

Cherwell District Council

Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held as a virtual meeting, on 22 February 2021 at 6.30 pm

Present:

Councillor David Hughes (Chairman)
Councillor Hannah Banfield (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Andrew Beere
Councillor Nathan Bignell
Councillor Maurice Billington
Councillor John Broad
Councillor Hugo Brown
Councillor Phil Chapman
Councillor Mark Cherry
Councillor Colin Clarke
Councillor Conrad Copeland
Councillor Ian Corkin
Councillor Nick Cotter
Councillor Surinder Kaur Dhesi
Councillor John Donaldson
Councillor Sean Gaul
Councillor Carmen Griffiths
Councillor Timothy Hallchurch MBE
Councillor Chris Heath
Councillor Simon Holland
Councillor Shaida Hussain
Councillor Tony Ilott
Councillor Mike Kerford-Byrnes
Councillor James Macnamara
Councillor Kieron Mallon
Councillor Nicholas Mawer
Councillor Andrew McHugh
Councillor Tony Mephram
Councillor Ian Middleton
Councillor Perran Moon
Councillor Richard Mould
Councillor Cassi Perry
Councillor Lynn Pratt
Councillor George Reynolds
Councillor Barry Richards
Councillor Dan Sames
Councillor Les Sibley
Councillor Katherine Tyson
Councillor Tom Wallis
Councillor Douglas Webb
Councillor Fraser Webster
Councillor Bryn Williams

Councillor Lucinda Wing
Councillor Barry Wood
Councillor Sean Woodcock

Apologies for absence:

Councillor Mike Bishop
Councillor Jason Slaymaker

Officers:

Yvonne Rees, Chief Executive
Stephen Chandler, Corporate Director Adults & Housing Services
Steve Jordan, Corporate Director Commercial Development, Assets & Investment
Jane Portman, Corporate Director (Interim)
Claire Taylor, Corporate Director Customers and Organisational Development
Lorna Baxter, Director of Finance & Section 151 Officer
Anita Bradley, Director Law and Governance & Monitoring Officer
Michael Furness, Assistant Director Finance
Louise Tustian, Head of Insight and Corporate Programmes
Joanne Kaye, Strategic Business Partner
Natasha Clark, Governance and Elections Manager

62 **Declarations of Interest**

10. Budget Setting for 2021/22 and the Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2025/26.

Councillor Shaida Hussain, Non Statutory Interest, as a trustee of Banbury Museum.

13. (Draft) Statement of Licensing Policy.

Councillor James Macnamara, Non Statutory Interest, as a Magistrate and, although he did not hear matters involving Cherwell District Council, would abstain from voting on the item.

63 **Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed councillors, officers and members of the public and press to the virtual meeting of Full Council.

The Chairman introduced the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Hannah Banfield, and explained that if he had any technical issues and had to drop out of the meeting, Councillor Banfield would take the Chair until he was reconnected.

Communications

The Chairman made the following announcements.

Former Councillor Margaret Ferriman

The Chairman advised Council that former Councillor Ferriman passed away peacefully on 5 January 2021 in St Anne's Care Home.

Mrs Ferriman was a Labour member of Cherwell District Council and represented Banbury Neithrop ward between 1980 and 1996. During her time as a councillor, Mrs Ferriman served on numerous committees, including Personnel, Recreation and Amenities, Development and North Area Planning. Former Councillor Ferriman was also a member of Banbury Town Council and a County Councillor representing Banbury Ruscote division. She was an Alderman and was made an MBE in 2010 for her services to community relations.

On behalf of Council, the Chairman expressed condolences on the passing of former Councillor Ferriman.

A number of Members paid tribute to former Councillor Ferriman.

Former Councillor Ray Jelf

The Chairman advised Council that former Councillor Ray Jelf passed away peacefully last week.

Mr Jelf was a Conservative member of Cherwell District Council representing the Hook Norton ward between 2013 and 2015. During his time as a councillor, Mr Jelf served on the Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee and was Vice-Chairman of the Appeals Panel.

