

Meeting of Council

Monday 15 December 2014

Members of Cherwell District Council,

A meeting of Council will be held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA on Monday 15 December 2014 at 6.30 pm, and you are hereby summoned to attend.



Sue Smith
Chief Executive

Friday 5 December
2014

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.

3 Communications (Pages 1 - 2)

To receive communications from the Chairman and/or the Leader of the Council.

4 Petitions and Requests to Address the Meeting

The Chairman to report on any requests to submit petitions or to address the meeting.

5 Urgent Business

The Chairman to advise whether they have agreed to any item of urgent business being admitted to the agenda.

6 Minutes of Council (Pages 3 - 10)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of Council held on 20 October 2014.

7 Minutes

- a) Minutes of Executive, Lead Member Decisions and Executive Decisions not included in the Forward Plan

The Leader of the Council to formally propose that the minutes of the meetings of the Executive and Lead Member Decisions as set out in the Minute Book (circulated separately) be received and to report that since the last meeting four decisions have been taken by the Executive which were not included in the 28 day notice, relating to the Homeless Action Plan, Improvements to Bicester and Kidlington Leisure Centres, Asset Management Strategy Action Plan and Leisure Management Procurement (Woodgreen).

- b) Minutes of Committees

The Leader of the Council to formally propose that the minutes of committees as set out in the Minute Book (circulated separately) be received.

8 Questions

- a) Written Questions

To receive any written questions and answers which have been submitted with advance notice in accordance with the constitution. A written response to the question will be circulated at the meeting.

- b) Questions to the Leader of the Council

The Chairman to invite questions to the Leader of the Council (including any matters arising from the minutes).

Following a response to their question being provided members will be entitled to a follow up or supplementary question.

- c) Questions to Committee Chairmen on the minutes

The Chairman to invite questions to Chairmen of Committees on any matter arising from the minutes of their committee (if any).

9 Motions

To debate any motions which have been submitted with advance notice, in accordance with the constitution.

Council Business Reports

10 Developing the Approach to Joint Working and the Delivery of Local Authority Service Draft Business Case (Pages 11 - 104)

Report of Chief Executive

Purpose of report

This report presents the draft business case for a shared service and/or confederated approach to joint working and the delivery of local authority services following consideration by the three way Joint Arrangements Steering Group (JASG) on 27 November 2014 and Executive on 15 December 2014.

Recommendations

- 1.1 Following endorsement by the Joint Arrangements Steering Group and subject to the feedback of the Executive meeting of 15 December 2014, Members are recommended, subject to South Northamptonshire and Stratford on Avon District Councils resolving in similar terms, to:
- I. Agree an 'in principle' move towards scenarios 2 and/or 4 as set out in the appended business case and its supporting papers.
 - II. Agree that the appended business case is used as the basis for public, partner and stakeholder consultation and, subject to the outcome of that consultation not leading Members to a change of view, request that a full and final business case, taking account of the responses received to this consultation, is brought to the February 2015 Council meeting.
 - III. Agree in principle, and subject to consideration of consultation responses, to include all services within the potential scope of joint working (as set out in the appended business case scenarios 2 and 4, section 6), subject to prior approval of individual business cases on a service by service basis
 - IV. Agree in principle, and subject to consideration of any consultation responses, that any moves towards a confederated approach are undertaken on an incremental basis and that the first phase of services considered for inclusion are back office or support services.

- V. Request that additional tax and pensions advice is sought to ensure that any implementation costs associated with the confederation approach are fully quantified in any final business case.
- VI. Request that additional legal advice is sought to prepare governance arrangements including shareholders' agreement and exit strategy to be included as an appendix to any final business case. These arrangements should also any transitional requirements (e.g. steering groups, joint committees to oversee the establishment of the confederation).
- VII. Request that a full organisational development strategy is developed for adoption to aim to ensure that Members and employees have the requisite skills to operate within a confederation approach should the final business case be approved.

11 **Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2015-16** (Pages 105 - 108)

Report of Head of Finance and Procurement

Purpose of report

To enable Council to approve the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2015-16.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To approve the current Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) for the year 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 as indicated in the report.
- 1.2 To delegate authority to the Council's section 151 officer in consultation with the Lead Member for Financial Management to determine if any further amendments to the CTRS are required by 31 January 2015.

12 **Joint Fraud Business Case** (Pages 109 - 112)

Report of Director of Resources

Purpose of report

To inform Council of a decision taken under urgency powers by the Director of Resources.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the decision taking under urgency powers by the Director of Resources in consultation with the chairman of the council to include the consideration of the Joint Fraud Service Business Case on the policy framework.

13 Exclusion of the Press and Public

The following report contains exempt information as defined in the following paragraphs of Part 1, Schedule 12A of Local Government Act 1972.

3 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Members are reminded that whilst the following item has been marked as exempt, it is for the meeting to decide whether or not to consider it in private or in public. In making the decision, members should balance the interests of individuals or the Council itself in having access to the information. In considering their discretion members should also be mindful of the advice of Council Officers.

Should Members decide not to make a decision in public, they are recommended to pass the following recommendation:

“That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the ground that, if the public and press were present, it would be likely that exempt information falling under the provisions of Schedule 12A, Part 1, Paragraph 3 would be disclosed to them, and that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.”

14 Developing the approach to Joint Working and the Delivery of Local Authority Service Draft Business Case - Exempt Appendices (Pages 113 - 170)

15 Questions on Exempt Minutes

Members of Council willask questions on exempt minutes, if any.

Councillors are requested to collect any post from their pigeon hole in the Members Room at the end of the meeting.

Information about this Agenda

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence should be notified to democracy@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk or 01295 221589 prior to the start of the meeting.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare interests at item 2 on the agenda or if arriving after the start of the meeting, at the start of the relevant agenda item.

Local Government and Finance Act 1992 – Budget Setting, Contracts & Supplementary Estimates

Members are reminded that any member who is two months in arrears with Council Tax must declare the fact and may speak but not vote on any decision which involves budget setting, extending or agreeing contracts or incurring expenditure not provided for in the agreed budget for a given year and could affect calculations on the level of Council Tax.

Evacuation Procedure

When the continuous alarm sounds you must evacuate the building by the nearest available fire exit. Members and visitors should proceed to the car park as directed by Democratic Services staff and await further instructions.

Access to Meetings

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named below, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting.

Mobile Phones

Please ensure that any device is switched to silent operation or switched off.

Queries Regarding this Agenda

Please contact Natasha Clark, Democratic and Elections
natasha.clark@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk, 01295 221589