

Council



Listening Learning Leading

Contact Officer: Steven Corrigan
Tel: 07717 274704
E-mail: steven.corrigan@southandvale.gov.uk
Date: 6 March 2023
Website: www.southoxon.gov.uk

Summons to attend a meeting of Council

to be held on

TUESDAY 14 MARCH 2023 AT 6.00 PM

at

DIDCOT CIVIC HALL, BRITWELL ROAD, DIDCOT, OX11 7JN

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.

Patrick Arran
Head of Legal and Democratic

Note: Please remember to sign the attendance register.

Agenda

1 Apologies for absence

To record apologies for absence.

2 Minutes (Pages 6 - 22)

To adopt and sign as a correct record the Council minutes of the meetings held on 8 December 2022 and 16 February 2023.

3 Declarations of interest

To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, other registrable interests and non-registrable interests or any conflicts of interest 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 Making the Sonning Common Development Plan (Pages 23 - 29)

To consider the recommendations of the Cabinet member for planning, made on 2 March 2023, regarding the neighbourhood plan for Sonning Common following the referendum held on 23 February 2023.

The Individual Cabinet Member Decision is attached.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: to

1. make the Sonning Common Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan, Review, so that it continues to be part of the council's development plan; and
2. authorise the head of policy and programmes, in consultation with the Cabinet member for planning, and in agreement with the Qualifying Body, Sonning Common Parish Council, to correct any spelling, grammatical, typographical or factual errors together with any improvements from a presentational perspective.

8 Progress on approved Council motions (Pages 30 - 36)

To note progress on the approved Council motions – paper 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 Snowdon to Councillor Rouane, Leader of the council.

Can the leader explain how South Oxfordshire District Council's own planning application P22/V2705/FUL, which proposes to tarmac over open green spaces earmarked as a wildflower meadow next to a proposed allotment, which will destroy a huge amount of biodiversity, whilst also being overshadowed by brownfield industrial land, meets with the alleged priorities of this council to tackle the climate emergency?

- B. Question from Councillor Snowdon to Councillor Bennett, Cabinet member for economic development and regeneration

Will the Cabinet member responsible for delivering infrastructure on housing developments explain in his almost four years in that role, what he has delivered for the residents of Great Western Park, Didcot now that the final houses have been completed? In particular, the GP surgery, allotments, youth shelter, orchard, playparks and so on, which are all part of the masterplan.

- C. Question from Councillor Bartholomew to Councillor Rouane, Leader of the council

The bulky waste collection service was suspended at the beginning of the year, so when residents tried to book collection, they were advised they should take bulky items to HWRCs themselves. This suggestion was not helpful, as residents that use the collection service are generally ones that are unable to take bulky items to HWRCs themselves! Furthermore, any suspension is likely result in an increase in fly-tipping.

Why was so little advance publicity given to this matter and why was proper advance planning not in place to avoid any suspension of the service in the first place?

11 Motions on notice

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

(1) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Newton, seconded by Councillor Murphy:

This Council acknowledges the need for renewable energy to be generated here in this district to help meet demand for power and accepts that solar power will be a part of this mix until other technologies come forward.

However, this Council is concerned that some villages and valued landscapes in the district could be disproportionately affected by the cumulative impact of solar farms; and that valuable agricultural land is at risk of being taken out of production.

In this regard, this Council welcomes the emphasis in the draft National Planning Policy Framework to considering the availability of agricultural land for food production when deciding which sites are most appropriate for solar farm development.

This Council therefore resolves to ask officers to fully consider the cumulative impact of solar farm development during the planning process now; and urgently to progress work on policies relating to solar energy generation, to include:

- Developing planning policies that balance the benefits of local power generation with the loss of productive agricultural land and valuable landscape;
- Ensuring that the cumulative impacts of large solar arrays in open countryside and in the vicinity of settlements are fully assessed in the development management process;
- Limiting excessive massing of solar farms in any area of the district; and
- Encouraging the deployment of rooftop solar and exploring approaches for heritage assets.

(2) Motion to be proposed by Councillor Khan, seconded by Councillor Wilson:

South Oxfordshire District Council believe there is a clear need for:

- a health centre and GP hub for Great Western Park in Didcot
- a well-resourced Minor Injuries Unit or similar (which could be based at Didcot Community Hospital)
- more NHS dental facilities for Didcot and the villages
- increased resources to support mental health

Council resolves:

1. As a first step, to share its concerns with the following bodies by writing to and engaging with:

- a) Didcot Primary Care Network
- b) Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board
- c) Healthwatch Oxfordshire
- d) Oxfordshire Joint Health Oversight and Scrutiny Committee

- e) The Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire West (BOB) Integrated Care Board
- f) The BOB Integrated Care Partnership

2.To call on all those responsible for health decisions that affect the wellbeing of SODC residents, to work together to ensure these needs are urgently addressed. We look particularly to the newly established Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire & West Berkshire Integrated Care Board for a response to these serious concerns.

Patrick Arran
Head of Legal and Democratic