On behalf of Council, the Chairman extended condolences to the family of former Councillor Ferriman.

A number of Members paid tribute to former Councillor Jelf.

Council observed a period of silence in memory of former Councillor Margaret Ferriman and former Councillor Ray Jelf.

Director of Law and Governance & Monitoring Officer, Anita Bradley

The Chairman commented that many Members had already met the new Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer, Anita Bradley, in other meetings but would like to formally welcome the Director Law and Governance to her first meeting of Council.

The Director of Law and Governance thanked the Chairman and said she was looking forward to working with members at Cherwell District Council.

Housekeeping

The Chairman reminded Members of the protocols for virtual meetings.

The Chairman reminded Members that following agreement of the of the Constitution review, motions were taken as the last item on the agenda and there was an 11pm cut off time for the meeting. If the meeting was mid-debate on a motion, the Chairman would not close the meeting until we have concluded the debate and voted on that motion. Any motions not heard would carry forward to the July Council meeting as motions were not on the agenda at the Annual Council Meeting.

65 **Petitions and Requests to Address the Meeting**

There were no petitions or requests to address the meeting.

66 **Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

67 **Minutes of Council**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2020 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

68 **Minutes**

a) **Minutes of the Executive, Lead Member Decisions and Executive Decisions made under Special Urgency**

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Executive and Lead Member decisions as set out in the Minute Book be received and that it be noted that since the last meeting of Council on 14 December 2020 no key decisions have been taken by the Executive which were not included in the 28 day notice.

b) **Minutes of Committees**

Resolved

That the minutes of Committees as set out in the Minute Book be received.

69 **Questions**

a) **Written Questions**

There were no written questions.

b) **Questions to the Leader of the Council**

Questions were asked and answers received on the following issues:

Councillor Cherry: Redevelopment of garages in proximity to Bretch Hill Community Centre

Councillor Billington: Bollard in Kidlington

c) Questions to Committee Chairmen on the Minutes

There were no questions to Committee Chairman on the minutes of meetings.

70

Members' Allowances 2021/2022

The Director Law and Governance submitted a report to determine the levels of the allowances to be paid to Members for the forthcoming 2021/2022 financial year following the submission of the report of the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP).

In introducing the report, the Lead Member for Financial Management and Governance, Councillor Ilott, clarified that the Deputy Leader received the Deputy Leader special responsibility allowance as well as the Executive member special responsibility allowance.

The Lead Member for Financial Management and Governance thanked Members who had provided information to the Panel and thanked the Panel for their work and report.

Resolved

- (1) That, having given due consideration to the levels of allowances to be included in the 2021/2022 Members' Allowances Scheme, the Independent Remuneration Panel's recommendations, as set out below, be adopted:
 - The Basic Allowance be frozen at the current level of £4512
 - All Special Responsibility Allowances (SRA's) be frozen and remain at the current level:
 - Leader of the Council*: £7680
 - Deputy Leader of the Council*: £2652
 - Executive Members holding a portfolio: £6708
 - Leader of the Opposition: £3096
 - Chairman of the Accounts, Audit & Risk Committee: £3732
 - Chairman of the Budget Planning Committee: £3732
 - Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee: £3732
 - Chairman of Planning Committee: £4464
 - Chairman of Appeals Panel: £264 SRA plus £264 per meeting to a capped limit of £1056
 - Chairman of Licensing Committee: £264 SRA plus £264 per meeting to a capped limit of £1056

- Chairman of Personnel Committee: £264 SRA plus £264 per meeting to a capped limit of £1056
 - Chairman of Standards Committee: £264 SRA plus £264 per meeting to a capped limit of £1056
 - *Leader and Deputy Leader receive the respective SRA and the SRA for Executive Members holding a portfolio
-
- All Co-optee and Independent Persons Allowances be frozen and remain at the current level of £768.
 - The Dependant Carers' allowance be frozen and remain at the current level of £20 per hour and claims capped at 40 hours per month.
 - The Childcare allowance be frozen and remain at the current level of £10 per hour and claims capped at 40 hours per month.
 - There be no change to Travelling and Subsistence Allowances
 - Bicycles: 20p per mile
 - Motorcycles: 24p per mile
 - Motor vehicles including electric vehicles: 45p per mile
 - Breakfast allowance: £6.02 per meal
 - Lunch allowance: £8.31 per meal
 - Evening meal allowance: £10.29 per meal
 - The Democratic Services Team to book overnight accommodation.
 - Non-Executive Director allowances to be frozen and remain at the current level of £4464 and expenses paid at the same levels as district councillors and recharged to the relevant company
-
- (2) That the Director Law and Governance be authorised to prepare an amended Members' Allowances Scheme, in accordance with the decisions of Council for implementation with effect from 1 April 2021.
- (3) That the Director Law and Governance be authorised to take all necessary action to revoke the current (2020/2021) Scheme and to publicise the revised Scheme pursuant to The Local Authorities (Member's Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended).
- (4) That the Independent Remuneration Panel be thanked for its report and a fee of £300 set for each Panel Member for the work carried out on this review for 2021/2022 and the same level of fee be agreed for any reviews carried out in 2021/2022 capped at a maximum of £1200, which can be funded from existing budgets.

Prior to consideration of the item, the Chairman sought the agreement of Members to suspend standing orders with regard to the duration of the speech by the proposer of the budget, or the speeches of the Group Leaders. All other speakers would continue to have a three minute time limit. Members indicated agreement.

The Chairman reminded Council that it was required in legislation that any motion or amendment to the budget and council tax setting be taken by recorded vote and this would be done at the appropriate time.

The Director of Finance submitted a report which was the culmination of the Budget and Business Planning process for 2021/22 to 2025/26 and set out the Executive's proposed Business Plan and related revenue budget for 2021/22, medium term financial strategy to 2025/26, capital programme to 2025/26 and all supporting policies, strategies and information.

The report also detailed the Calculations for the amounts of Council Tax for 2021/22 and the setting of Council Tax for 2021/22.

Councillor Ilott thanked the Director of Finance and the finance team who had worked hard on the budget process and submitted a balanced budget to Council. Councillor Ilott also thanked the Budget Planning Committee, Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee for their hard work supporting the budget setting and business plan process.

Having presented the report, Councillor Ilott proposed the Business Plan and related revenue budget for 2021/22, medium term financial strategy to 2025/26, capital programme to 2025/26 and all supporting policies, strategies and information. Councillor Wood seconded the proposal.

Councillor Woodcock, on behalf of the Labour Group, addressed Council in response to the budget and confirmed that he would be proposing no amendments.

Councillor Tyson, on behalf of the Progressive Oxfordshire Group, addressed Council in response to the budget and confirmed that she would be proposing no amendments.

Councillor Sibley had submitted apologies for the meeting and therefore did not address Council in response to the budget but had confirmed prior to the meeting that would not be proposing no amendments.

A recorded vote was taken, and members voted as follows

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Councillor Hannah Banfield | Against |
| Councillor Andrew Beere | Against |
| Councillor Nathan Bignell | For |
| Councillor Maurice Billington | For |
| Councillor John Broad | Abstain |

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|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Councillor Hugo Brown | For |
| Councillor Phil Chapman | For |
| Councillor Mark Cherry | Against |
| Councillor Colin Clarke | For |
| Councillor Conrad Copeland | Abstain |
| Councillor Ian Corkin | For |
| Councillor Nick Cotter | Abstain |
| Councillor Surinder Dhesi | Against |
| Councillor John Donaldson | For |
| Councillor Sean Gaul | For |
| Councillor Carmen Griffiths | For |
| Councillor Timothy Hallchurch MBE | For |
| Councillor Chris Heath | For |
| Councillor Simon Holland | For |
| Councillor David Hughes | For |
| Councillor Shaida Hussain | Against |
| Councillor Tony Ilott | For |
| Councillor Mike Kerford-Byrnes | For |
| Councillor James Macnamara | For |
| Councillor Kieron Mallon | For |
| Councillor Nick Mawer | For |
| Councillor Andrew McHugh | For |
| Councillor Tony Mephram | For |
| Councillor Ian Middleton | Abstain |
| Councillor Perran Moon | Against |
| Councillor Richard Mould | For |
| Councillor Cassi Perry | Against |
| Councillor Lynn Pratt | For |
| Councillor George Reynolds | For |
| Councillor Barry Richards | Against |
| Councillor Dan Sames | For |
| Councillor Katherine Tyson | Abstain |
| Councillor Tom Wallis | For |
| Councillor Douglas Webb | For |
| Councillor Bryn Williams | For |

