

Minutes



OF A MEETING OF THE

Listening Learning Leading

Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee

HELD AT 6.30 PM ON TUESDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2018

MEETING ROOM 1, 135 EASTERN AVENUE, MILTON PARK, MILTON,
ABINGDON, OXFORDSHIRE, OX14 4SB

Present

Steve Connel (Chairman)

Charles Bailey (as substitute for Tony Harbour), Anthony Dearlove, Mocky Khan and
Ian White

Apologies:

Will Hall and Tony Harbour tendered apologies.

Officers:

Susan Baker, Steven Corrigan, Abbie Mulcairn and Margaret Reed

6 Minutes

RESOLVED: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2018 as a correct
record and agree that the Chairman signs them as such.

7 Declarations of interest

None.

8 Urgent business and chairman's announcements

None.

9 Public participation

None.

10 Interim Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

The committee considered the report of the head of legal and democratic on proposals for polling districts and polling places following an interim review in preparation for the May 2019 district and parish elections.

The committee was advised that, following further communication with the Chairman of the Hagbourne Village Hall Committee, the village hall would be available as a polling place for the elections in May 2019. The issue of availability of the hall would only arise at by elections or neighbourhood plan referendums to prevent disruption to regular hall bookings.

The committee was advised that a resident of Henley had made further representations regarding the allocation of polling places in Henley particularly the use of Christ Church, which in his view was not suitable due to the use of the facility by numerous other groups, the advantage of designating Valley Road School as a polling place rather than the leisure centre which was located at the edge of Henley and the justification for the allocation of three polling places for Henley South and only two for Henley North.

The committee supported the designations as set out in the schedule of polling districts and polling places attached as appendix A to the report. In doing so members noted that cost is not a factor in the designation of polling places. The important factor is ensuring electors have suitable and accessible venues for voting.

RESOLVED: to approve the schedule of polling districts and polling places set out in Appendix A to the report of the head of legal and democratic to the meeting of the Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee on 27 November 2018.

11 Request for related alterations - Community Governance Review of South Oxfordshire

The committee received a verbal update on the outcome of requests made to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) to make changes to the boundaries of district wards and county divisions to reflect changes made at parish level following the community governance reviews completed in 2018 and implemented on 10 October 2018 under the South Oxfordshire District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order 2018. Officers confirmed that at its meeting on 20 November the Commission had approved all the requests. The relevant Order will come into force once for the May 2019 elections.

The committee noted and welcomed the decision of the LGBCE which provided for coterminous district ward and parish boundaries for the benefit of the electorate.

The meeting closed at 6.42pm

Chairman

Date