

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on **Monday 12th March 2018** at **The Garth, Launton Road, Bicester OX26 6PS** to commence at **7.00 pm**.

Present:

- Cllr Les Sibley – Chairman
- Cllr Sean Gaul
- Cllr Jolanta Lis
- Cllr David Magee
- Cllr Nick Mawer
- Cllr Debbie Pickford
- Cllr Lynn Pratt
- Cllr Dan Sames
- Cllr Jason Slaymaker

In Attendance:

- Samantha Shippen – Chief Officer
- Angie Suter – Administrator

Minute Number	Agenda item No	
381/1718	1	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>RESOLVED that apologies be received from Cllr Melanie Magee, Cllr Nick Mawer, Cllr Richard Mould, Cllr Lawrie Stratford and Cllr Rose Stratford. Cllr Sames entered the meeting at 19:37 (<i>Cllr Dan Sames had communicated his apologies by email for lateness which were not reported to the meeting</i>).</p>
382/1718	2	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>No declarations of interest were received.</p>
383/1718	3	<p>MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Minutes and RESOLUTIONS of the following meetings be confirmed:</p> <p>BTC07/1718 15th January 2018</p>
384/1718	4	<p>PUBLIC SESSION</p> <p>There were no questions from the public.</p>
385/1718	5	<p>POLICE</p> <p>RESOLVED that a report was given by PC Vicky Lees and PC Matthew Longman from Thames Valley Police covering the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Resilience Group established in June 2017 has been very successful. The next meeting takes place at Tesco on Tuesday 12th June at 7pm. At the last meeting the town priorities were to reduce

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		<p>vehicle crime which has been reduced by around 50% on the previous 3 months. Theft of pedal cycles was also as a priority and offences have been reduced from 50% offences between August and October 2017 to 27 offences between November and January 2018.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Joust has been set up to deal with anti-social behaviour in Pioneer Square and excellent results have been achieved. • Rural priorities have been speeding in Stoke Lyne, Bucknell, Caversfield, Middleton Stoney Road and Ambrosden with more visibility in rural locations. • There have been a high number of drug related arrests within the county line and around Bicester, with ongoing investigations and the safeguarding of local vulnerable people. • Burglaries have gone up nationally and in Bicester there has been a rise from 71 last year to 80 this year. • Working to promote and increase Neighbourhood Watch in Bicester thus increasing community resilience. The first Neighbourhood Watch information evening will be held on Tuesday 13th March at Fitr Coffee on Langford Village
386/1718	6	<p>MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Minutes and RESOLUTIONS of the following meetings be confirmed:</p> <p>PL09/1718 17th January 2018 PL10/1718 12th February 2018</p>
387/1718	7	<p>MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Minutes and RESOLUTIONS of the following meeting be confirmed:</p> <p>POL06/1718 29th January 2018</p>
388/1718	8	<p>MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Minutes and RESOLUTIONS of the following meeting be confirmed:</p> <p>ENV05/1718 19th February 2018</p>
389/1718	9	<p>QUESTIONS ON WORKING PARTIES & OTHER GROUPS</p> <p>No questions were raised.</p>
390/1718	10	<p>REPORT FROM OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY / CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCILLORS</p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council Councillor Michael Waine gave a verbal update on the following topics:</p>

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		<p>1. OCC Budget 2018/19- OCC agreed its budget at a Full Council meeting on 13th February. Council tax will rise by 5.99%. Key points include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council Tax rise will deliver extra money for adults and children's social care. There is a proposal to extend a £500,000 contribution for homelessness for an extra year in 2019/20 subject to consultation. • 10-year programme to improve transport network and release more money for road maintenance. • £15,000 for each of the 63 County Councillor to spend on local priorities in their area. <p>2. Growth Deal – The Oxfordshire Growth Board has reach an outline Housing and Growth Agreement (Growth Deal) with the Government. This will see an additional £215m of investment over the next five years to build infrastructure, support the delivery of new homes and boost economic productivity across the county.</p> <p>3. Potholes – A rise in reports on Fix My Street from 3,000 pre-Christmas to 7,000 during January. OCC has drafted in more staff to carry out inspections and contractors Skanska are sending out more teams to carry out repairs. Almost £1m in extra funding from the Department of Transport in recognition of damage done to the roads by bad weather.</p> <p>4. Libraries - Libraries Minister Michael Ellis MP attended the official opening of the Oxford County Library in February.</p> <p>5. Care Quality Commission (CQC) review in Oxfordshire - The Care Quality Commission (CQC) visited Oxfordshire in November 2017 to carry out one of 20 targeted reviews taking place in England. Across all areas of health and social area, an above average proportion of services achieve a 'good' of 'outstanding' CQC rating in Oxfordshire, however there remain significant challenges to join up services across organisations in Oxfordshire.</p> <p>CQC inspectors found the problems of recruiting care staff in Oxfordshire were holding back improvement. Incompatible computer systems also hampered integration of services. The inspectors did find that Oxfordshire had made progress in tackling 'delayed transfers of care'. Health and social care leaders from the five organisations involved in the inspection have already met with the CQC to develop an action plan. The key points of the action plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making services more local by using a 'place-based' approach to design and delivery of care. • Improving information available to people who fund their own care so they can get the support they need more quickly. • Investing more in recruitment and retention of care staff so more care packages can be delivered, particularly for older people. <p>6. Plastic Pollution in Oxfordshire – Residents in Oxfordshire have been amongst the best at recycling (including plastics) and composting for a few years now, and the countywide recycling rate is around 60%, one of the best in the country. However, the ambition is to do better. Plastic is a topical target. All the councils in Oxfordshire are working together to seek views on reducing waste and increasing recycling. Respond to the consultation at:</p>

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		<p>www.recycleoxfordshire.org.uk</p> <p>7. Travellers caravans at Bicester Park and Ride – This issue was met with speedy action by OCC officers and the offenders moved off site. Officers are now engaged in discussions as to how to prevent further occurrences.</p> <p>Cherwell District Councillors Lynn Pratt and Debbie Pickford gave a verbal update on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Partial Review to deal with Oxford’s unmet housing need went through Council and will now go to the Planning Inspector. • Medline Services and Bentleys based at Symmetry Park are now recruiting with the help of the CDC job fairs and job clubs. • Businesses in Bicester Town Centre have asked for the blue line trails to be brought in to the town centre for employees to be able to go for a walk during their lunch break. • The Perch Co Working Space has now opened in Pioneer Square. • The landscaping contract has now been approved and will start on 1st April 2018. • Cherwell District Council now has Chairmanship of the partnership for Oxfordshire Environmental Waste Management and will work in conjunction with the joint members to improve waste management strategies.
391/1718	11	<p>REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report of the Town Mayor be NOTED.</p>
392/1718	12	<p>LEASE OF ALLOTMENTS AT ALCHESTER TERRACE</p> <p>RESOLVED that Council do engross the Deed of Surrender or Part and Deed of Variation and AGEED to approve the application of seal in accordance with Standing Order 14.</p>
393/1718	13	<p>PLAY AREA REVIEW</p> <p>RESOLVED that Council AGREED the tender bids and the Officer to appoint at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p><u>Launton Meadows Play Area</u></p> <p>Project Cost: £34,740.00 Awarded to: Vita Play</p> <p><u>Kestral Way Play Area</u></p> <p>Project Cost: £28,271.00 Awarded to: Vita Play</p>

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394/1718	14	<p><u>Villiers Road Play Area</u></p> <p>Project cost: £49,998.72 Awarded to: Komplan</p> <p>INVOICE WRITE-OFF</p> <p>RESOLVED that Council AGREED the write off of £420.30 income in the 2017/18 final accounts.</p>
395/1718	15	<p>SHOP, EXPERIENCE, ENJOY BICESTER</p> <p>RESOLVED that given the proposal is in line with the Town Council's ambition to improve the Town Centre offer and to avoid setting a precedent of using Council funds for mayor campaigns or initiatives, Council AGREE that the initiative becomes a Bicester Town Council one which is led by Cllr Sean Gaul and APPROVES the allocation of up to £4,545 from the Partnership budget/earmarked reserve towards the Shop, Experience, Enjoy Bicester campaign.</p>
396/1718	16	<p>BANKING ARRANGMENTS</p> <p>RESOLVED that Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APPROVE the banking arrangements with CCLA, Santander and Lloyds to be mad by the Chief Officer. • AGREE the confidential storage of the signing mandate.
397/1718	17	<p>INTERNAL AUDIT</p> <p>RESOLVED that Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formally APPROVE the appointment of Mulberry & Co for a three-year period commencing 2017/18. • APPROVE the audit action plan as produced by the Chief Officer.
398/1718	18	<p>REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL CONTROL</p> <p>RESOLVED that Council AGREED the review of the effectiveness of Internal Controls for 2017/18 as produced by the Chief Officer.</p>
399/1718	19	<p>RISK MANAGEMENT</p> <p>RESOLVED that Council did:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGREE the revised Risk Management Strategy Policy (GP4) • AGREE the revised Risk Management Schedule with solutions to come back to the relevant Committee with a report and costings.

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400/1718	20	<p>STANDING ORDERS REVIEW</p> <p>The permanent revocation of Standing Orders v18 and the addition of Standing Order v19 were proposed and seconded to lay on the table until the next ordinary meeting of the Council on 21st May 2018.</p>
401/1718	21	<p>MEETING DATES 2018/19</p> <p>RESOLVED that Council AGREED the draft calendar of meetings for 2018/19 for formal adoption by Council at the Annual Meeting on 14th May 2018.</p>
402/1718	22	<p>EARMARKED RESERVES</p> <p>RESOLVED that Council AGREED the allocation of earmarked reserves.</p> <p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p>
403/1718	23	<p>Monday 14th May 2018 at 7:00pm</p> <p>CLOSE OF MEETING: 21:00 hrs</p>