

Meeting of Council

Monday 25 February 2013

Members of Cherwell District Council,

A meeting of Council will be held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA on Monday 25 February 2013 at 6.30 pm, and you are hereby summoned to attend.



Sue Smith
Chief Executive

Friday 15 February 2013

AGENDA

1 **Apologies for Absence**

2 **Declarations of Interest**

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

3 **Communications** (Pages 1 - 2)

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

4 Petitions and Requests to Address the Meeting

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

5 Urgent Business

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

6 Minutes of Council (Pages 3 - 8)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of Council held on 21 January 2013.

7 Minutes

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

The Leader of the Council to formally propose that the minutes of the meetings of the Executive and Lead Member Decisions as set out in the Minute Book (circulated separately) be received and to report that since the last meeting no decisions have been taken by the Executive which were not included in the 28 day notice.

- b) Minutes of Committees

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

8 Questions

- a) Written Questions

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

- b) Questions to the Leader of the Council

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

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

- c) Questions to Committee Chairmen on the minutes

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

9 **Motions**

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

Council Business Reports

10 **Members Allowance 2013/14** (Pages 9 - 22)

Report of Head of Law and Governance

Summary

To determine the levels of the allowances to be paid to Members for the forthcoming 2013/2014 financial year following the submission of the report of the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP).

Recommendations

That Council is recommended to:

- (1) Consider the levels of allowances to be included in the 2013/14 Members' Allowances Scheme, and whether the Panel's recommendations should be adopted or modified in any way.
- (2) Authorise the Head of Law and Governance to prepare an amended Members' Allowances Scheme, in accordance with the decisions of the Council for implementation with effect from 1 April 2013.
- (3) Authorise the Head of Law and Governance to take all necessary action to revoke the current (2012/13) Scheme and to publicise the revised Scheme pursuant to The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended).
- (4) Thank the Independent Remuneration Panel for its report and set a fee of £300 for Panel Members for the work carried out in 2012/13 and propose the same level of fee for 2013/14.

11 **2013/14 Corporate Plan, Revenue & Capital Budgets and Treasury Strategy** (Pages 23 - 90)

Report of Chief Finance Officer and Head of Finance and Procurement

Summary

To review the Council's General Fund Budget, Capital Programme, Earmarked Reserves and General Fund Balances to ensure the robustness of the estimates included and to seek formal adoption of all parts of the Council's financial plans and Corporate Plan for the 2013/14 budget year.

Recommendations

Council is recommended:

- (1) To consider the contents of this report in approving the General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital Programme for 2013/14 and to formally record that consideration.
- (2) To approve the 2013/14 General Fund Budget and Capital Programme proposed by the Executive on 4 February 2013 and detailed in Appendix 1 and 3.
- (3) To approve the Collection Fund Estimates contained in Appendix 2
- (4) To approve the Corporate Plan as detailed in Appendix 4 of the Budget Book.
- (5) To approve the Treasury Strategy as detailed in Appendix 5.
- (6) To approve the appended statement of pay policy for 2013/14 as required by the Act and detailed in Appendix 6.

12 Adjournment of Council Meeting

The Council to adjourn, if necessary to allow the Executive to meet to consider any proposals which do not accord with the Executive's recommendations.

13 Calculating the amounts of Council Tax for 2013/2014 and setting the Council Tax for 2013/2014 (Pages 91 - 102)

Report of Chief Finance Officer and Head of Finance and Procurement

Summary

To detail the Calculations for the amounts of Council Tax for 2013/14 and the setting of Council Tax for 2013/2014.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Council resolves:-

- (1) That it be noted that at its meeting held on 21 January 2013 the Council calculated the Council Tax Base 2013/14:
 - a) for the whole Council area as 46,672 [item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]; and
 - b) For dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish Precept relates as in the attached Appendix 1.

- (2) That the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2013/14 (excluding Parish Precepts and Special Expenses) is £123.50.
- (3) That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2013/14 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:-
- a) £75,864.756 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act, taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils and any additional special expenses.
 - b) £66,311,611 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act.
 - c) £9,553,145 being the amount by which the aggregate at 8(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 8(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
 - d) £204.69 being the amount at 8(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (6(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish Precepts and Special Expenses);
 - e) £3,789,153 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Precepts and Special Expenses) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act as per the attached Schedule 2.
 - f) £123.50 being the amount at 8(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 8(e) above by Item T(6(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the 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;
- (4) It be noted that for the year 2013/14 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 Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated below :-

<u>Valuation Band</u>	Oxfordshire County Council	Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley
	£	£
A	789.89	104.92
B	921.53	122.41
C	1,053.18	139.89
D	1,184.83	157.38
E	1,448.13	192.35
F	1,711.42	227.33
G	1,974.72	262.30
H	2,369.66	314.76

- (5) The Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts shown in Appendix 2 as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2013/14 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.
- (6) The Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2013/14 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.

14 Community Governance Review 2012 (Pages 103 - 112)

Report of Chief Executive

Summary

To update Members on progress of the Community Governance Review, and to agree proposals to consult upon.

Recommendations

Council is recommended:

- (1) To agree that the principles as set out in appendix 1 should be consulted upon.

15 Twelve Month Review of Joint Working Arrangements (Pages 113 - 126)

Report of Chief Executive

Summary

The joint working business case referred to a review of joint working after twelve months. The Joint Management team was formed on 1 October 2011 and was followed by other shared services being established in a programme that is on-going. This report reviews the original targets and milestones against actual performance. It also sets out some of the 'softer' issues that have arisen as a consequence of joint working and shared services.

Recommendations

Council is recommended to:

- (1) Note the review of performance for the first twelve months of joint working
- (2) Note the progress being made through the Joint Arrangements Steering Group on future joint working initiatives

16 Exclusion of the Press and Public

The Chairman, will if necessary, move the exclusion of the press and public if members have indicated (under the relevant agenda item) they wish to ask a question on any matter arising from an exempt minute.

In making the decision, members should balance the interests of individuals or the Council itself in having access to the information. In considering their decision members should also be mindful of the advice of Council Officers.

Should members decide not to discuss the issue in public, they are recommended to pass the following recommendation:

“That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs of Schedule 12A of that Act, as set out in the Minute Book.”

17 Questions on Exempt Minutes

Members of Council will ask questions on exempt minutes, if any.

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

Information about this Agenda

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence should be notified to democracy@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk or 01295 221587 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 James Doble, Democratic and Elections
james.doble@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk, 01295 221587