



Meeting of Council

Monday 19 December 2022

Members of Cherwell District Council,

A meeting of Council will be held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, Oxon OX15 4AA on Monday 19 December 2022 at 6.30 pm, and you are hereby summoned to attend.

**Yvonne Rees
Chief Executive**

**Friday 9 December
2022**

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 7 - 8)

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

4 Petitions and Requests to Address the Meeting

The Chair to report on any requests to submit petitions or to address the meeting. The deadline for petitions has passed.

Addresses may be presented by:

- A Local Government elector for the area,
- A person who is wholly or mainly resident in the area,
- A Council Taxpayer or National Non-Domestic Ratepayer for the area

Addresses must be on an item on the Agenda before the meeting and not exceed 5 minutes. No person may address more than one meeting on any particular issue.

Requests to address the meeting (including the reason for the address) should be submitted to democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk The deadline for requests to address this meeting is noon on Friday 16 December 2022.

Full details of public participation at meetings is available in the Constitution.

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 9 - 30)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of Council held on 17 October 2022.

7 Minutes

- a) Minutes of Executive, Lead Member Decisions and Executive Decisions not included in the 28 day notice

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 of Council held on 17 October 2022 no key decisions have been taken by the Executive which were not included in the 28 day notice.

- 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 (Pages 31 - 32)

- a) Written Questions

One written question has been submitted with advance notice in accordance with the Constitution. These are attached to the agenda.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Question from: | Question topic: |
| Councillor Les Sibley | NW Bicester ECO Development |

A written response to the questions will be published on the working day before the meeting.

The Member who submitted the written question may ask a supplementary question provided it is relevant to the reply and does not introduce any new matter. The Member to whom the question was addressed may reply to such supplementary question or undertake to reply in writing.

b) Questions to the Leader of the Council

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

Council Business Reports

9 Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2023/24 (Pages 33 - 38)

Report of Assistant Director of Finance

Purpose of report

To enable Council to approve the banded scheme for Council Tax Reduction for the financial year 2023/24.

To note potential changes to Council Tax discounts and reliefs which are currently subject to consultation as part of the Council's budget consultation

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

1.1 To note the contents of this report and the financial implications for the Council.

1.2 To approve

- The option of no change to the Council Tax Reduction Income Banded Scheme for Working Age Customers for 2023 -24
- To amend Working Age Regulations in line with annual uprating; and to amend the Council Tax Regulations for pensioners in line with uprating announced by Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

- 1.3 To approve that the following levels of Council Tax discounts and premiums remain the same as previous years:
- Retain the discount for second homes at zero
 - Retain the discount for empty homes (unoccupied and substantially unfurnished) at 25% for 6 months and thereafter zero.
 - Retain the empty homes premium of an additional 100% for properties that have remained empty for more than 2 years (total Council Tax payable 200%).
- 1.4 To note that the following Council Tax discounts and premiums are currently proposed to change as part of the Council's 2023/24 budget consultation
- Introduce an empty homes premium of an additional 200% for properties that have remained empty for more than 5 years (total Council Tax payable 300%)
 - Introduce an empty homes premium of an additional 300% for properties that have remained empty for more than 10 years (total Council Tax payable 400%)
 - Removal of the 25% discount for 12 months (zero thereafter) for dwellings which are vacant and undergoing major repair work to render them habitable.

10 Amendments to Proportionality Calculations and Committee Membership and Outside Body Representative (Pages 39 - 46)

Report of Chief Executive

Purpose of report

To note the amendments to the constitution of political groups and amendments to the proportionality calculations and committee membership arising from a change to political Group membership.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the amended constitution of Political Groups.
- 1.2 To note the amended allocation of seats on committees that are subject to the political balance requirements as set out in Table 1.
- 1.3 To note the amendments to committee membership, as advised by the respective Leaders of the Progressive Oxfordshire Group and Labour Group (addendum to report to follow).
- 1.4 To appoint a representative to the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

11 Motions (Pages 47 - 50)

To debate the following motions which have been submitted with advance notice, in accordance with the Constitution (to be debated in the order submitted).

| Topic | Proposer | Secunder |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| One Planet Living | Councillor Dan Sames | Councillor John Broad |
| Tenants Charter | Councillor Sean Woodcock | TBC |
| “Get Home Safely” | Councillor Mark Cherry | Councillor Matt Hodgson |
| Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair | Councillor Ian Middleton | Councillor David Hingley |
| Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Investment | Councillor Dorothy Walker | Councillor Angus Patrick |

Please note that the deadline to submit motions has passed. The deadline for Members to submit amendments to motions is noon on Thursday 15 December 2022. No amendments will be permitted after this deadline.

Any amendments submitted will be published as a supplement to the agenda on the afternoon of Friday 16 December 2022. Amendments for motions will be dealt with in the order submitted.

For information

Please note:

Members are advised that written questions and motions for the next scheduled Council meeting on Monday 27 February 2023 must be submitted to the Assistant Director Law and Governance & Monitoring Officer, democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk, by noon on Wednesday 15 February 2023.

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@cherwell-dc.gov.uk or 01295 221534 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 democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk, 01295 221534