinet on:

How the Council can take a lead in developing and promoting "regional parks" as part of Oxfordshire's nature recovery network through its partnerships, and with government agencies, investigating the most appropriate protections and designations to seek which are likely to attract funding.

- (2) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Sam Casey-Rerhaye, seconded by Councillor Pieter-Paul Barker

Council notes:

Councils are responsible for organising all elections in England. The recent Queen's Speech contained government proposals to require people to show identification including a photograph in order to vote in a General Election. Allegations of electoral registration or voter fraud are very rare in South Oxfordshire.

Council believes:

Voting at elections is the cornerstone of democracy at both local and national level.

Participation in elections should be encouraged in all those who are qualified regardless of age, ethnicity or income.

Unnecessary barriers to voting are likely to reduce voter participation in elections, proper representation of all parts of the community and so legitimacy of those elected to office.

Voter ID is a solution without a problem and as such insinuates barriers to voting which should be of great concern to anyone who supports an open and effective democratic system of government.

Council Resolves:

To oppose the introduction of photo ID as a requirement to vote at polling stations.

To request the Leader to write to the relevant minister indicating this opposition and the reasons why and requesting this measure is not included in any forthcoming Bill.

That should mandatory photo ID be passed into law, this council will investigate low-cost options for residents, bearing in mind the barriers outlined and focus efforts to promote the ID to those who are most likely to need it.

- (3) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Jane Murphy, seconded by Councillor Caroline Newton:

Council notes our CEO is an LGA Peer and has previously asked group leaders to support our Council being peer challenged. Council supports him in this and recognizes the contribution that our officers have made to national best practice.

MARGARET REED

Head of Legal and Democratic

