



# Meeting of Council

Monday 17 July 2023

Members of Cherwell District Council,

A meeting of Council will be held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, Oxon OX15 4AA on Monday 17 July 2023 at 6.30 pm, and you are hereby summoned to attend.

**Yvonne Rees**  
Chief Executive

Friday 7 July 2023

## 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 (Pages 9 - 10)**

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

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 agenda item and reason for the address) should be submitted to [democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk) The deadline for requests to address this meeting is noon on Friday 14 July.

The deadline to present a petition to this meeting has passed. One petition was received in accordance with the Constitution. The petition organiser will address Council for no longer than 5 minutes to introduce the petition. There is no debate on the petition, it will be referred for consideration and Council will be advised of the outcome.

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 11 - 38)

To confirm as a correct records the Minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 17 May 2023 and the reconvened Annual Council meeting held on 23 May 2023.

## 7 Minutes

- a) Minutes of Executive, Portfolio Holder 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 Portfolio Holder Decisions as set out in the Minute Book (circulated separately) be received and to report that since the last meeting of Council at which this was reported, on 26 February 2023, two key decisions have been taken by the Executive which were not included in the 28 day notice relating to The Discretionary Housing Payments Policy 2023/24 review, and the Award of contract for the repair and refurbishment of Town Centre House.

- 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 39 - 40)

a) Written Questions

The deadline to submit written questions has now passed.

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

Question from:	Question topic:
Councillor Andrew Beere	Emergency Planning

A written response to the question 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 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).

## Council Business Reports

### 9 Appointment of Representative to the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Pages 41 - 44)

Report of Assistant Director Law and Governance & Monitoring Officer

#### Purpose of report

To change the Cherwell District Council representative on the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC).

#### Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To appoint Councillor Lesley McClean as the Cherwell District Council representative on the Joint Oxfordshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

## 10 Motions (Pages 45 - 48)

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	Seconder
Cost of Living	Councillor Sean Woodcock	TBA
Rail Crossing at Sandy Lane, Yarnton	Councillor Nigel Simpson	TBA
Active Lifestyle	Councillor Nigel Simpson	TBA
Tenants Charter	Councillor Andrew Crichton	Councillor Mark Cherry
NHS Anniversary	Councillor Ian Middleton	TBA
Littering	Councillor Ian Middleton	TBA

Please note that the deadline to submit motions has passed. The deadline for Members to submit amendments to motions is noon on Thursday 13 July to [democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk) 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 14 July. 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 16 October must be submitted to the Assistant Director Law and Governance & Monitoring Officer, [democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk), by noon on Wednesday 4 October.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk), 01295 221534

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## **Council Chairman and Vice Chairman Event Attendance<sup>1</sup>**

### **9 June 2023**

RAF Croughton Spring Fling BBQ.

Invited by The commander 501<sup>st</sup> Combat Support Wing Colonel Brian A Filler and The Senior Management Officer for US Embassy London Annex Mrs. Amy L Baker.

Location: The Pavilion, Royal Air Force Croughton, Brackley, Northamptonshire, NN13 5NQ

2.00pm – 5.00pm – Dress code is Civilian: Smart Casual

Cllr Sibley attended with his Wife Mary.

### **18 June 2023**

Father's Day Seminar for Vice Chairman at community Church, Banbury. 12.15pm to be seated. Hosted by Reverend & Mrs BJ Browne. Cllr Okeke attended.

### **19 June 2023**

Armed Forces Raising the Flag – Oxford Castle, New Road, Oxford OX1 1AZ. Cllr Sibley is unable to attend, Cllr Okeke attended the event in his place.

The Chair of Oxfordshire Council Felix Bloomfield hosted the event which took place at Oxford Castle.

### **24 June 2023**

RAF Croughton Independence Day Fireworks. A traditional US independence day celebration. Event commences at 4.00pm. with fireworks commencing at 22.30. The event is very casual, no chain required, people to wear what they feel comfortable in and what is suitable for the weather. Enjoy carnival festivities with rides, food booths and entertainment. Friends and family welcome to join. Cllr Sibley is attending this event.

### **4 July 2023**

An evening at Dorchester Abbey to celebrate local Government in Oxfordshire.

Invited by Lord-Lieutenant of Oxfordshire and the Bishop of Dorchester.

7.15pm – 7.45pm Supper (seated)

9.30pm Service of Compliance

10.00pm Carriages

Councillor Les Sibley has confirmed that he will be attending the event with his Wife Mary Sibley.

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<sup>1</sup> Correct at time of agenda publication, 7 July 2023

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## Council

**Monday 17 July 2023**

## Petitions

**Petition Organiser: Linda Newbery**

**Number of signatories to petition: 10 (NB, names provided but not published)**

### Petition

“We, the undersigned, petition Council to use its website and leaflets to households on recycling and food waste to raise awareness of the links between food choices, individual carbon footprints and biodiversity loss.

We ask Council to encourage residents to consume less meat and dairy and to support local growers and farmers by choosing seasonal, local produce.

In line with its Declaration of Climate Emergency, Council can show residents that small, everyday dietary changes can be effective ways to reduce their personal impact on climate and environment, at the same time offering health and money-saving benefits.

‘Understanding and potentially influencing public attitudes to meat consumption must be a fundamental component of future greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies’ – Chatham House Environment and Society programme.”

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## **Cherwell District Council**

### **Annual Council**

Minutes of the Annual Council meeting held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, Oxon OX15 4AA, on 17 May 2023 at 6.30 pm

Present:

Councillor Les Sibley (Chairman)  
Councillor Dr Chukwudi Okeke (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillor Tom Beckett  
Councillor Andrew Beere  
Councillor Rebecca Biegel  
Councillor Maurice Billington  
Councillor Besmira Brasha  
Councillor John Broad  
Councillor Phil Chapman  
Councillor Mark Cherry  
Councillor Becky Clarke MBE  
Councillor Patrick Clarke  
Councillor Jean Conway  
Councillor Gemma Coton  
Councillor Nick Cotter  
Councillor Isabel Creed  
Councillor Andrew Crichton  
Councillor Sandy Dallimore  
Councillor John Donaldson  
Councillor Donna Ford  
Councillor Ian Harwood  
Councillor David Hingley  
Councillor Matt Hodgson  
Councillor Simon Holland  
Councillor Harry Knight  
Councillor Simon Lytton  
Councillor Kieron Mallon  
Councillor Nicholas Mawer  
Councillor Fiona Mawson  
Councillor Andrew McHugh  
Councillor Lesley McLean  
Councillor Ian Middleton  
Councillor Adam Nell  
Councillor Lynne Parsons  
Councillor Rob Pattenden  
Councillor Lynn Pratt  
Councillor Chris Pruden  
Councillor Eddie Reeves  
Councillor George Reynolds  
Councillor Dan Sames  
Councillor Nigel Simpson  
Councillor Dorothy Walker

Councillor Amanda Watkins  
Councillor Douglas Webb  
Councillor Bryn Williams  
Councillor Barry Wood  
Councillor Sean Woodcock

Apologies for absence:

Councillor Julian Nedelcu

Officers:

Yvonne Rees, Chief Executive  
Ian Boll, Corporate Director Communities  
Michael Furness, Assistant Director Finance & S151 Officer  
Shiraz Sheikh, Assistant Director Law, Governance & Democratic Services/Monitoring Officer  
Natasha Clark, Governance and Elections Manager

## 1 **Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed councillors, past Chairman, former councillors, guests and officers to the Annual Council meeting.

The Chairman welcomed newly elected councillors, Councillor Tom Beckett, Councillor Besmira Brasha, Councillor Becky Clarke MBE, Councillor Isabel Creed, Councillor Harry Knight, Councillor Simon Lytton, Councillor Andrew McHugh, Councillor Lesley McLean, Councillor Lynne Parsons, Councillor Rob Pattenden and Councillor Nigel Simpson and congratulated them and all other councillors who were returned at the recent election. The newly elected councillors each introduced themselves to Council.

Councillor Julian Nedelcu, who had been newly elected to the Launton and Otmoor ward, had submitted apologies for the Council meeting.

## 2 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

## 3 **Presentation of Certificate of Recognition to Cherwell District Council**

Thames Valley Police Chief Superintendent, Emma Garside, presented a Certificate of Recognition to Cherwell District Council in recognition of its role in the multi-agency response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, between February 2020 and May 2021.

The Chairman received the Certificate on behalf of the Council.

## **Communications**

### **Chairman's Engagements, Address and Presentation of Cheque**

A copy of the events attended by the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman was published with the agenda.

The Chairman addressed Council to report on his term of office highlighting the many events he had attended. The Chairman thanked everyone who had attended fundraising events and donated funds to support Alexandra House of Joy during his term of office. The charity was raising money to build a new care facility in Bicester to offer support for adults with severe learning disabilities, and the funds raised would help make that aspiration a reality.

The Chairman presented a cheque for £10,600 to Ian and Rachel Scott-Hunter, representatives of Alexandra House of Joy.

Councillor Sibley thanked Members and officers for supporting him as Chairman.

The Chairman thanked his wife, Mary, who had been his consort during his term of office for her great support and presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

### **Tribute to Liz Matthew's, Chairman's PA**

The Chairman paid tribute to his PA, Liz Matthews, who would be retiring on 31 May. Liz had been PA to many Chairmen during her time at Cherwell and her hard work and diligence had helped each Chairman during their term of office, in particular raising money for their charities and attending events. The Chairman presented Liz with flowers and wished her all the best in her retirement.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Wood, paid further tribute to Liz Matthews, highlighting the many senior managers she had been PA for during her time at Cherwell and thanked her for the support she had provided to him. The Chairman presented Liz with flowers and wished her all the best in her retirement.

### **Former Councillors**

On behalf of Council, the Chair extended paid tribute and thanked those councillors who stood down or were not re-elected at the May elections for their service to the council, their wards and the district.

### **Annual Council**

By convention, the minutes of Committees, questions, petitions and motions were not considered at Annual Council. These would be included on the agenda of the next scheduled Council meeting on Monday 17 July.

### **Members' Pigeon Holes**

Members were reminded to check their pigeon hole and take any post.

**5 Election of Chairman for the Municipal Year 2023/2024**

The Monitoring Officer called for nominations for Chairman of Cherwell District Council for the municipal year 2023/2024.

It was moved by Councillor Wood and seconded by Councillor Knight, that Councillor Les Sibley be appointed as Chairman for the municipal year 2023/2024. There were no other nominations.

**Resolved**

- (1) That Councillor Les Sibley be appointed Chairman of Cherwell District Council for the Municipal Year 2023/2024.

**6 Investiture of Chairman**

Councillor Les Sibley, made and signed the required Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Councillor Sibley thanked Members for appointing him for a second term as Chairman. It had been an honour and a privilege to serve as Chairman of the Council and he looked forward to continuing to represent the council in this important role in 2023–2024. He would continue to raise funds for Alexandra House of Joy during his second term of office.

**7 Vote of Thanks to Immediate Past Chairman**

The current Chairman having been re-elected for a second term of office, this item was not required.

**8 Election of Vice-Chairman for the Municipal Year 2023/2024**

It was proposed by Councillor Woodcock and seconded by Councillor Watkins, that Councillor Dr Chukwudi Okeke be appointed as Vice-Chairman for the Municipal Year 2023/2024. There were no other nominations.

**Resolved**

- (1) That Councillor Dr Chukwudi Okeke be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the municipal year 2023/2024.

**9 Investiture of Vice-Chairman**

Councillor Dr Chukwudi Okeke, having made and signed the required Declaration of Acceptance of Office was invested with the Vice-Chairman's Chain.

Councillor Okeke addressed Council and thanked Members for his appointment.

10 **Minutes of Council**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2023 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

11 **Annual Council Business Report 2023/2024**

The Chief Executive submitted a report for Council to note the results of the 4 May 2023 district elections and agree the governance arrangements for the council following the elections for the municipal year 2023/2024.

The Chairman advised that he take Council through the report and ask Members to vote on each recommendation separately. Council unanimously agreed recommendations 1.1 and 1.2.

Turning to recommendation 1.3, which related to the Leader of the Council, Councillor Woodcock proposed a vote of no confidence in the current Leader of the Council, Councillor Wood. This was duly seconded by Councillor Watkins.

In response to a Point of Order raised by Councillor Cotter, the Monitoring Officer confirmed that if the vote of no confidence in the Leader was passed, the Chairman would seek nominations for Leader.

It was subsequently proposed by Councillor Middleton and seconded by Councillor Cotter that a recorded vote be taken.

Having been proposed and seconded, a recorded vote was duly taken and Members voted as follows:

Councillor Tom Beckett	For
Councillor Andrew Beere	For
Councillor Rebecca Biegel	For
Councillor Maurice Billington	Against
Councillor Besmira Brasha	For
Councillor John Broad	For
Councillor Phil Chapman	Against
Councillor Mark Cherry	For
Councillor Becky Clarke MBE	For
Councillor Patrick Clarke	Against
Councillor Jean Conway	For

Councillor Gemma Coton	For
Councillor Nick Cotter	For
Councillor Isabel Creed	For
Councillor Andrew Crichton	For
Councillor Sandy Dallimore	Against
Councillor John Donaldson	Against
Councillor Donna Ford	Against
Councillor Ian Harwood	Against
Councillor David Hingley	For
Councillor Matt Hodgson	For
Councillor Simon Holland	Against
Councillor Harry Knight	Against
Councillor Simon Lytton	For
Councillor Kieron Mallon	Against
Councillor Nick Mawer	Against
Councillor Fiona Mawson	For
Councillor Andrew McHugh	Against
Councillor Lesley McLean	For
Councillor Ian Middleton	For
Councillor Adam Nell	Against
Councillor Dr Chukwudi Okeke	For
Councillor Lynne Parsons	For
Councillor Rob Pattenden	For
Councillor Lynn Pratt	Against
Councillor Chris Pruden	For
Councillor Eddie Reeves	Against
Councillor George Reynolds	Against
Councillor Dan Sames	Against
Councillor Nigel Simpson	Against
Councillor Les Sibley	Against
Councillor Dorothy Walker	For
Councillor Amanda Watkins	For
Councillor Douglas Webb	Against
Councillor Bryn Williams	Against
Councillor Barry Wood	Against

Councillor Sean Woodcock For

The vote was won and the motion was carried.

The Chairman called for nominations for Leader of the Council. It was proposed by Councillor Woodcock and seconded by Councillor Watkins that Councillor Woodcock be appointed Leader of the Council.

In the course of the debate it was proposed by Councillor Middleton and seconded by Councillor Cotter that a recorded vote be taken.

Having been proposed and seconded, a recorded vote was duly taken and Members voted as follows:

Councillor Tom Beckett	Against
Councillor Andrew Beere	For
Councillor Rebecca Biegel	For
Councillor Maurice Billington	Against
Councillor Besmira Brasha	For
Councillor John Broad	Against
Councillor Phil Chapman	Against
Councillor Mark Cherry	For
Councillor Becky Clarke MBE	For
Councillor Patrick Clarke	Against
Councillor Jean Conway	Against
Councillor Gemma Coton	Against
Councillor Nick Cotter	Against
Councillor Isabel Creed	For
Councillor Andrew Crichton	For
Councillor Sandy Dallimore	Against
Councillor John Donaldson	Against
Councillor Donna Ford	Against
Councillor Ian Harwood	Against
Councillor David Hingley	Against
Councillor Matt Hodgson	For
Councillor Simon Holland	Against
Councillor Harry Knight	Against
Councillor Simon Lytton	Against

Councillor Kieron Mallon	Against
Councillor Nick Mawer	Against
Councillor Fiona Mawson	Against
Councillor Andrew McHugh	Against
Councillor Lesley McLean	Against
Councillor Ian Middleton	Against
Councillor Adam Nell	Against
Councillor Dr Chukwudi Okeke	For
Councillor Lynne Parsons	For
Councillor Rob Pattenden	Against
Councillor Lynn Pratt	Against
Councillor Chris Pruden	Against
Councillor Eddie Reeves	Against
Councillor George Reynolds	Against
Councillor Dan Sames	Against
Councillor Nigel Simpson	Against
Councillor Les Sibley	Against
Councillor Dorothy Walker	Against
Councillor Amanda Watkins	For
Councillor Douglas Webb	Against
Councillor Bryn Williams	Against
Councillor Barry Wood	Against
Councillor Sean Woodcock	For

The vote was lost and the motion therefore fell.

The Chairman called for nominations for Leader of the Council. It was proposed by Councillor Wood and seconded by Councillor Nell that Councillor Wood be appointed Leader of the Council.

In the course of the debate it was proposed by Councillor Coton and seconded by Councillor Cotter that a recorded vote be taken.

Having been proposed and seconded, a recorded vote was duly taken and Members voted as follows:

Councillor Tom Beckett	Against
Councillor Andrew Beere	Against
Councillor Rebecca Biegel	Against

Councillor Maurice Billington	For
Councillor Besmira Brasha	Against
Councillor John Broad	Against
Councillor Phil Chapman	For
Councillor Mark Cherry	Against
Councillor Becky Clarke MBE	Against
Councillor Patrick Clarke	For
Councillor Jean Conway	Against
Councillor Gemma Coton	Against
Councillor Nick Cotter	Against
Councillor Isabel Creed	Against
Councillor Andrew Crichton	Against
Councillor Sandy Dallimore	For
Councillor John Donaldson	For
Councillor Donna Ford	For
Councillor Ian Harwood	For
Councillor David Hingley	Against
Councillor Matt Hodgson	Against
Councillor Simon Holland	For
Councillor Harry Knight	For
Councillor Simon Lytton	Against
Councillor Kieron Mallon	For
Councillor Nick Mawer	For
Councillor Fiona Mawson	Against
Councillor Andrew McHugh	For
Councillor Lesley McLean	Against
Councillor Ian Middleton	Against
Councillor Adam Nell	For
Councillor Dr Chukwudi Okeke	Against
Councillor Lynne Parsons	Against
Councillor Rob Pattenden	Against
Councillor Lynn Pratt	For
Councillor Chris Pruden	Against
Councillor Eddie Reeves	For
Councillor George Reynolds	For

Councillor Dan Sames	For
Councillor Nigel Simpson	For
Councillor Les Sibley	For
Councillor Dorothy Walker	Against
Councillor Amanda Watkins	Against
Councillor Douglas Webb	For
Councillor Bryn Williams	For
Councillor Barry Wood	For
Councillor Sean Woodcock	Against

The vote was lost and the motion therefore fell.

It was proposed by Councillor Hingley and seconded by Councillor Cotter that the meeting be adjourned to 6.30pm on Tuesday 23 May.

The proposal was debated and in the course of the debate, a procedural motion to move to the vote was proposed and seconded. On being put to the vote, the procedural motion was carried with 25 votes for, 22 votes against and no abstentions.

The procedural motion having been carried, the motion to adjourn the meeting to 6.30pm on Tuesday 23 May was put to the vote. The motion was lost with 14 votes for, 33 against and no abstentions.

It was proposed by Councillor Dallimore and seconded by Councillor Patrick Clarke that the meeting be adjourned for 30 minutes. On being put to the vote, the motion was unanimously agreed.

(The meeting adjourned at 8.15pm and reconvened at 8.45pm.)

The Chairman called for nominations for Leader of the Council. It was proposed by Councillor Wood and seconded by Councillor Nell that Councillor Wood be appointed Leader of the Council.

In the course of the debate it was proposed by Councillor Cotter and seconded by Councillor Coton that a recorded vote be taken.

Having been proposed and seconded, a recorded vote was duly taken and Members voted as follows:

Councillor Tom Beckett	Against
Councillor Andrew Beere	Against
Councillor Rebecca Biegel	Against
Councillor Maurice Billington	For

Councillor Besmira Brasha	Against
Councillor John Broad	Against
Councillor Phil Chapman	For
Councillor Mark Cherry	Against
Councillor Becky Clarke MBE	Against
Councillor Patrick Clarke	For
Councillor Jean Conway	Against
Councillor Gemma Coton	Against
Councillor Nick Cotter	Against
Councillor Isabel Creed	Against
Councillor Andrew Crichton	Against
Councillor Sandy Dallimore	For
Councillor John Donaldson	For
Councillor Donna Ford	For
Councillor Ian Harwood	For
Councillor David Hingley	Against
Councillor Matt Hodgson	Against
Councillor Simon Holland	For
Councillor Harry Knight	For
Councillor Simon Lytton	Against
Councillor Kieron Mallon	For
Councillor Nick Mawer	For
Councillor Fiona Mawson	Against
Councillor Andrew McHugh	For
Councillor Lesley McLean	Against
Councillor Ian Middleton	Against
Councillor Adam Nell	For
Councillor Dr Chukwudi Okeke	Against
Councillor Lynne Parsons	Against
Councillor Rob Pattenden	Against
Councillor Lynn Pratt	For
Councillor Chris Pruden	Against
Councillor Eddie Reeves	For
Councillor George Reynolds	For
Councillor Dan Sames	For

Councillor Nigel Simpson	For
Councillor Les Sibley	For
Councillor Dorothy Walker	Against
Councillor Amanda Watkins	Against
Councillor Douglas Webb	For
Councillor Bryn Williams	For
Councillor Barry Wood	For
Councillor Sean Woodcock	Against

The vote was lost and the motion therefore fell.

The Chairman called for nominations for Leader of the Council. It was proposed by Councillor Nell and seconded by Councillor Reeves that Councillor Wood be appointed Leader of the Council.

In the course of the debate it was proposed by Councillor Cotter and seconded by Councillor Coton that a recorded vote be taken.

Having been proposed and seconded, a recorded vote was duly taken and Members voted as follows:

Councillor Tom Beckett	Against
Councillor Andrew Beere	Against
Councillor Rebecca Biegel	Against
Councillor Maurice Billington	For
Councillor Besmira Brasha	Against
Councillor John Broad	Against
Councillor Phil Chapman	For
Councillor Mark Cherry	Against
Councillor Patrick Clarke	For
Councillor Jean Conway	Against
Councillor Gemma Coton	Against
Councillor Nick Cotter	Against
Councillor Isabel Creed	Against
Councillor Andrew Crichton	Against
Councillor Sandy Dallimore	For
Councillor John Donaldson	For
Councillor Donna Ford	For
Councillor Ian Harwood	For

Councillor David Hingley	Against
Councillor Matt Hodgson	Against
Councillor Simon Holland	For
Councillor Harry Knight	For
Councillor Simon Lytton	Against
Councillor Kieron Mallon	For
Councillor Nick Mawer	For
Councillor Fiona Mawson	Against
Councillor Andrew McHugh	For
Councillor Lesley McLean	Against
Councillor Ian Middleton	Against
Councillor Adam Nell	For
Councillor Dr Chukwudi Okeke	Against
Councillor Lynne Parsons	Against
Councillor Rob Pattenden	Against
Councillor Lynn Pratt	For
Councillor Chris Pruden	Against
Councillor Eddie Reeves	For
Councillor George Reynolds	For
Councillor Dan Sames	For
Councillor Nigel Simpson	For
Councillor Les Sibley	For
Councillor Dorothy Walker	Against
Councillor Amanda Watkins	Against
Councillor Douglas Webb	For
Councillor Bryn Williams	For
Councillor Barry Wood	For
Councillor Sean Woodcock	Against

The vote was lost and the motion therefore fell.

It was subsequently proposed, seconded and carried, as set out in Minute 12, that the meeting be adjourned to 6.30pm on Tuesday 23 May 2023.

**Resolved**

- (1) That the results of the District Elections held on 4 May 2023 be noted:

Ward	Elected	Party
Adderbury, Bloxham and Bodicote	Robert Pattenden	Liberal Democrats
Banbury Calthorpe and Easington	Lynne Parsons	Labour
Banbury Cross and Neithrop	Becky Clarke MBE	Labour
Banbury Grimsbury and Hightown	Sean Woodcock	Labour & Co-operative
Banbury Hardwick	Besmira Brasha	Labour
Banbury Ruscote	Isabel Amelia Creed	Labour
Bicester East	Tom Beckett	Green
Bicester North and Caversfield	Simon Lytton	Liberal Democrats
Bicester South and Ambrosden	Nick Cotter	Liberal Democrats
Bicester West	Harry Knight	Independent – Bicester West Resident
Cropredy, Sibfords and Wroxton	Doug Webb	Conservative
Deddington	Andrew McHugh	Conservative
Fringford and Heyfords	Nigel Simpson	Conservative
Kidlington East	Ian Middleton	Green
Kidlington West	Lesley McLean	Liberal Democrat
Launton and Otmoor	Julian Nedelcu	Liberal Democrats

- (2) That the current constitution of the Council (48 Members) be noted:
- 20 Conservative (41.67%)
  - 12 Labour / Labour & Co-operative Party (25.00%)
  - 10 Liberal Democrat (20.83%)
  - 3 Independent (6.25%)
  - 3 Green (6.25%)
- (3) That the constitution of Political Groups and notification of Group Leaders be noted:
- Conservative Group – 20 members (all Conservative councillors)
    - Group Leader: Councillor Barry Wood
  - Progressive Oxfordshire Group – 14 members (comprising 10 Liberal Democrat, 3 Green and 1 Independent (Cllr Broad) councillors)
    - Group Leader: Councillor David Hingley

- Labour Group – 12 members (comprising all Labour / Labour & Co-operative councillors)
  - Group Leader: Councillor Sean Woodcock
- Independent Group – 2 members (comprising 2 Independent councillors, Cllrs Sibley and Knight)
  - Group Leader: Councillor Les Sibley

12 **Adjournment of Meeting**

Having been proposed by Councillor Hingley and seconded by Councillor Cotter that the meeting be adjourned to 6.30pm on Tuesday 23 May 2023.

On being put to the vote, the motion was carried 24 votes for, 22 votes against and no abstentions. .

**Resolved**

- (1) That the meeting be adjourned to 6.30pm on Tuesday 23 May 2023.

The Chairman confirmed that the remaining recommendations of the Annual Business report, the Member Development Framework report and the Annual Report of the Accounts, Audits and Risk Committee 2022/23 would be considered when the meeting reconvened on Tuesday 23 May.

The meeting ended at 10.10 pm

Chairman:

Date:

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## **Cherwell District Council**

### **Annual Council**

Minutes of the reconvened Annual Council meeting held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, Oxon OX15 4AA, on 23 May 2023 at 6.30 pm

Present:

Councillor Les Sibley (Chairman)  
Councillor Dr Chukwudi Okeke (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillor Andrew Beere  
Councillor Rebecca Biegel  
Councillor Maurice Billington  
Councillor Besmira Brasha  
Councillor John Broad  
Councillor Phil Chapman  
Councillor Mark Cherry  
Councillor Becky Clarke MBE  
Councillor Patrick Clarke  
Councillor Jean Conway  
Councillor Gemma Coton  
Councillor Isabel Creed  
Councillor Andrew Crichton  
Councillor Sandy Dallimore  
Councillor John Donaldson  
Councillor Donna Ford  
Councillor Ian Harwood  
Councillor David Hingley  
Councillor Matt Hodgson  
Councillor Simon Holland  
Councillor Harry Knight  
Councillor Simon Lytton  
Councillor Kieron Mallon  
Councillor Fiona Mawson  
Councillor Andrew McHugh  
Councillor Lesley McLean  
Councillor Ian Middleton  
Councillor Adam Nell  
Councillor Lynne Parsons  
Councillor Rob Pattenden  
Councillor Lynn Pratt  
Councillor Chris Pruden  
Councillor Eddie Reeves  
Councillor George Reynolds  
Councillor Dan Sames  
Councillor Nigel Simpson  
Councillor Douglas Webb  
Councillor Bryn Williams  
Councillor Barry Wood  
Councillor Sean Woodcock

Apologies for absence:

Councillor Tom Beckett  
Councillor Nick Cotter  
Councillor Nicholas Mawer  
Councillor Julian Nedelcu  
Councillor Dorothy Walker  
Councillor Amanda Watkins

Officers:

Yvonne Rees, Chief Executive  
Ian Boll, Corporate Director Communities  
Stephen Hinds, Corporate Director Resources  
Michael Furness, Assistant Director Finance & S151 Officer  
Shiraz Sheikh, Assistant Director Law, Governance & Democratic Services/Monitoring Officer  
Natasha Clark, Governance and Elections Manager

Officers Attending Virtually:

Shona Ware, Assistant Director Customer Focus

13 **Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed Members and Officers to the reconvened Annual Council meeting.

The Chairman advised that the business on the agenda must be concluded and requested that all Members address the meeting through the Chair and be respectful and courteous to all meeting attendees,.

14 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

15 **Annual Council Business Report 2023/2024**

The Chief Executive submitted a report for Council to note the results of the 4 May 2023 district elections and agree the governance arrangements for the council following the elections for the municipal year 2023/2024.

The Chairman explained that Council had agreed recommendations 1.1 and 1.2 at the 17 May 2023 meeting prior to the adjournment.

With regards recommendation 1.3, appointment of Leader, the Chairman clarified that the process for voting on appointments, as set out in Part 4.26 of

the Constitution, was interpreted as applying to the Leader. As Chairman, his ruling on the process was that he would call for all nominations for election as Leader and would require a seconder for each.

If there two nominations (with seconders), the person commanding the highest number of votes would be elected.

If there were more than two nominations then the procedure for outside body appointments would be applied for the election of the Leader. *i.e. "where there are more than two persons nominated for any position to be filled by the Council and of the votes given there is not an overall majority in favour of one person, the name of the person having the least number of votes shall be struck off the list and a fresh vote taken and so on until a majority of votes given in favour of one person"*

If there was only one nomination (with a seconder), the nominated person would be elected.

The Chairman explained, for clarity, he would seek votes in favour of each of the nominations. If voting by a show of hands, there would be no vote "against".

The same process would be adopted if there was a recorded vote except that anyone deciding not to vote for either or any candidate would be asked to state that they abstain.

The Chairman invited the Monitoring Officer to address Council.

The Monitoring Officer explained that at meeting on Wednesday 17 May he had set out the procedure for electing the Leader, which was based on his interpretation of the Council's Constitution. Council had been left at an impasse at that meeting and he had sought external legal advice as to the interpretation of the Council's procedure rules. That advice related to Rule 4.26 of the Constitution, which included additional and unusual wording as it appears to restrict this procedure to the appointment of representatives, nominees or delegates of the Council only, yet the law requires the Leader to also be elected.

The Monitoring Officer's reading of the Constitution was not an unreasonable interpretation to have made in the circumstances of the meeting, however, there was a different interpretation that more closely aligns with the law, local government practice and this council's constitutional practices when appointing Chairs of Committees and other appointments. The Monitoring Officer explained that on this basis, he was interpreting the Constitution as the Chairman had just ruled.

The Monitoring Officer explained that it was his job to interpret the Constitution and, with the benefit of external advice, he believed the process being adopted at the meeting was sound. The Monitoring Officer confirmed he was not changing the Constitution, but was interpreting it having regard to

legislation and other Cherwell District Council practices for Member appointments.

The Monitoring Officer confirmed that the change of process did not favour any political group, it did however result in certainty over the appointment of a Leader to give effect to a legal framework adopted by the Council to enable an administration to run the council's business on behalf of its residents.

The Monitoring Officer confirmed that to move forward, the process set out by the Chairman would be used for electing the Leader and the Chairman's ruling should be complied with.

The Chairman advised that he had received two nominations for Leader, Councillor Wood, seconded by Councillor Nell, and Councillor Woodcock, seconded by Councillor Cherry.

There were no further nominations. There being two nominations, the Chairman confirmed that the candidate commanding the highest number of votes would be elected Leader.

The Monitoring Officer conducted the vote. There were 21 votes for Councillor Wood, 11 votes for Councillor Woodcock and 10 abstentions.

The Chairman declared Councillor Wood duly elected Leader of the Council.

The Chairman invited the Leader report on his Deputy Leader and Executive for 2023/24. The Leader advised Councillor Nell was his Deputy Leader and Portfolios allocated as follows:

- Councillor Barry Wood – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Policy and Strategy
- Councillor Adam Nell – Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance
- Councillor Phil Chapman – Portfolio Holder for Healthy and Safe Communities
- Councillor Sandy Dallimore – Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services
- Councillor Donna Ford - Portfolio Holder for Regeneration
- Councillor Nick Mawer – Portfolio Holder for Housing
- Councillor Andrew McHugh – Portfolio Holder for Cleaner and Greener Communities
- Councillor Eddie Reeves – Portfolio Holder for Property
- Councillor Dan Sames - Portfolio Holder for Planning and Development
- Councillor Nigel Simpson - Portfolio Holder for Sport and Leisure

The Chairman led Council through the remaining recommendations and invited the Leader, and Group Leaders as required, to advise of nominations to outside bodies and working groups with appointments as set out in the resolutions.

**Resolved**

- (1) That Councillor Barry Wood be appointed Leader of the Council.
- (2) That the appointment of Councillor Adam Nell as Deputy Leader of the Council and the membership of the Executive and the Executive portfolios for Municipal Year 2023/2024 be noted.

Councillor	Portfolio
Councillor Barry Wood	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Policy and Strategy
Councillor Adam Nell	Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance
Councillor Phil Chapman	Portfolio Holder for Healthy and Safe Communities
Councillor Sandy Dallimore	Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services
Councillor Donna Ford	Portfolio Holder for Regeneration
Councillor Nick Mawer	Portfolio Holder for Housing
Councillor Andrew McHugh	Portfolio Holder for Cleaner and Greener Communities
Councillor Eddie Reeves	Portfolio Holder for Property
Councillor Dan Sames	Portfolio Holder for Planning and Development
Councillor Nigel Simpson	Portfolio Holder for Sport and Leisure

- (3) That the allocation of seats on committee that are subject to the political balance requirements be agreed:

Committee	TOTAL	Conservative	Progressive Oxfordshire	Labour	Independent
Accounts, Audit & Risk Committee	8	3	2	2	1
Appeals Panel	10	4	3	3	0
Budget Planning Committee	12	5	4	3	0
Licensing Committee	12	5	3 (-1)	3	1 (+1)
Overview & Scrutiny	12	5	4	3	0
Personnel Committee	12	5	4	3	0
Planning Committee	18	8	5	4	1
Standards Committee	8	3	2	2	1
<b>Proportional Total by</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>3</b>

<b>Committee</b>					
<b>Aggregate Entitlement</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Adjustment Required</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Minus 1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Plus 1</b>
<b>Proportional Total by Committee</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>

- (4) That members (and where appropriate, substitute members) to serve on each of the committees as set out below in accordance with the nominations to be made by political groups:

*(NB. The number in brackets indicates the number of seats for the Group on the Committee. All Group nominations are listed alphabetically by councillor surname)*

#### **Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee**

Membership (8 members with unnamed substitutes who can be any member of the relevant Group. All committee members must have received training prior to attending a meeting)

<b>Conservative (3)</b>	<b>Progressive Oxfordshire (2)</b>	<b>Labour (2)</b>	<b>Independent (1)</b>
Cllr Donna Ford	Cllr Simon Lytton	Cllr Besmira Brasha	<i>Cllr Harry Knight</i>
Cllr Simon Holland	Cllr Ian Middleton	Cllr Andrew Crichton	
<i>Cllr Lynn Pratt</i>			

#### **Appeals Panel**

Membership (10 members with no substitutes – must NOT be Personnel Committee members)

<b>Conservative (4)</b>	<b>Progressive Oxfordshire (3)</b>	<b>Labour (3)</b>	<b>Independent (0)</b>
Cllr Sandy Dallimore	Cllr Nick Cotter	Cllr Mark Cherry	
Cllr John Donaldson	Cllr Rob Pattenden	Cllr Matt Hodgson	
Cllr Simon Holland	Cllr Dorothy Walker	Cllr Sean Woodcock	
<i>Cllr Adam Nell</i>			

#### **Budget Planning Committee**

Membership (12 members with unnamed substitutes who can be any member of the relevant Group)

<b>Conservative (5)</b>	<b>Progressive Oxfordshire (4)</b>	<b>Labour (3)</b>	<b>Independent (0)</b>
Cllr Patrick Clarke	Cllr Tom Beckett	Cllr Becky Clarke MBE	
Cllr Donna Ford	Cllr David Hingley	Cllr Matt Hodgson	
Cllr Adam Nell	Cllr Simon Lytton	Cllr Sean Woodcock	
Cllr Doug Webb	Cllr Dorothy Walker		
<i>Cllr Barry Wood</i>			

### **Licensing Committee**

Membership (12 seats, with unnamed substitutes who can be any member of the relevant Group)

<b>Conservative (5)</b>	<b>Progressive Oxfordshire (3)</b>	<b>Labour (3)</b>	<b>Independent (1)</b>
Cllr Phil Chapman	Cllr Nick Cotter	Cllr Andy Beere	<i>Cllr Les Sibley</i>
Cllr Andrew McHugh	Cllr Lesley McLean	Cllr Rebecca Biegel	
Cllr George Reynolds	Cllr Chris Pruden	Cllr Mark Cherry	
Cllr Doug Webb			
<i>Cllr Bryn Williams</i>			

### **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Membership (12 members with unnamed substitutes who can be any member of the relevant Group but shall not be a member of the Executive)

<b>Conservative (5)</b>	<b>Progressive Oxfordshire (4)</b>	<b>Labour (3)</b>	<b>Independent (0)</b>
Cllr Maurice Billington	Cllr John Broad	Cllr Isabel Creed	
Cllr Ian Harwood	Cllr Ian Middleton	Cllr Dr Chukwudi Okeke	
Cllr Simon Holland	Cllr Rob Pattenden	Cllr Lynne Parsons	
Cllr Doug Webb	Cllr Dorothy Walker		
<i>Cllr Bryn Williams</i>			

**Personnel Committee**

Membership (12 members with unnamed substitutes who can be any member of the relevant Group but shall not be a member of the Appeals Panel)

<b>Conservative (5)</b>	<b>Progressive Oxfordshire (4)</b>	<b>Labour (3)</b>	<b>Independent (0)</b>
Cllr Ian Harwood	Cllr Gemma Coton	Cllr Dr Chukwudi Okeke	
Cllr Lynn Pratt	Cllr David Hingley	Cllr Lynne Parsons	
Cllr George Reynolds	Cllr Fiona Mawson	Cllr Amanda Watkins	
Cllr Doug Webb	Cllr Chris Pruden		
<i>Cllr Barry Wood</i>			

**Planning Committee**

Membership (18 members, 12 named substitutes. All committee members and named substitutes must have received planning training prior to attending a meeting)

<b>Conservative (8)</b>	<b>Progressive Oxfordshire (5)</b>	<b>Labour (4)</b>	<b>Independent (1)</b>
Cllr Maurice Billington	Cllr John Broad	Cllr Andy Beere	<i>Cllr Les Sibley</i>
Cllr Phil Chapman	Cllr Jean Conway	Cllr Rebecca Biegel	
Cllr Ian Harwood	Cllr Fiona Mawson	Cllr Becky Clarke MBE	
Cllr Simon Holland	Cllr Lesley McLean	Cllr Amanda Watkins	
Cllr Lynn Pratt	Cllr Julian Nedelcu		
Cllr George Reynolds			
Cllr Nigel Simpson			
<i>Cllr Barry Wood</i>			

Planning Committee Named Substitutes (12 – not included in the proportionality calculations, all Groups to be represented)

<b>Conservative (6)</b>	<b>Progressive Oxfordshire (3)</b>	<b>Labour (3)</b>	<b>Independent (1)</b>
Cllr Sandy Dallimore	Cllr David Hingley	Cllr Matt Hodgson	<i>Cllr Harry Wright</i>

Cllr John Donaldson	Cllr Ian Middleton	Cllr Sean Woodcock	
Cllr Andrew McHugh	Cllr Dorothy Walker		
Cllr Dan Sames			
Cllr Doug Webb			
<i>Cllr Bryn Williams</i>			

**Standards Committee**

Membership (8 members with unnamed substitutes who can be any member of the relevant Group)

<b>Conservative (3)</b>	<b>Progressive Oxfordshire (2)</b>	<b>Labour (2)</b>	<b><i>Independent (1)</i></b>
Cllr Sandy Dallimore	Cllr Julian Nedelcu	Cllr Lynne Parsons	<i>Cllr Harry Wright</i>
Cllr Lynn Pratt	Cllr Dorothy Walker	Cllr Amanda Watkins	
<i>Cllr George Reynolds</i>			

- (5) That Councillor Lynn Pratt be appointed as Cherwell District Council's representative to the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- (6) That Councillor Phil Chapman be appointed as Cherwell District Council's appointed representative Councillor Barry Wood be appointed as Cherwell District Council's substitute to the Police and Crime Commissioner Scrutiny Panel for the municipal year 2023/2024.
- (7) That Councillor Barry Wood be appointed as Cherwell District Council's representative and Councillor Adam Nell be appointed as Cherwell District Council's substitute to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership for the municipal year 2023/2024.
- (8) That Councillors Lynn Pratt, Councillor John Board and Councillor Sean Woodcock be appointed as Cherwell District Council's representatives to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel for the municipal year 2023/2024.
- (9) That Executive members be appointed as Cherwell District Council's representative and substitute to each of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership advisory sub-groups as set out below:

Advisory Sub-Group	Representative	Substitute
Housing	Councillor Nick Mawer	Councillor Barry Wood
Infrastructure	Councillor Donna Ford	Councillor Barry Wood
Environment	Councillor Andrew McHugh	Councillor Barry Wood
Planning	Councillor Dan Sames	Councillor Barry Wood

- (10) That Councillors Kieron Mallon, George Reynolds, Lynn Pratt, Gemma Coton, Simon Lytton, Andy Beere, Andrew Crichton and Les Sibley be appointed to the Boundary Review Working Group.
- (11) That Councillor Phil Chapman be appointed as the Cherwell District Council representative and Councillor Barry Wood be appointed as Cherwell District Council's substitute to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

16 **Member Development Framework**

The Monitoring Officer / Assistant Director Law & Governance submitted a report to consider and agree the Member Development Framework and note the Member Development Programme for 2023/24.

**Resolved**

- (1) That the Member Development Framework be agreed.
- (2) That the Member Development Programme for 2023/2024 be noted.
- (3) That it be noted that the Monitoring Officer/Assistant Director Law & Governance would regularly review and amend the Programme where necessary throughout the Municipal Year to ensure it remained relevant and fit for purpose.

17 **Annual Report of the Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee 2022/23**

The Assistant Director of Finance submitted a report which presented the annual report of the Accounts, Audit & Risk Committee 2022/23.

In introducing the report, Councillor Ford, Chairman of the Accounts, Audit & Risk Committee in 2022/23, thanked officers and Committee members who had contributed and supported the work of the Committee in a positive and meaningful way during 2022/23.

**Resolved**

- (1) That the Annual Report of the Accounts, Audit & Risk Committee 2022/23 be noted.

18 **Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

The meeting ended at 6.55 pm

Chairman:

Date:

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## **Council**

**Monday 17 July 2023**

## **Written Questions**

**Question From: Councillor Andrew Beere**

**Question To: Leader of the Council, Councillor Barry Wood**

**Topic: Emergency Planning**

### **Question**

“Can the Leader of the Council outline and describe any proposals for an upgraded and more Professionally Emergency Planning Service for residents in Cherwell that he would agree might be set up.

Subsequent to that first part

Will the Council and the Executive raise the level of “risk element” in its deliberations and on any CDC “Risk Registers” and urge all Local Government Bodies and other public bodies to do the same in the Thames Valley Basin/Region”

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## **Cherwell District Council**

### **Council**

**17 July 2023**

### **Appointment of Representative to the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

### **Report of Assistant Director Law and Governance & Monitoring Officer**

This report is public

#### **Purpose of report**

To change the Cherwell District Council representative on the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC).

#### **1.0 Recommendations**

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To appoint Councillor Lesley McClean as the Cherwell District Council representative on the Joint Oxfordshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

#### **2.0 Introduction**

- 2.1 The Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) is the Committee through which Oxfordshire County Council discharges its responsibility to review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health services in its area.
- 2.2 The membership of HOSC includes 1 member from each district/city Council in Oxfordshire.
- 2.3 The appointment of a representative to HOSC is made by Council. This report is submitted for Council to agree to change the Cherwell District Council representative to HOSC.

#### **3.0 Report Details**

- 3.1 At the 23 May 2023 reconvened Annual Council Meeting, Councillor Lynn Pratt was appointed as the Cherwell District Council representative on the Joint Oxfordshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. After the Full council meeting, the Leader of the council decided that as a Scrutiny function it would be more appropriate if the

Cherwell District Council representative was from the opposition party. The Cherwell District Council rep was thus offered to and subsequently agreed to by the Leader of the opposition.

- 3.2 The Leader of the Progressive Oxfordshire Group, Councillor David Hingley, has nominated Councillor Lesley McLean to be the council's representative on HOSC. Councillor McLean has confirmed she would be happy to accept the appointment.

## **4.0 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations**

- 4.1 Council appoints a representative to the Joint Oxfordshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC). This report seeks agreement to change the council's representative to HOSC to be a member of the Progressive Oxfordshire group, in accordance with discussions between the Leader of the Council, the Leader of the Progressive Oxfordshire Group and the Chief Executive.

## **5.0 Consultation**

Conservative Group Leader, Councillor Barry Wood, and Progressive Oxfordshire Group Leader, Councillor David Hingley

## **6.0 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

- 6.1 The following alternative options have been identified and rejected for the reasons as set out below.

Option 1: Not to change the council's representative on the Joint Oxfordshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This is not recommended as the change has been agreed with the Conservative and Progressive Oxfordshire Group Leaders and the current and proposed appointee.

Option 2: Not to appoint a representative to the Joint Oxfordshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This is not recommended as Cherwell District Council would not be represented on this important Committee.

## **7.0 Implications**

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. Travel for members to attend meeting of external bodies they are appointed to is included within agreed budgets.

Comments checked by:

Michael Furness, Assistant Director of Finance. 01295 221845

[Michael.Furness@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:Michael.Furness@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

### **Legal Implications**

7.2 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by:  
Shiraz Sheikh, Assistant Director Law and Governance,  
[shiraz.sheikh@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:shiraz.sheikh@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

### **Risk Implications**

7.3 Through providing support for representatives and indemnity insurance the council has mitigated the risks posed through appointing members to partnerships and outside bodies.

Comments checked by:  
Shona Ware, Assistant Director – Customer Focus,  
[Shona.ware@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:Shona.ware@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

### **Equalities and Inclusion Implications**

7.4 There are no equalities and inclusion implications arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by:  
Shona Ware, Assistant Director – Customer Focus,  
[Shona.ware@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:Shona.ware@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

### **Sustainability Implications**

7.5 There are no sustainability implications arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by:  
Jo Miskin, Climate Action Manager,  
[jo.miskin@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:jo.miskin@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

## **8.0 Decision Information**

### **Key Decision**

**Financial Threshold Met: No**

**Community Impact Threshold Met: No**

### **Wards Affected**

All

### **Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework**

All

**Lead Councillor**

None

**Document Information****Appendix number and title**

- None

**Background papers**

None

**Report Author and contact details**

Natasha Clark, Governance and Elections Manager  
[democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk), 01295 221534

## Council

**Monday 17 July 2023**

## Motions

**Motion Proposer: Councillor Sean Woodcock**

**Motion Seconder: TBA**

**Topic: Cost of Living**

### Motion

"This council notes the ongoing pressure on the budgets of local residents and calls on the Executive to draw up a cost-of-living action plan within 100 days."

**Motion Proposer: Councillor Nigel Simpson**

**Motion Seconder: TBA**

**Topic: Rail Crossing at Sandy Lane, Yarnton**

### Motion

"Cherwell District Council has acknowledged the Climate Change Emergency.

A major contributor to excessive CO2 output are unnecessary car journeys. The proposal by Network Rail to shut the vital link between Yarnton and Kidlington by closing the rail crossing at Sandy Lane will result in a significant increase in carbon emissions.

Permanent closure would see drivers forced to use Frieze Way or Langford Lane resulting in an average extra distance travelled of nearly two miles per journey.

Based on current trends this is estimated to result in an extra 4750 miles travelled on weekdays and an additional 3800 at weekends, resulting in 1.5 million unnecessary miles per year.

The cost of such surplus miles in money is hundreds of thousands of pounds to residents and businesses who rely on their cars; and extra pollution in the form of many tonnes of carbon emissions, contrary to the Council's environmental objectives.

This would go directly against the council's ambition to reduce CO2 output generated by transport and very significantly degrade the network of contacts that currently underpins the ancient and vital community nexus around the parishes of Yarnton, Begbroke, Kidlington and Gosford and Water Eaton.

The Council therefore asks the Executive to give careful consideration to keeping this vital link open, especially knowing that Oxford University Developments are proposing to fund and build a new road bridge on their site as part of their overall vision."

**Motion Proposer: Councillor Nigel Simpson**

**Motion Seconder: TBA**

**Topic: Active Lifestyle**

### **Motion**

"Cherwell District Council continues to excel in its delivery of award winning active lifestyle programs including Move Together, You Move and Fast which are recognised nationally as class leading initiatives. We are all aware of the benefits, both mentally and physically that these projects have provided to numerous residents in Cherwell especially in our most deprived areas. The Council congratulates all team members for their ongoing commitment to deliver such positive impacts to our communities.

Featured below are just some of the positive impacts of the Move Together Program -

- 1500 people with Long Term Conditions on programme
- Cherwell have 37% of referrals across all the districts
- 85% reported that their mobility improved
- 72% reported that their ability to self-care improved
- 64% reported that their pain levels improved or stayed the same
- 69% reported that their levels of anxiety or depression improved

The Council therefore resolves to ask the Executive to consider committing both physical resources and financial backing to not only these current schemes but to always be looking at future initiatives to keep Cherwell residents both active and healthy."

**Motion Proposer: Councillor Andrew Crichton**

**Motion Seconder: Councillor Mark Cherry**

**Topic: Tenants Charter**

### **Motion**

"While our own tenants will soon benefit from a Tenants' Charter, this council recognises its key role in supporting tenants in both the private and social rented sectors. We therefore call on the Executive to strengthen this Tenants' Charter by reiterating the basic rights of tenants across Cherwell, and the responsibilities of all landlords.

And that alongside this, it will run a public awareness campaign of the Charter encouraging tenants to be aware of their rights and of where local sources of advice and support can be found.”

**Motion Proposer: Councillor Ian Middleton**

**Motion Seconder: TBA**

**Topic: NHS Anniversary**

### **Motion**

“The 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the NHS has recently been celebrated, recognising the outstanding achievement represented by the setting up of a ground-breaking health and welfare system shortly after World War II.

Since then the service has gone through numerous changes and has risen to increasing challenges, not least a global pandemic where all members of the service went above and beyond the call of duty in the face of unprecedented threats to their own lives and those of their patients.

On its 75<sup>th</sup> birthday the NHS continues to struggle to cope amidst staff shortages, funding crises, crumbling infrastructure and a growing elderly population. All this puts additional strain on a much-loved service that is still the envy of the world in terms of universal free healthcare at the point of use.

This council acknowledges the outstanding achievements of the NHS and applauds and thanks all those who work, and have worked, so diligently within the service, often against the odds, to keep us all healthy and cared for throughout our entire lives. We further affirm our support and thanks for all health workers in the Cherwell District.

We also call on the current and all future governments to ensure that the NHS remains where it has always been for most of our lives : at our side and on our side, fully funded and supported to ensure it will still be here in 2048 to celebrate its 100th anniversary.”

**Motion Proposer: Councillor Ian Middleton**

**Motion Seconder: TBA**

**Topic: Littering**

### **Motion**

“Littering in Cherwell is reaching epidemic proportions, particularly in rural areas, where hedgerows, verges and drainage ditches are becoming clogged with food wrappers, drinks bottles and other detritus, often discarded by passing motorists. Another perennial problem is that of dog mess bags left hanging on trees or simply dropped on the floor which adds plastic waste to the problem of dog fouling in recreational areas.

CDC already encourages local litter-picks and our recycling and waste team do a fantastic job of dealing with major issues like fly-tipping and general household waste. But what is also needed is a concerted campaign to highlight the nuisance of general littering and make it socially unacceptable to simply drop rubbish in towns and villages or on our roads and highways. These places should not be being treated as dustbins, impacting the environment and increasing the demand on our recycling teams to clear up the mess.

We therefore request that officers investigate the possibility of a 'Keep Cherwell Tidy' campaign to bolster initiatives already in place and to ideally report to the executive within 6 months.

Things to consider could include a focussed advertising strategy, increased provision of litter bins and dog mess bins, partnerships with food and beverage retailers to tackle the problem of discarded food and takeaway wrappers and enhanced enforcement measures for littering. We should also work with schools and colleges to foster local and civic pride in our towns, villages and green spaces amongst our young people.”