

Cherwell District Council

Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA, on 26 July 2011 at 6.30 pm

Present: Councillor Colin Clarke (Vice-Chairman, in the Chair)

Councillor Rick Atkinson
Councillor Ken Attack
Councillor Andrew Beere
Councillor Maurice Billington
Councillor Fred Blackwell
Councillor Norman Bolster
Councillor Ann Bonner
Councillor Patrick Cartledge
Councillor John Donaldson
Councillor Mrs Diana Edwards
Councillor Tim Emptage
Councillor Andrew Fulljames
Councillor Mrs Catherine Fulljames
Councillor Michael Gibbard
Councillor Chris Heath
Councillor Alastair Milne Home
Councillor David Hughes
Councillor Russell Hurle
Councillor Tony Ilott
Councillor Mike Kerford-Byrnes
Councillor James Macnamara
Councillor Kieron Mallon
Councillor Nigel Morris
Councillor P A O'Sullivan
Councillor George Parish
Councillor D M Pickford
Councillor Lynn Pratt
Councillor Neil Prestidge
Councillor G A Reynolds
Councillor Alaric Rose
Councillor Daniel Sames
Councillor Leslie F Sibley
Councillor Lawrie Stratford
Councillor Rose Stratford
Councillor Lynda Thirzie Smart
Councillor Patricia Tompson
Councillor Martin Weir
Councillor Douglas Williamson
Councillor Barry Wood

Apologies for absence: Councillor Timothy Hallchurch MBE
Councillor Alyas Ahmed
Councillor Margaret Cullip
Councillor Simon Holland
Councillor Nicholas Mawer
Councillor Trevor Stevens
Councillor Carol Steward
Councillor Nicholas Turner
Councillor Douglas Webb

Officers: Sue Smith, Chief Executive
Ian Davies, Strategic Director Environment & community
Karen Muir, Corporate System Accountant
Nigel Bell, Team Leader - Planning and Litigation / Interim Monitoring Officer
James Doble, Democratic, Scrutiny and Elections Manager
Natasha Clark, Senior Democratic and Scrutiny Officer

15 **Declarations of Interest**

Members declared the following interest:

Councillor Barry Wood, Personal, as persons known to him have an interest in land in the area of, but outside the eco zone.

16 **Communications**

Councillor Carol Steward

The Chairman noted that Councillor Steward was not at the meeting as she had been very poorly over the last few months. He reported that the Chairman had already sent Councillor Steward a card from on behalf of all Members. Members joined the Chairman in sending their best wishes to Councillor Steward.

Resolved

- (1) That Councillor Carol Steward be granted a three month attendance dispensation with effect from 26 July 2011.

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

There were no petitions or requests to address the meeting.

18 **Urgent Business**

The Chairman reported that he had agreed to submit one item of urgent business to the agenda, Oxfordshire County Boundary Review, Parliamentary Boundary Review and Cherwell District Council Polling District and Polling

Place Review, as the responses needed to be prepared with Member input prior to the next meeting of Council. The item would be considered after agenda item 14.

19 **Minutes of Council**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2011 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

20 **Minutes**

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

Resolved

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive and Portfolio Holder/Lead Member decisions as set out in the Minute Book be received and that it be noted that since the last meeting of Council, no Executive decisions had been taken that was subject to the special urgency provisions of the Constitution.

b) **Minutes of Committees**

Resolved

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

21 **Questions**

a) **Written Questions**

One question relating to Cherwell District Council's recycling rates whereby the council had gone from being one of the top performing districts in Oxfordshire but was now being outperformed by other authorities in the county and sought assurance that the council would continue to lead the way in recycling had been submitted by Councillor Rose and was tabled together with the reply from the Leader of the Council and the Lead Member for the Environment (attached as an annex to these minutes as set out in the Minute Book).

The Lead Member for the Environment answered a supplementary question put by Councillor Rose.

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

Questions were asked and answers received on the following issues:

Bicester Regeneration: Councillor Pickford

Bicester Community Hospital and the South West option for a new community hospital in Bicester: Councillor Sibley

Eco Bicester Strategic Delivery Board: Councillor Sibley
Conservative leaflets: Councillor Sibley
Amount of money and officer time spent on the Council's response to HS2:
Councillor Cartledge
Business rate charges: Councillor Beere

With regard to Councillor Cartledge's question, the Leader agreed to send a written response.

c) Questions to Committee Chairmen on the minutes

There were no questions to the Committee Chairman on minutes.

22 **Motions**

There were no motions.

23 **Management Restructuring**

The Chief Executive submitted a report which updated Members on the management restructuring and sought approval for the management structure and to amend the business case relating to the ring fencing of posts.

Resolved

- (1) That the management structure as set out in the annex to these minutes (as set out in the minute book) as recommended by the Joint Personnel Committee be agreed.
- (2) That it be agreed that the ring fencing arrangements should be amended to allow any person placed at risk by this process to apply for any of the posts in the Joint Management Team or the three other posts as shown on the structure.
- (3) That it be noted that a further report will be presented to Council to seek approval for the appointment of the statutory officers, namely the Section 151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer.

24 **South Northamptonshire Council and Cherwell District Council Joint Working – Variation to Section 113 Agreement**

The Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report which sought consideration and approval of the recommendation of the Joint Arrangements Steering Group that the section 113 agreement between Cherwell District Council (CDC) and South Northamptonshire District Council (SNC) relating to the shared senior management team be varied so that its core provisions could be applied to any other shared working arrangements that had been, or may in future be, agreed between the two Councils.

Resolved

- (1) That the completion of the Deed of Variation as set out as an annex to these minutes (as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.

25 **Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2010/11**

The Head of Finance submitted a report which presented the annual report of the Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee for 2010/11 which was approved by the Committee on 22 June 2011.

Resolved

- (1) That the contents of the report and the activities of the Accounts Audit and Risk Committee in 2010/11 be noted.

26 **Treasury Management Annual Report 2010/11**

The Head of Finance submitted a report which presented information on treasury management performance and compliance with treasury management policy during 2010/11 as required by the Treasury Management Code of Practice.

The Lead Member for Financial Management set out the latest position on recovery of Icelandic deposits and the prudent approach taken in 2010/11 accounts to protect capitalisation direction.

Resolved

- (1) That the contents of the Treasury Management Annual Report 2010/11, in line with the Treasury Management Strategy, be noted.

27 **Amendment to Committee Membership**

Resolved

That at the request of the Labour Group it be agreed that Councillor Parish be replaced by Councillor Sibley as a Member of the Joint Personnel Committee and that Councillor Parish be appointed as substitute member.

28 **Oxfordshire County Boundary Review, Parliamentary Boundary Review and Cherwell District Council Polling District and Polling Place Review**

The Chief Executive submitted an urgent report which updated Members on the Oxfordshire County and Parliamentary Boundary Reviews and the council's Polling District and Polling Place Review and to seek agreement to establish an informal Members' Boundary and Polling District and Polling Place Review Working Group.

Resolved

- (1) That the update on the County and Parliamentary Boundary Reviews be noted.
- (2) That the establishment of a Boundary and Polling District and Polling Place Review Working Group, with 2 nominated representatives from each political group, be agreed.
- (3) That officers be requested to submit draft consultation responses to the September 2011 meeting of Council following consultation with the Boundary Review Working Group and political groups.

The meeting ended at 7.45 pm

Chairman:

Date: