

Minutes of a meeting of Council on Wednesday 23 June 2021



Council members present:

Councillor Lygo (Lord Mayor)	Councillor Goddard (Deputy Lord Mayor)
Councillor Wolff (Sheriff)	Councillor Aziz
Councillor Blackings	Councillor Brown
Councillor Cook	Councillor Diggins
Councillor Fouweather	Councillor Fry
Councillor Gant	Councillor Hayes
Councillor Hollingsworth	Councillor Mundy
Councillor Rowley	Councillor Thomas
Councillor Upton	Councillor Wade

Apologies:

Councillors Arshad; Clarkson; Humberstone; Jarvis; Nala-Hartley; Latif; Pegg; Pressel; Rehman; Tidball; Turner sent apologies.

Councillors not present; Cllrs Abrishami; Altaf-Khan; Bely-Summers; Chapman; Corais; Coyne; Djafari-Marbini; Dunne; Haines; Hall; Hunt; Landell Mills; Malik; Miles; Munkonge; Linda Smith; Roz Smith; Smowton; Waite

13. Declarations of interest

None.

14. Appointment to Committees

Cllr Brown, Leader of the Council, informed Council that:

the Council's representative on the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee was now Cllr Nala Hartley.

15. Announcements

The Lord Mayor invited the City Rector, Revd Anthony Buckley, to address Council. Revd Buckley congratulated new and returning councillors on their election.

Cllr Brown, Leader of the Council, reminded Council on behalf of the Group Leaders that in order to minimise the numbers attending, members of Council were encouraged to be absent once the required number for a quorum was met. This was solely because members were mindful of the continuing COVID pandemic and subsequent restrictions.

The Chief Executive reported receipt of notice of the formation of a new political group comprising Cllrs Malik and Haines and named the Independent Group. A report on group allocations to committees, taking account of the new group, would be brought to the July Council meeting.

16. Public addresses and questions that relate to matters for decision at this meeting

There were no addresses or questions.

17. Wolvercote Neighbourhood Plan

Council had before it the report of the Head of Planning Services to Cabinet on 16 June 2021 and the Wolvercote Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2034.

Cllr Hollingsworth, Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Delivery, introduced the report which proposed the making of the third neighbourhood plan in the City.

He said this had been prepared by the Wolvercote Neighbourhood Forum, subject to independent examination and subsequently modified in line with recommendations made to ensure it was both sound and congruent with the policies in the Oxford Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework.

The Plan was put to a referendum on 6 May 2021 (postponed from May 2020 due to the pandemic) and the result confirmed the majority of those voting wanted: *Oxford City Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Wolvercote to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area.*

Cllr Hollingsworth and the two ward councillors (Cllrs Goddard and Wade) thanked the Neighbourhood Forum steering group and those involved in the Plan's preparation for their hard work and resolve in seeing this through the long process to adoption. They paid tribute to the group's exemplary work, and engagement with the community, and to council officers who assisted.

Cllr Hollingsworth, seconded by Cllr Goddard, proposed the recommendations as agreed by Cabinet, which were agreed on being put to the vote.

Council resolved:

- 1. that the Wolvercote Neighbourhood Plan be “made”;** and
2. that the Head of Planning Services, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Delivery, be authorised to make any necessary editorial corrections to the Wolvercote Neighbourhood Plan prior to final publication. This will include a final desktop published version of the Wolvercote Neighbourhood Plan.

The meeting started at 5.00 pm and ended at 5.15 pm

Lord Mayor

Date: Monday 26 July 2021

Decisions on items of business take effect immediately: Details are in the Council's Constitution.