

Cherwell District Council

Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA, on 20 October 2014 at 6.30 pm

Present: Councillor Alastair Milne Home (Chairman)
Councillor Melanie Magee (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Ken Atack
Councillor Andrew Beere
Councillor Claire Bell
Councillor Maurice Billington
Councillor Norman Bolster
Councillor Ann Bonner
Councillor Mark Cherry
Councillor Colin Clarke
Councillor Surinder Dhesi
Councillor Diana Edwards
Councillor Andrew Fulljames
Councillor Michael Gibbard
Councillor Carmen Griffiths
Councillor Timothy Hallchurch MBE
Councillor Simon Holland
Councillor David Hughes
Councillor Russell Hurle
Councillor Tony Ilott
Councillor Ray Jelf
Councillor Matt Johnstone
Councillor Mike Kerford-Byrnes
Councillor James Macnamara
Councillor Kieron Mallon
Councillor Nicholas Mawer
Councillor Jon O'Neill
Councillor Lynn Pratt
Councillor Neil Prestidge
Councillor Nigel Randall
Councillor G A Reynolds
Councillor Barry Richards
Councillor Alaric Rose
Councillor Dan Sames
Councillor Les Sibley
Councillor Lawrie Stratford
Councillor Rose Stratford
Councillor Lynda Thirzie Smart
Councillor Nicholas Turner
Councillor Douglas Webb
Councillor Bryn Williams
Councillor Douglas Williamson
Councillor Barry Wood
Councillor Sean Woodcock

Apologies for absence: Councillor Fred Blackwell
Councillor John Donaldson
Councillor Chris Heath
Councillor Nigel Morris
Councillor D M Pickford
Councillor Trevor Stevens

Officers: Sue Smith, Chief Executive
Calvin Bell, Director of Development
Ian Davies, Director of Community and Environment
Martin Henry, Director of Resources / Section 151 Officer
Kevin Lane, Head of Law and Governance / Monitoring Officer
Adrian Colwell, Head of Strategic Planning and the Economy
Natasha Clark, Team Leader, Democratic and Elections

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Declarations of Interest

Members and Officers declared interests in the following agenda items:

7. Minutes.

Councillor David Hughes, Non Statutory Interest, in relation to the 1 September 2014 minutes of Executive as a Director of Graven Hill Village Holdings Limited.

Councillor James Macnamara, Non Statutory Interest, in relation to the 1 September 2014 minutes of Executive as a Director of Graven Hill Village Holdings Limited and Graven Hill Village Development Company Limited.

Councillor Timothy Hallchurch MBE, Non Statutory Interest, in relation to the 1 September 2014 minutes of Executive as a Director of Graven Hill Village Holdings Limited.

Sue Smith, Non Statutory Interest, in relation to the 1 September 2014 minutes of Executive as a Director of Graven Hill Village Holdings Limited.

11. Approval of Main Modifications of Cherwell Local Plan.

Councillor James Macnamara, Declaration, as a member of as a member of the Diocesan Board of Finance and Gleben Building Committee who have ownership of part of the land within Banbury 17 South Salt Way.

Councillor Kieron Mallon, Declaration, as a tenant and leaseholder of land in the area of Banbury 17 South Salt Way and would be affected by the proposal and would leave the meeting for the duration of the item.

Councillor Nicholas Turner, Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, as tenant farmer and leaseholder of Drayton Leisure Golf Club which was on land under discussion and adjacent to one of the sites in the Local Plan.

Councillor Surinder Dhesi, Declaration, as she resided near Banbury 17 South Salt Way.

35 **Communications**

Recording at meetings

The Chairman advised Council that under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 members of the public were permitted to film, broadcast and report on the meeting, subject to the efficient running of the meeting not being affected.

Former Councillor David Green

The Chairman advised Council that former District Councillor David Green passed away recently. Councillor Green was a member of the Council from 1986 until 2002. He represented Sibford ward for the Conservatives and was a member of the north area planning committee on which he served as both Vice Chairman and Chairman. He also served on the environmental committee and the housing services committee.

Council observed a period of silence.

Chairman's Engagements

The Chairman reported that a list of engagements that the Chairman, or the Vice-Chairman, had attended since the last meeting of Council is included in your agenda pack

Chairman's Dinner

The Chairman's Dinner would be held on Saturday 31 January 2015 at Bicester Golf and Country Club.

IRP Survey

The Chairman advised Members that the Independent Remuneration Survey would be circulated in the next few weeks. Members were requested to complete the survey and return to Lesley Farrell in Democratic and Elections.

Post

The Chairman reminded Members to collect post from pigeon holes.

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

The Chairman reported that he had agreed to two requests to address the meeting on agenda item 11, Approval of Main Modifications of Cherwell Local Plan.

37 **Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

38 **Minutes of Council**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2014 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

39 **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, two decisions had been taken by the Executive which were not included in the 28 day notice relating to Graven Hill and South West Bicester Sports Village.

b) **Minutes of Committees**

Resolved

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

40 **Thames Valley Police - Address by Chief Constable**

The Chairman welcomed Sara Thornton, Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police and Cherwell Local Area Commander Superintendent Kath Lowe to the meeting.

Council was advised that the Police and Crime Commissioner, Anthony Stansfeld, had also been due to attend the meeting but had been called away at the last minute to an urgent meeting with the Home Secretary, Theresa May.

Chief Constable Thornton addressed the meeting regarding policing in Thames Valley. A number of Members asked questions and answers were duly provided.

The Chairman thanked the Chief Constable and Superintendent Lowe.

41 **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:

Changes to Executive responsibilities: Councillor Macnamara
Executive Minutes, 1 September 2014, Minute 7 - Air Quality Management
Areas for Banbury and Kidlington: Councillor Macnamara
Bicester Community Hospital – Councillor Sibley
Bradley Arcade CCTV – Councillor Cherry
Flytipping – Councillor Dhesi

c) Questions to Committee Chairmen on the minutes

Councillor Richards asked a question to the Chairman of the Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee in relation to minute 25, Statement of Accounts 2013/14, of the meeting of the Committee held on 17 September 2014.

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Motions

a) Female Genital Mutilation

It was moved by Councillor Mallon, and seconded by Councillor Reynolds, that the following motion be adopted:

Female Genital Mutilation

That this Council notes that it is estimated that up to 66,000 women and young girls in the UK have undergone Female Genital Mutilation, of this number 20,000 are under the age of 15.

We further note that these procedures have no health benefits and is a harmful traditional practice and an act of violence against women and girls, constitutes a violation of their fundamental rights, particularly the right to personal security, physical and mental health and of their sexual and reproductive health and is an act of child abuse.

Such violations can under no circumstances be justified by respect for cultural or religious traditions or initiation ceremonies.

To date there has not been a single prosecution for this in 28 years within the UK for those responsible for perpetrating this horrific crime as opposed to a more proactive approach in France.

The Council asks the Leader and Chief Executive to ensure all council staff and members assist health and Social Care professionals in Oxfordshire, including Midwives, Obstetricians, Nurses, Social Workers, Community Workers, Police, Crown Prosecution Service and Policy makers to work together to identify women and young girls who are at risk and to work in partnership to take effective action to bring to an end this barbaric practice.”

In the course of the debate, Councillor Woodcock proposed that the words “Teachers, School and Education Professionals” be added after “Crown Prosecution Service”.

Councillor Mallon, accepted the amendment.

The motion, as amended, was debated and subsequently agreed.

Resolved

That the following motion, as amended, be adopted:

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Approval of Main Modifications of Cherwell Local Plan

The Head of Strategic Planning and the Economy submitted a report to consider proposed modifications to the Submission Cherwell Local Plan and representations received, to approve the proposed modifications, further proposed minor modifications and the Sustainability Appraisal Addendum for submission to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. The Modifications were required to proceed with the public Examination and to ensure that the Local Plan was 'sound', and conformed to the National Planning Policy Framework.

Mr Maggs, Middleton Stoney Parish Council, addressed Council.

Mr John Broad and Dr Patricia Clissold, representatives of the Campaign to Save Gavray Meadows and Grassroots Bicester, addressed Council.

In presenting the report, the Lead Member for Planning explained that the Draft Cherwell Local Plan - Part 1 had been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on the 31 January 2014. The Examination, which commenced on

3 June 2014, had been suspended by the Inspector suspended the Examination for 6 months to allow for modifications to the Plan.

The Lead Member for Planning gave an overview of the main development site proposals and the additional evidence to support the modifications. Council was advised that the Duty to Cooperate was a legal requirement and over the course of preparing the modifications the council had complied with this requirement and there had been positive engagement with partner authorities. During the consultation, over 300 individual responses containing over 1,500 individual comments had been received. A further four representations had been received since publication of the agenda.

The Lead Member for Planning explained that subject to the decision of Full Council final proposed modifications will be submitted to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Public Examination will re-commence. In preparation for the Examination, updated Topic Papers and responses to written statements will be drafted. Once the Examination of the Local Plan has been completed, the Masterplans for Bicester, Banbury and Kidlington will be completed within the framework set by the Local Plan, once adopted.

In the course of the debate, Members acknowledged the importance of an adopted Local Plan, indicated their support and raised some queries to which the Lead Member for Planning duly responded.

Members commended the Planning Team for their hard work in drafting the proposed modifications

Resolved

- (1) That through the Local Plan Examination, officers seek the designation of that part of the Ray Conservation Target Area that lies within site Bicester 13 (Gavray Drive) as a 'Local Green Space' within the meaning of paragraph 76 of the NPPF.
- (2) That subject to resolution (1), the proposed modifications to the Submission Local Plan incorporating further proposed minor modifications and Sustainability Appraisal Addendum (annexes to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved for submission to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government through the Planning Inspectorate.

Exclusion of the Press and Public

Resolved

That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, on the grounds that they could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of that Act

45 **Bicester Community Building Update**

The Commercial Director (Bicester) submitted an exempt report in relation to Bicester Community Building.

Resolved

- (1) As set out in the exempt minute.
- (2) As set out in the exempt minute.
- (3) As set out in the exempt minute.

46 **Questions on Exempt Minutes**

There were no questions on exempt minutes.

The meeting ended at 9.45 pm

Chairman:

Date: