

Cherwell District Council

Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA, on 15 October 2012 at 6.30 pm

Present: Councillor Colin Clarke (Chairman)
Councillor Lawrie Stratford (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Ken Atack
Councillor Andrew Beere
Councillor Maurice Billington
Councillor Fred Blackwell
Councillor Norman Bolster
Councillor Ann Bonner
Councillor Patrick Cartledge
Councillor Margaret Cullip
Councillor Surinder Dhesi
Councillor John Donaldson
Councillor Mrs Diana Edwards
Councillor Tim Emptage
Councillor Andrew Fulljames
Councillor Michael Gibbard
Councillor Timothy Hallchurch MBE
Councillor Alastair Milne Home
Councillor Chris Heath
Councillor David Hughes
Councillor Russell Hurle
Councillor Tony Ilott
Councillor Mike Kerford-Byrnes
Councillor James Macnamara
Councillor Melanie Magee
Councillor Kieron Mallon
Councillor Nicholas Mawer
Councillor Jon O'Neill
Councillor P A O'Sullivan
Councillor D M Pickford
Councillor Lynn Pratt
Councillor Nigel Randall
Councillor G A Reynolds
Councillor Alaric Rose
Councillor Daniel Sames
Councillor Leslie F Sibley
Councillor Trevor Stevens
Councillor Rose Stratford
Councillor Lynda Thirzie Smart
Councillor Nicholas Turner
Councillor Douglas Webb
Councillor Barry Wood
Councillor Sean Woodcock

Apologies
for
absence: Councillor Alyas Ahmed
Councillor Simon Holland
Councillor Victoria Irvine
Councillor Nigel Morris
Councillor Neil Prestidge
Councillor Douglas Williamson

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
Natasha Clark, Team Leader, Democratic and Elections

28 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

29 **Communications**

Former Councillor Makepeace

The Chairman reported the sad news that Former District Councillor Dick Makepeace had recently passed away. Councillor Makepeace had been a Cherwell councillor for 8 years between 1999 and 2007.

Council observed a period of silence in memory of former Councillor Makepeace.

Councillors Lawrie Stratford, Wood and Macnamara paid tribute to Dick Makepeace

Former Councillor George Parish

The Chairman paid tribute to former Councillor George Parish who had resigned as a District Councillor at the beginning of October. George had been elected in 1990 and served Banbury and the district for over 20 years. George was also Chairman of the Council from 2010-11. George would continue to serve Banbury as a Town Councillor.

Councillor Cartledge, Leader of the Labour Group, Councillor Wood, Leader of the Conservative Group, and Councillor Emptage, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, paid tribute to former Councillor George Parish making particular reference to his work on the campaign to save the Horton Hospital.

Council agreed that the Chairman and Chief Executive should send a letter to former Councillor George Parish.

Register of Interest Forms

The Chairman reminded Councillors to complete and return the new register of interest forms as soon as possible.

Chairman's Engagements

The Chairman advised Members that a list of engagements that he, or the Vice-Chairman, had attended since the July meeting of Council was included in the Council agenda pack for information.

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

There were no petitions or requests to address the meeting.

31 **Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

32 **Minutes of Council**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

33 **Presentation by Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust – Foundation Trust Consultation**

The Chairman welcomed Dame Fiona Caldicott, Chairman of the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust and Andrew Stevens, Director of Planning and Information.

Dame Fiona Caldicott and Andrew Stevens gave a presentation about Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust proposal for becoming a Foundation Trust, the benefits this would bring and what it would mean for its governance.

Following the presentation, a number of Members asked questions and answers were duly provided.

The Chairman thanked the Dame Fiona Caldicott and Andrew Stevens.

34 **Minutes**

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

In introducing the minutes of Executive, the Leader advised Members that they had received a short briefing note from the Head of Law and Governance on the new Regulations that had required some changes to how local

authority executive decisions were taken and public access to the decision-making process.

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, there had been no decisions that were 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.

35

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:

Council Housing Stock: Councillor Cartledge
Changes to Council Tax Benefit Scheme: Councillor Rose
Dial-a-Ride: Councillor Dhesi
Possibility of Council Tax increase: Councillor Emptage
Development: Councillor Woodcock
HS2 Legal Challenge: Councillor Emptage
New Allocations Policy: Councillor Beere
Elected Member Appointments to Outside Bodies: Councillor Macnamara
Community Transport funding: Councillor Mallon
Bicester Masterplan and Local Plan: Councillor Sibley
Future School Provision in Bloxham: Councillor Cartledge
Investments in failed Icelandic banks: Councillor Hallchurch

c) Questions to Committee Chairmen on the minutes

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

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Motions

There were no motions.

37 **Recommendations from Standards Committee**

The Head of Law and Governance submitted a report which enabled Council to appoint statutory Independent Persons pursuant to Section 28 (7) of the Localism Act 2011 upon the recommendation of the Standards Committee.

Resolved

- (1) That Dr Sadie Reynolds and Thomas Edwards be appointed as statutory Independent Persons pursuant to Section 28 (7) of the Localism Act 2011 with their terms of office expiring on 30 June 2013 and the date of the Annual Meeting in May 2016 respectively

38 **Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2011/12**

The Head of Law and Governance submitted a report which presented the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2011/12.

In introducing the report, Councillor Mallon (who had been Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee during 2011/12) thanked and commended all scrutiny councillors for their hard work and contribution. The acceptance of scrutiny recommendations by the Executive demonstrated the important work undertaken by the scrutiny committees.

Resolved

- (1) That the contents of the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2011/12 be noted.

39 **Joint Officer Scheme of Delegation**

The Head of Law and Governance submitted a report which enabled Council to consider and adopt a joint scheme of officer delegation with South Northamptonshire Council. This is subject to South Northamptonshire Council resolving in similar terms at its forthcoming meeting on 17 October 2012.

Resolved

- (1) That, subject to South Northamptonshire Council resolving in similar terms on 17 October 2012, and with effect from the date and time thereof, the joint officer scheme of delegation (annex to the minutes as set out in the minute book) be adopted.

40 **Treasury Management Annual Report 2012/13**

The Head of Finance and Procurement submitted a report which presented information on treasury management performance and compliance with treasury management policy during 2011/12 as required by the Treasury Management Code of Practice.

Resolved

- (1) That the contents of this report in line with the Treasury Management Strategy be noted.

The meeting ended at 8.30 pm

Chairman:

Date: