



Meeting of Council

Monday 15 December 2025

Members of Cherwell District Council,

A meeting of Council will be held at 39 Castle Quay, Banbury, OX16 5FD on Monday 15 December 2025 at 6.30 pm, and you are hereby summoned to attend.

**Monitoring Officer
Friday 5 December 2025**

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 9 - 10)

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

4 Petitions and Requests to Address the Meeting

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

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 The deadline for requests to address this meeting is noon on Friday 12 December.

The deadline to present a petition to this meeting has passed.

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

5 Urgent Business

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

6 Minutes of Council (Pages 11 - 24)

To confirm as correct records the Minutes of Council held on 20 October 2025 and the Special Council held on 10 November 2025.

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 20 October 2025, no key or exempt decisions have been taken by the Executive which were not included in the 28 day notice.

- b) Minutes of Committees

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

8 Questions (Pages 25 - 26)

- a) Written Questions

Four written questions have been submitted with advance notice in accordance with the Constitution. These are attached to the agenda. The deadline for written questions has now passed.

	Question From	Question Topic
1	Cllr Eddie Reeves	Illegal Fly-tipping at Kidlington
2	Cllr Eddie Reeves	Government Funding
3	Cllr Eddie Reeves	CCTV Services across Oxfordshire
4	Cllr David Rogers	Illegal Fly-tipping at Kidlington

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

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

b) Questions to the Leader of the Council

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

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

c) Questions to Committee Chairs on the Minutes

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

Council Business Reports

9 Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2026/27 (Pages 27 - 34)

Report of Assistant Director of Finance (Section 151)

Purpose of report

To enable Members to consider the proposed banded scheme for Council Tax Reduction (CTR) for 2026/27.

Recommendations

Council resolves:

- 1.1 To note the contents of the report, and any financial implications for the Council.
- 1.2 To approve:

- The option of no change to the Council Tax Reduction Income Banded Scheme for Working Age Applicants for 2026/27
- To amend Working Age Regulations in line with annual uprating and to amend the Council Tax Regulations for pensioners in line with uprating announced by Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities.

10 Calendar of Meetings 2026/2027 (Pages 35 - 44)

Report of Assistant Director Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

Purpose of report

Council is asked to consider and agree the proposed calendar of meetings for the municipal year 2026/2027 (Appendix 1).

Recommendations

Council resolves:

- 1.1 To approve the calendar of meetings for Cherwell District Council for the municipal year 2026/2027 (Appendix 1).

11 Appointment of Independent Person to Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee (Pages 45 - 50)

Report of Monitoring Officer

Purpose of report

To appoint a second Independent Person to the Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee.

Recommendations

Council resolves:

- 1.1 To endorse the appointment of Nelly Lukwo as an Independent Person, to be appointed for a four-year term expiring on the date of the December Council meeting in 2029 and to delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to make the appointment.
- 1.2 To note that the appointment may be renewable in 2029 for a further term of four years subject to the Independent Person wishing to continue in the role and Council agreeing the renewal of the appointment.

12 Appointment of Independent Persons for Standards (Pages 51 - 58)

Report of Assistant Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

Purpose of report

To appoint statutory Independent Persons as part of the standards arrangements.

Recommendations

Council resolves:

- 1.1 To appoint Tom Edwards and Terry Williams as Independent Persons for a four-year term expiring on the date of the December Council meeting in 2029.

13 Castle Quay Banbury - Roof Works (Pages 59 - 68)

Report of Assistant Director Property

Purpose of report

That the utilisation of Capital Programme funds of £1.65 Million to undertake landlords works to ensure a fit for purpose watertight roof to mitigate loss of rent and further claims from occupiers at Castle Quay Banbury be approved.

Recommendations

Council resolves:

- 1.1 To approve the utilisation of Capital Programme funds of £1.65m to undertake landlords works to ensure a fit for purpose watertight roof to mitigate loss of rent and further claims from occupiers at Castle Quay, Banbury.

14 Treasury Management Report - Mid-year review 2025/26 (September 2025) (Pages 69 - 84)

Report of Assistant Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)

Purpose of report

To provide information on treasury management performance and compliance with treasury management strategy for 2024-25 as required by the Treasury Management Code of Practice.

To demonstrate that all treasury management activities undertaken during the reporting period complied with the CIPFA Code of Practice and the council's approved Treasury Management Strategy.

Recommendations

Council resolves:

- 1.1 To note the contents of this Treasury Management mid-year review as recommended by the Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee on the 19 November 2025.

15 Amendment(s) to Committee Membership

To note amendment(s), if any, to Committee membership notified to the Monitoring Officer by Group Leaders.

16 Motions (Pages 85 - 88)

The deadline to submit motions has passed.

The following motions have been submitted with advance notice, in accordance with the Constitution (to be considered in the order submitted).

	Topic	Proposer	Seconder
1	Free Parking on Remembrance Sunday	Cllr Donna Ford	Cllr Ian Harwood
2	Supporting our High Streets	Cllr Eddie Reeves	TBC
3	Fire Services in Cherwell	Cllr Andrew Crichton	Cllr Rebecca Biegel

In accordance with Procedure Rule 4.18, as the detail of motions 1 and 2 falls within the remit of Executive, there will be no Council debate on these motions.

The proposer of the motion will propose the motion, the seconder will confirm, the Leader of the Council response and the motions will stand referred to Executive for consideration.

Motion 3 is for debate by Council. The deadline for amendments to this motion is noon on Thursday 11 December. 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 12 December. Amendments for motions will be dealt with in the order submitted.

For information

Please note:

Members are advised that the next scheduled Council meeting on Monday 23 February 2026 is the Budget Setting Council. There are no written questions or motions at this meeting.

The next Council meeting at which written questions and motions may be submitted is Monday 16 March 2026. Written questions and motions for this Council meeting must be submitted to the Assistant Director Law and Governance & Monitoring Officer, democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk, by noon on Wednesday 4 March 2026.

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

Information about this Agenda

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence should be notified to democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk or 01295 221534 prior to the start of the meeting.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare interests at item 2 on the agenda or if arriving after the start of the meeting, at the start of the relevant agenda item.

Local Government and Finance Act 1992 – Budget Setting, Contracts & Supplementary Estimates

Members are reminded that any member who is two months in arrears with Council Tax must declare the fact and may speak but not vote on any decision which involves budget setting, extending or agreeing contracts or incurring expenditure not provided for in the agreed budget for a given year and could affect calculations on the level of Council Tax.

Evacuation Procedure

If you hear the fire alarm, please leave the building via the nearest available exit. The fire assembly point is outside the Premier Inn, adjacent to the canal.

Access to Meetings

If you have any special requirements, such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities to view a meeting online or attend a meeting in person, 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.

Webcasting and Broadcasting Notice

The meeting will be recorded by the council for live and/or subsequent broadcast on the council's website. The whole of the meeting will be recorded, except when confidential or exempt items are being considered. The webcast will be retained on the website for 6 months.

If you make a representation to the meeting, you will be deemed by the council to have consented to being recorded. By entering the Council Chamber or joining virtually, you are consenting to being recorded and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes.

The council is obliged, by law, to allow members of the public to take photographs, film, audio-record, and report on proceedings. The council will only seek to prevent this should it be undertaken in a disruptive or otherwise inappropriate manner.

Queries Regarding this Agenda

Please contact Natasha Clark, Democratic and Elections democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk, 01295 221534