



**Committee: Executive**  
**Date: Monday 3 February 2020**  
**Time: 6.30 pm**  
**Venue Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA**

### **Membership**

Councillor Barry Wood (Chairman)	Councillor George Reynolds (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Colin Clarke	Councillor Ian Corkin
Councillor John Donaldson	Councillor Tony Ilott
Councillor Andrew McHugh	Councillor Richard Mould
Councillor Lynn Pratt	Councillor Dan Sames

## **AGENDA**

**1. Apologies for Absence**

**2. Declarations of Interest**

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

**3. Petitions and Requests to Address the Meeting**

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

**4. Minutes (Pages 1 - 8)**

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 January 2020.

**5. Chairman's Announcements**

To receive communications from the Chairman.

## 6. **Budget Setting for 2020/21 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020/24** (Pages 9 - 74)

\*\* Please note that appendices 5 and 7 will follow as they are currently being reviewed and finalised \*\*

Report of Executive Director – Finance (Interim)

### **Purpose of report**

This report provides information on the Council's Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2020/24 along with more detailed information on setting the Council's budget for 2020/21, which will be considered at full Council on 24 February 2020.

### **Recommendations**

- 1.1 To consider and recommend to Council approval of the Business Plan set out in Appendix 1.
- 1.2 To note the Risk Register contained at Appendix 2.
- 1.3 To consider and recommend to Council an increase in the level of Council Tax for Cherwell District Council of £5 for 2020/21 on a Band D property.
- 1.4 To consider and recommend to Council approval of the MTFS, Revenue Budget 2020/21 and Capital Programme including recommending the growth and savings proposals included at Appendix 8.
- 1.5 To consider and recommend to Council a minimum level of General Fund reserves of £2m as recommended by the Section 25 report from the Chief Finance Officer in relation to the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves.
- 1.6 To consider and recommend to Council that authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Lead Member for Finance & Governance, and where appropriate the relevant Director and Lead Member to:
  - Transfer monies to/from earmarked reserves should that become necessary during the financial year
  - Update prudential Indicators in both the Prudential Indicators Report and Treasury Management Strategy Report to Council, for any budget changes that impact on these
- 1.7 To consider the proposed Fees & Charges schedule as set out in Appendix 7.
- 1.8 To consider and recommend to Council that the Treasury Management Strategy be approved, including the Prudential Indicators, Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy and Affordable Borrowing Limit for 2020/21 (Appendix 6).
- 1.9 To consider and recommend to Council that authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer to make any technical changes necessary to the

papers for the full Council meeting of 24 February 2020, including changes related to the finalisation of the national Finance Settlement and any associated changes to Parish Precepts and Council Tax resulting from those changes.

**7. Monthly Performance, Finance and Risk Monitoring Report - December 2019**  
(Pages 75 - 124)

Report of Executive Director: Finance (Interim) and Acting Assistant Director: Performance and Transformation

**Purpose of report**

This report summarises the Council's Performance, Risk and Finance monitoring position as at the end of each month.

**Recommendations**

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the monthly Performance, Risk and Finance Monitoring Report.

**8. Local Discretionary Business Rate Relief Scheme** (Pages 125 - 132)

Report of the Executive Director Finance (Interim)

**Purpose of report**

For members to consider the proposed Local Discretionary Relief Policy and to seek approval of the local Discretionary Business Rate Relief Scheme for 2020-2021.

**Recommendations**

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the contents of the report and any financial implications for the Council.
- 1.2 To recommend that Full Council approve the adoption of the Local Discretionary Business Rate Relief Scheme for 2020-2021.

**9. Broadband and Digital Infrastructure** (Pages 133 - 184)

Report of Executive Director of Place and Growth (Interim)

**Purpose of report**

This report reviews the Better Broadband for Oxfordshire Programme for Cherwell District Council to now consider extending its involvement in enabling further development locally through active involvement in the emerging Digital Infrastructure Delivery Partnership for Oxfordshire.

## **Recommendations**

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the success of the Better Broadband for Oxfordshire programme in exceeding the Government's delivery target for 'Superfast' broadband availability in Cherwell and the continuing progress to extend full fibre and mobile coverage through existing resources.
- 1.2 To support the incorporation of the Oxfordshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy and Delivery Plan alongside the Memorandum of Understanding, recognising its important contribution to the delivery of the Housing and Growth Deal, the Cherwell Industrial Strategy and the Council's other plans and policies.
- 1.3 To actively participate in the Oxfordshire Digital Infrastructure Partnership, through its proposed Board, by identifying a Councillor (supported by a senior officer) to represent the interests of the Council.

## **10. Urgent Business**

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

## **11. 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.

No representations have been received from the public requesting that this item be considered in public.

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.”

**12. Ministry of Housing, Communities, and Local Government (MHCLG) Garden Town Capital Funding (Pages 185 - 194)**

Exempt report of Assistant Director Growth and Economy

## **Information about this Agenda**

### **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence should be notified to 01295 221589 or [democracy@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk) 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.

### **Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012**

This agenda constitutes the 5 day notice required by Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 in terms of the intention to consider an item of business in private.

### **Evacuation Procedure**

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### **Queries Regarding this Agenda**

Please contact Natasha Clark, Democratic and Elections  
[democracy@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk), 01295 221589

**Yvonne Rees**  
**Chief Executive**

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