

Remote meeting

Minutes of a meeting of Council on Monday 8 June 2020

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Council members present:

Councillor Simmons (Lord Mayor)

Councillor Goddard (Sheriff)

Councillor Azad

Councillor Bely-Summers

Councillor Chapman

Councillor Cook

Councillor Curran

Councillor Donnelly

Councillor Gant

Councillor Gotch

Councillor Harris

Councillor Henwood

Councillor Howlett

Councillor Iley-Williamson

Councillor Landell Mills

Councillor Lygo

Councillor Munkonge

Councillor Rowley

Councillor Simm

Councillor Roz Smith

Councillor Tarver

Councillor Tidball

Councillor Upton

Councillor Wolff

Councillor Altaf-Khan (Deputy Lord Mayor)

Councillor Arshad

Councillor Aziz

Councillor Brown

Councillor Clarkson

Councillor Corais

Councillor Djafari-Marbini

Councillor Fry

Councillor Garden

Councillor Haines

Councillor Hayes

Councillor Hollingsworth

Councillor Humberstone

Councillor Kennedy

Councillor Lloyd-Shogbesan

Councillor Malik

Councillor Pressel

Councillor Rush

Councillor Linda Smith

Councillor Tanner

Councillor Taylor

Councillor Turner

Councillor Wade

Apologies:

Councillor McManners sent apologies.

The minutes show when Councillors who were absent for part of the meeting arrived and left.

11. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations.

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

Roy Darke, representing New Marston Residents Association, spoke about the Local Plan 2036 and in summary stated that while the Association accepted the main thrust of the plan, they challenged the designation of a field at Park Farm as suitable for housing development (Policy SP28) on grounds of local and wider flood risk; likely reduction in affordable housing due to the cost of development; and the impact on the biodiversity on the site and adjacent SSSI site.

Councillor Hollingsworth, Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Delivery, responded and in summary said that the site allocation policy, alongside generic policies of the Plan, ensures that at planning applications stage the applicant will need to demonstrate that the proposed development would not cause harm to the SSSI, that the development would be safe in terms of flood risk and that flood risk would not be worsened elsewhere.

The submitted text of the speech, summary of additional points, and written response from the Cabinet Member are appended to these minutes.

13. Adoption of Oxford Local Plan 2036

Council considered the report of the Head of Planning Services submitted to Cabinet on 8 June 2020 recommending the adoption of the Oxford Local Plan 2036; the Local Plan documents appended to that report; and the recommendations from the Cabinet meeting.

Councillor Alex Hollingsworth, Cabinet Member for Planning & Housing Delivery, spoke to the report by first thanking officers, with particular reference to those in the Planning Team, for their work over the last 4 years in getting the plan to its current stage. He noted that the Planning Inspector had also taken time at the end of the hearings to thank officers for the excellent and detailed presentation of evidence and knowledge they had brought to the process which was a tribute to all those involved.

He proposed that Council adopt the Local Plan and supporting documents and agree the 4 recommendations proposed by Cabinet and circulated before the Council meeting. This was seconded by Councillor Tanner.

Councillor Wolff proposed and Councillor Gant seconded an amendment to add a further recommendation 5 to read:

(Council resolves to) REQUEST that this revised timeline for the Local Plan review be taken as an opportunity to accelerate the adoption of new thinking on how to respond to the Climate Emergency, in particular the recommendations generated by the Citizens Assembly, the Climate Emergency Review Group (to be considered by Cabinet in October 2020 at the earliest) and the expressed intent, by local and national Government, to 'build back better' post-COVID-19.

The Head of Law and Governance drew Council’s attention to the previously circulated advice from the Head of Planning that Council does not include this amendment as it could undermine the Local Plan.

After being debated, and put to the vote by means of a roll call, the amendment was declared **lost**.

Council considered the 4 recommendations from Cabinet. After being debated and put to the vote by means of a roll call the Cabinet recommendations, including the adoption of the Oxford Local Plan 2036 and associated updates to the policies map, were declared **carried**.

Council resolved to

1. **Adopt** the Oxford Local Plan 2036 (set out at Appendix 1 to the officer’s report), which incorporates the Inspectors’ Main Modifications (set out at Appendix 3 to this report) and the City Council’s Additional Modifications (set out at Appendix 4 to the report) as part of the statutory development plan for the area as listed in Appendix 6;
2. **Adopt** the updates to the Oxford City Adopted Policies Map in line with the Oxford Local Plan 2036 set out at Appendix 5 to the report;
3. **Authorise** the Head of Planning Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Delivery, to finalise the necessary documents to support adoption including the Adoption Statement (draft as Appendix 7) and Sustainability Statement (draft as Appendix 8) and to make such minor editorial corrections to the adopted Local Plan (Appendix 1) and Policies Map (Appendix 5) as deemed necessary ahead of publication. This will include a final desktop published version of the Oxford Local Plan 2036 and adopted policies map; and
4. **Note** that, as previously outlined in earlier discussions of the Oxford Local Plan 2036 in Scrutiny, Cabinet and Full Council, a timetable for the next Local Plan which is aligned to the latest Oxfordshire Plan 2050 timetable and co-ordinated with the Local Plan timetables of other District Councils in Oxfordshire will be brought to Cabinet in July 2020 – and Scrutiny as required – as part of the updated Local Development Scheme.

The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 7.15 pm

Lord Mayor

Date: Monday 20 July 2020

*Decisions on items of business take effect immediately:
Motions may be implemented immediately or may require further budget provision and/or reports to Cabinet before implementation.
Details are in the Council’s Constitution.*

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