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Councillor Lucinda Wing | For |
| Councillor Barry Wood | For |
| Councillor Sean Woodcock | Against |

Resolved

- (1) That the Business Plan (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.
- (2) That, having due regard, the statutory report of the Chief Finance Officer (Section 25 report) be noted.
- (3) That the net revenue budget for the financial year commencing on 1 April 2021 of £22.374m, including the budget allocations to the Directorates of the Council (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.
- (4) That the Medium Term Financial Strategy and Revenue Budget 2021/22, including the Savings Proposals, Pressures and the Revenue Impacts of Capital Schemes (annexes to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved
- (5) That the Capital Bids and Capital Programme (annexes to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.
- (6) That the Capital and Investment Strategy (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.
- (7) That the Treasury Management Strategy, including the Prudential Indicators, Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy and Affordable Borrowing Limit for 2021/22 (annexes to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.
- (8) That the Property Investment Strategy (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.
- (9) That the Reserves Policy (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.
- (10) That the planned level of reserves for 2021/22 – 2025/26 (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.
- (11) That the Chief Finance Officer's recommended minimum level of General Balances of £5m be approved.
- (12) That an increase in the Basic Amount of Council Tax for Cherwell District Council for the financial year beginning on 1 April 2021 of £5, resulting in a Band D charge of £138.50 per annum be approved.

- (13) That it be noted that on 4 January 2021 Executive approved Cherwell District Council's calculated Council Tax Base for 2021/22:
- a) for the whole Council area as 55,615.9 [item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended by sections 72 to 79 of the Localism Act 2011 ("the 1992 Act")]; and
 - b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish Precept relates as in the annex to the Minutes (as set out in the Minute Book).
- (14) That it be agreed that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2021/22 (excluding Parish Precepts and Special Expenses) be £7,702,802.
- (15) That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2021/22 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the 1992 Act:
- a) £115,532,120 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the 1992 Act, taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils and any additional special expenses;
 - b) £102,378,407 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the 1992 Act;
 - c) £13,153,713 being the amount by which the aggregate at 1.6.4(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 1.6.4(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the 1992 Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the 1992 Act);
 - d) £236.51 being the amount at 1.6.4(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1.6.2(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the 1992 Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish Precepts and Special Expenses);
 - e) £5,450,911 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Precepts and Special Expenses) referred to in Section 34(1) of the 1992 Act as per the annex to the Minutes (as set out in the Minute Book);
 - f) £138.50 being the amount at 1.6.4(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 1.6.4(e) above by Item T(1.6.2(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the 1992 Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish Precept or special item relates.

- (16) That it be noted that for the year 2021/22 the Oxfordshire County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley have issued precepts to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the 1992 Act, for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated below :

| <u>Valuation Band</u> | <u>Oxfordshire County Council</u> | <u>Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| | £ | £ |
| A | 1,048.74 | 154.19 |
| B | 1,223.53 | 179.88 |
| C | 1,398.32 | 205.58 |
| D | 1,573.11 | 231.28 |
| E | 1,922.69 | 282.68 |
| F | 2,272.27 | 334.07 |
| G | 2,621.85 | 385.47 |
| H | 3,146.22 | 462.56 |

- (17) That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the 1992 Act, hereby sets the amounts shown in the annex to the Minutes (as set out in the Minute Book) as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2021/22 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.
- (18) That it be noted that the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2021/22 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB of the 1992 Act;
- (19) That, in fulfilment of the requirements of Sections 38-43 of the Localism Act 2011, the Pay Policy Statement (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.

