

Minutes of the Council held on **Monday 18th June 2018** at **The Garth, Launton Road, Bicester OX26 6PS** at **7.30 pm**.

Present:

- Cllr Jason Slaymaker – Chairman
- Cllr David Anderson
- Cllr Dave Magee
- Cllr Nick Mawer
- Cllr Richard Mould
- Cllr Debbie Pickford
- Cllr Lawrie Stratford
- Cllr Rose Stratford

In Attendance:

- Samantha Shippen – Chief Officer
- Angie Suter – Administration Officer

	Agenda item No	
074/1819	1	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>RESOLVED that apologies were received from Cllr Sean Gaul, Cllr Melanie Magee and Cllr Lynn Pratt. Cllr Les Sibley communicated his apologies after the commencement of the meeting.</p>
075/1819	2	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>No declarations of interest were received.</p>
076/1819	3	<p>PUBLIC SESSION</p> <p>There were no members of the public in attendance.</p>
077/1819	4	<p>MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING</p> <p>RESOLVED that the minutes and resolutions of the following Town Council meetings be confirmed:</p> <p>BTC01/1819 – 14 May 2018 BTC02/1819 – 21 May 2018</p>
078/1819	5	<p>MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING</p> <p>RESOLVED that the minutes and resolutions of the following Planning Committee meetings be confirmed:</p> <p>PL01/1819 – 29 May 2018</p>
079/1819	6	<p>MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING</p> <p>RESOLVED that the minutes and resolutions of the following Policy Committee meetings be confirmed:</p> <p>POL01/1819 – 5 June 2018</p>

Signature..... *S. Gaul*

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080/1819	7	<p>MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING</p> <p>RESOLVED that the minutes and resolutions of the following Finance Committee meeting be confirmed:</p> <p>FIN01/1819 – 5 June 2018</p>
081/1819	8	<p>QUESTIONS ON WORKING PARTIES & OTHER GROUPS</p> <p>No questions were raised.</p>
082/1819	9	<p>REPORT FROM OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY/ CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCILLORS</p> <p>Oxfordshire County Councillor, Lawrie Stratford gave a report covering the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ground breaking shared service arrangements between councils - Oxfordshire County Council and Cherwell District Council are considering a proposal for share service arrangements under a joint chief executive, while retaining separate councillor bodies, budgets and decision-making processes. The proposal will be considered the county council's cabinet on Monday 4th June 2018. • OCC retains 'Good' Ofsted rating for children's services – Despite the increase in cases of children at risk of neglect and abuse, the OCS children's service has received an overall 'Good' rating from Ofsted. • From Air traffic control assistant to County Council Chairman -Gill Sanders was made Chair of OCC in May 2018. She was once one of the nation's first female air traffic control assistants and the time spent in that role gave her the confidence to progress in life. She later worked in Oxford city schools for 25 years and eventually as an HR and Administration manager at a large Oxford city comprehensive school. Councillor Sanders has been a county councillor in Oxford since 2012 but had been a city councillor for 26 years until this year. She was Vice Chairman of OCC in 2017/18. • Taking care back to its roots in Oxfordshire – Care in Oxfordshire looks set to go back to its community roots with teams of very local people set up around older and vulnerable people in an innovative project originally inspired in Holland and so far, tried in only one other place in England. Teams are to be set up around people who need care in Abingdon and Wallingford as part of a £100,000 trial. • Making adult social care charges more fair, consistent and transparent – A series of changes to the way people contribute to the cost of their care in Oxfordshire will see some people charged more so that resources can be targeted better at those who cannot afford to pay and will bring OCC more in line with how things operate elsewhere in England. • Better broadband for Oxfordshire - Oxfordshire now has 96.5% superfast broadband coverage, increasingly enabling digital infrastructure in the most rural parts of the county, with adoption of the newly available fibre broadband services running at over 54%,

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		<p>which is well above the national average.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service – OFRS has just completed a very successful recruitment to recruit more 'On Call' fire fighters and in particular to try and encourage potential firefighters to balance the ethnic and gender to be more representative of the community. The recent campaign attracted 17 candidates, 9 women and 8 men, and all met the testing criteria to join the service. <p>Cherwell District Councillor, Debbie Pickford gave a report covering the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Council and District Council will be working together over the next few months to disconnect Cherwell District Council from South Northants District Council. Both District Councils are saddened about this split as they were working very well together but this was a government decision and beyond the control of both councils. Revenue and benefits are now undertaken by an 'arm's length' company. They are well within their targets with some applications being turned around within 4 days. Grounds maintenance contract is much improved.
083/1819	10	<p>REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be NOTED.</p>
084/1819	11	<p>CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL HERITAGE LOTTERY – BICESTER DOVECOTE PROJECT</p> <p>RESOLVED that Council APPROVED the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support Cherwell District Council in the Bicester Dovecote Project; Confirm that the Chief Officer may sign the Memorandum of Understanding.
085/1819	12	<p>ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR)</p> <p>12.1 Annual Internal Audit Report</p> <p>RESOLVED that Council RECEIVE the Annual Internal Audit Report for 2017/18.</p> <p>12.2 Annual Governance Statement 2018/18</p> <p>RESOLVED that Council considered and approved answering YES to the following statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements. We maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and

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086/1819	13	<p>reviewed its effectiveness.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and proper practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this smaller authority to conduct its business or on its finances. 4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and audit Regulations. 5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this smaller authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required. 6. We maintained throughout the year and adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems. 7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit. 8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this smaller authority and, where appropriate have included them in the accounting statements. <p>It was further RESOLVED that the Deputy Mayor and Chief Officer sign the Annual Governance Statement.</p> <p>12.3 Accounting Statement 2017/18</p> <p>RESOLVED that Council APPROVE the Accounting Statements for the year ended 2017/18 to be signed by the Deputy Mayor. Councillors wished to thank the Chief Officer for her due diligence in preparing this report.</p> <p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 10th September 2018 at 7pm</p> <p>CLOSE OF MEETING: 20.15hrs</p>