72 **Adjournment of Council Meeting**

The Leader of the Council confirmed that he did not require Council to adjourn to allow Executive to meet discuss any issues arising from the budget.

73 **Final Recommendations for the Adderbury Community Governance Review**

The Chief Executive submitted a report to report the results of the second consultation stage of the Community Governance Review (CGR) for Adderbury and to consider the final recommendations of the CGR Working Group, that will bring the review to a close.

Resolved

- (1) That the results of the second consultation stage of the Adderbury Community Governance Review be noted.
- (2) That the final recommendations that no warding of Adderbury Parish Council take place, and that the number of parish councillors for Adderbury Parish Council should remain as 12 be approved.

74

(Draft) Statement of Licensing Policy

The Assistant Director – Regulatory Services submitted a report which introduce a final draft of the revised Statement of Licensing Policy following consultation.

Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 requires all licensing authorities to prepare and publish a Statement of Licensing Policy outlining the principles they propose to apply in exercising their functions under the Act. It is a requirement that the policy is reviewed at least every five years to ensure it reflects current legislation and guidance. The last review and revision at Cherwell District Council occurred in 2015 when the policy was adopted by Council at its meeting on 14 December 2015 and published in January 2016.

Resolved

- (1) That the revised Statement of Licensing Policy (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minutes Book) be approved for adoption.

(Having declared an interest in the item, Councillor Macnamara abstained from voting)

75

Amendment to Outside Body Representative

The Chairman reported that Councillor Mallon had been appointed the council's representative to the to the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee at the 14 May 2019 Annual Council meeting. As no Annual Meeting was held in May 2020, the appointment continued.

Councillor Mallon had advised that, due to other commitments, he is no longer able to act as the council's representative. Councillor Chapman had on occasion substituted for Councillor Mallon at Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings and had indicated that he would be willing to be appointed as the council's permanent representative in place of Councillor Mallon.

Resolved

- (1) That Councillor Phil Chapman be appointed as the council's representative to the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

76

Motions

The Chairman advised that three motions had been submitted. No amendments to any of the motions had been submitted and, in line with the Constitution, no amendments to the motion were now permitted.

The Chairman reminded Members of the revised speaking limits on motions: five minutes for proposers of motions and three minutes for all other speakers.

Paper Lite

It was proposed by Councillor Corkin and seconded by McHugh that the following motion be adopted:

“Last year Cherwell District Council consumed 1.4million sheets of paper. A third of this was sent to elected members in the form of committee papers, reports and general communications. There is obviously a considerable financial cost associated with this, including the cost of the paper, officer time, printing and distribution. Equally importantly, there is also a very considerable environmental cost that we must address if we are to meet our zero carbon by 2030 commitment.

Over the last 9 months this authority has shown enormous resilience and resourcefulness: Our dispersed workforce is successfully operating from home, we are developing an agile model of working that will ensure we capture the best practice of operating during the pandemic and, of course, members are now successfully fulfilling their democratic responsibilities remotely, mastering Teams and tech in a way we could have barely imagined at the beginning of the year.

This motion draws on this innovation and asks members to deploy the same resourcefulness to embrace a “paper-lite” culture and calls on this council to:

- Recognise that continuing to have printed media as the default position for this council is unsustainable
- To resolve that from 7 May 2021 the default position will be “paper-lite” and members will have to opt into hardcopy print and that it will remain an option for those that need it.
- To ensure that adequate training and support will be provided to all members who require it to make the transition.”

No amendments to the motion having been proposed, the motion was debated as submitted. On being put to the vote the motion was carried.

Twenty is Plenty

It was proposed by Councillor Sames and seconded by Councillor Sibley that the following motion be adopted:

“This Council notes :

1. The recent endorsement of the "Twenty is Plenty" campaign by Oxfordshire County Council in its role as Highways Authority which means all new residential roads will have a 20 mph speed limit, unless there is compelling evidence for a higher limit.
2. The evidence that introduction of 20mph limits even without formal enforcement results in much safer speed profiles and this is particularly beneficial in the vicinity of schools, community hubs and care facilities.

This Council believes that as the Local Planning Authority we should support the County Council as Local Highway Authority in securing 20 MPH speed limits (instead of 30 MPH) in new developments in the interest of securing a more usable and more attractive environment for those not travelling by motor vehicle.

The Council further believes that there may be a role for a "best practice guide" produced by OCC and would ask the county council to consider how it might best advise Parish Councils to help them facilitate 20mph limits where there is local demand.”

No amendments to the motion having been proposed, the motion was debated as submitted. On being put to the vote the motion was carried.

Horton General Hospital

It was proposed by Councillor McHugh and seconded by Councillor Mallon that the following motion be adopted:

“This Council fully recognises the value of the much-loved Horton General Hospital to the residents of Banbury and its surrounding catchment area, which uniquely covers four counties.

Local efforts to retain acute services at the Horton have been welcomed by Councils at all tiers in recent months and by community groups and residents alike. This Council’s position has always been that the Horton’s future should be as a fully functioning General Hospital complementing the world-class services at both the John Radcliffe Hospital and Churchill Hospital so as to build on Oxfordshire’s enviable reputation – both nationally and internationally – as a centre for excellence in healthcare. That remains unequivocally the case today.

This Council is encouraged that Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (OUHFT) and the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (OCCG) have listened to the strong representations of residents, Councillors and community groups (notably, Keep the Horton General) in recent years and

those of Victoria Prentis MP and this Council welcomes steps taken by both OUHFT and OCCG to develop a masterplan for the Horton without delay.

For its part, this Council resolves to do all it can to support the advancement of this vision and commits to reviewing options with Councils at other tiers with a view to supporting OUHFT and CCG-led redevelopment plans so as to deliver an improved facility on the hospital's existing site or at a new and improved one within the Banbury area that is accessible to residents across the Horton's unique four-county catchment area."

No amendments to the motion having been proposed, the motion was debated as submitted. On being put to the vote the motion was carried.

Flooding

It was proposed by Councillor Middleton and seconded by Councillor Tyson that the following motion be adopted.

"Worsening flooding has substantial economic and social costs. Homes and businesses nationwide are at repeated risk of significant damage which leads to financial and emotional distress. In some cases, these risks can no longer be insured against. Climate change will exacerbate this for Cherwell residents with increased incidence, and severity, of flooding.

The cross-agency nature of the problem can be frustrating and inefficient in a crisis, with no one organisation taking responsibility for flooding response or maintenance of flood defences. Resources are stretched thin, and while major incidents receive the attention of various emergency agencies, lower level, localised flooding, which is becoming more widespread, can sometimes receive a less focused response.

Last year CDC resumed responsibility for district land drainage & flood risk management. In view of these responsibilities, and our close working relationship with the county council, we should wherever possible:

1. Encourage areas that are at risk of flooding to establish a 'flood resilient community', including forming local flood response groups, forums for residents to feedback information on current and potential flooding risks, and the setting up of their own flood response stores to provide locally available flood alleviation equipment
2. Publish regularly updated surveys and maintenance programs, with maps of drainage and flood defences and associated repair responsibilities.
3. Call on all risk management agencies to set up a cooperative task force, which we would participate in, including the provision of a centralised contact point which can trigger an immediate, proportionate response to all emergency flooding events."

No amendments to the motion having been proposed, the motion was debated as submitted. On being put to the vote the motion was carried.

Resolved

(1) That the following motion be adopted:

“Last year Cherwell District Council consumed 1.4million sheets of paper. A third of this was sent to elected members in the form of committee papers, reports and general communications. There is obviously a considerable financial cost associated with this, including the cost of the paper, officer time, printing and distribution. Equally importantly, there is also a very considerable environmental cost that we must address if we are to meet our zero carbon by 2030 commitment.

Over the last 9 months this authority has shown enormous resilience and resourcefulness: Our dispersed workforce is successfully operating from home, we are developing an agile model of working that will ensure we capture the best practice of operating during the pandemic and, of course, members are now successfully fulfilling their democratic responsibilities remotely, mastering Teams and tech in a way we could have barely imagined at the beginning of the year.

This motion draws on this innovation and asks members to deploy the same resourcefulness to embrace a “paper-lite” culture and calls on this council to:

- Recognise that continuing to have printed media as the default position for this council is unsustainable
- To resolve that from 7 May 2021 the default position will be “paper-lite” and members will have to opt into hardcopy print and that it will remain an option for those that need it.
- To ensure that adequate training and support will be provided to all members who require it to make the transition.”

(2) That the following motion be adopted:

“This Council notes :

1. The recent endorsement of the "Twenty is Plenty" campaign by Oxfordshire County Council in its role as Highways Authority which means all new residential roads will have a 20 mph speed limit, unless there is compelling evidence for a higher limit.

2. The evidence that introduction of 20mph limits even without formal enforcement results in much safer speed profiles and this is particularly beneficial in the vicinity of schools, community hubs and care facilities.

This Council believes that as the Local Planning Authority we should support the County Council as Local Highway Authority in securing 20 MPH speed limits (instead of 30 MPH) in new developments in the

interest of securing a more usable and more attractive environment for those not travelling by motor vehicle.

The Council further believes that there may be a role for a "best practice guide" produced by OCC and would ask the county council to consider how it might best advise Parish Councils to help them facilitate 20mph limits where there is local demand."

- (3) That the following motion be adopted:

"This Council fully recognises the value of the much-loved Horton General Hospital to the residents of Banbury and its surrounding catchment area, which uniquely covers four counties.

Local efforts to retain acute services at the Horton have been welcomed by Councils at all tiers in recent months and by community groups and residents alike. This Council's position has always been that the Horton's future should be as a fully functioning General Hospital complementing the world-class services at both the John Radcliffe Hospital and Churchill Hospital so as to build on Oxfordshire's enviable reputation – both nationally and internationally – as a centre for excellence in healthcare. That remains unequivocally the case today.

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For its part, this Council resolves to do all it can to support the advancement of this vision and commits to reviewing options with Councils at other tiers with a view to supporting OUHFT and CCG-led redevelopment plans so as to deliver an improved facility on the hospital's existing site or at a new and improved one within the Banbury area that is accessible to residents across the Horton's unique four-county catchment area."

- (4) That the following motion be adopted:

"Worsening flooding has substantial economic and social costs. Homes and businesses nationwide are at repeated risk of significant damage which leads to financial and emotional distress. In some cases, these risks can no longer be insured against. Climate change will exacerbate this for Cherwell residents with increased incidence, and severity, of flooding.

The cross-agency nature of the problem can be frustrating and inefficient in a crisis, with no one organisation taking responsibility for flooding response or maintenance of flood defences. Resources are stretched thin, and while major incidents receive the attention of various emergency agencies, lower level, localised flooding, which is becoming more widespread, can sometimes receive a less focused response.

Last year CDC resumed responsibility for district land drainage & flood risk management. In view of these responsibilities, and our close working relationship with the county council, we should wherever possible:

4. Encourage areas that are at risk of flooding to establish a 'flood resilient community', including forming local flood response groups, forums for residents to feedback information on current and potential flooding risks, and the setting up of their own flood response stores to provide locally available flood alleviation equipment
5. Publish regularly updated surveys and maintenance programs, with maps of drainage and flood defences and associated repair responsibilities.
6. Call on all risk management agencies to set up a cooperative task force, which we would participate in, including the provision of a centralised contact point which can trigger an immediate, proportionate response to all emergency flooding events.

The meeting ended at 11.35 pm

Chairman:

Date: