



**COTSWOLD**  
**DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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# **COUNCIL**

# **AGENDA**

**Tuesday 23rd February 2016, 10.00 a.m.**

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**Council Chamber, Trinity Road, Cirencester**

## NOTES

### (i) Questions Arising on the Agenda

If any Member has any questions regarding either (a) an update/progress report on a specific item contained in the Minutes of the previous Meeting or (b) a report contained within the Agenda, he/she is requested to give advance notice of such question to the Director/Officer originating the report or to an Officer of the Democratic Services Section so that a full response can be made available either prior to, or at, the Meeting. If no such advance notification is given, a full response to any question cannot be guaranteed at the Meeting.

With specific regard to the Minutes of previous Meetings, Members' attention is drawn to Council Procedure Rule 17.1 which provides that, once the Minutes have been signed, Members may ask questions to ascertain what progress has been made on a particular matter referred to in the Minutes, but may not make any other statement or generate discussion on the Minutes.

### (ii) Mobile Phones/Pagers

All mobile phones/pagers should be **SWITCHED OFF OR SET TO SILENT MODE BEFORE** the start of the Meeting.

### (iii) Recording of Proceedings

The public proceedings of Council, Cabinet, and Committee Meetings may be recorded, which includes filming as well as audio-recording. Photography is also permitted.

As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record any part of the proceedings please let the Committee Administrator know before the start of the Meeting.

Recording/filming should not be disruptive or distracting to the good order and conduct of the Meeting. To assist with this, an area of the Meeting venue will be designated from which proceedings can be recorded/filmed, and 'roaming' around the venue while recording is not permitted. The Chairman will exclude anyone whose behaviour is disruptive.

Recording/filming should only be of Members and Council Officers, and not any members of the public (unless they are formally addressing the Meeting or unless specific permission has been given by those individuals).

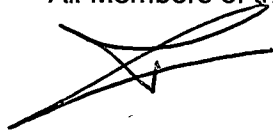
For further information, please read the Notices displayed inside and outside the Meeting venue and/or speak with the Committee Administrator.

### (iv) Committee Administrator

If any Member has any general questions about the Meeting or the associated agenda papers, or is unable to attend, he/she is asked to contact Nigel Adams on 01285 623202 who will be the Committee Administrator responsible for the Meeting.

#### Distribution:

All Members of the Council



**Nigel Adams**  
Head of Democratic Services

15<sup>th</sup> February 2016

# COUNCIL : 23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY 2016

## AGENDA

- (1) **Apologies**
- (2) **Declarations of Interest**
  - (a) To receive any declarations of interest from Members under:-
    - (i) the Code of Conduct for Members; and/or
    - (ii) Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (any Councillor who has Council Tax payments remaining unpaid for at least two months must declare an interest and not participate in any matter affecting the level of Council tax or arrangements for administering the Council Tax).
  - (b) To receive any declarations of interest from Officers under the Code of Conduct for Officers.
- (3) **Minutes** - To confirm:-
  - (i) the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2015 (copy attached);
  - (ii) the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2015 (copy attached).
- (4) **Announcements from the Chairman, Leader or Head of Paid Service**
- (5) **Public Questions**

Council Procedure Rule 10 - Not more than fifteen minutes allowed for written questions to be put by members of the public on any matter in relation to which the Council has any power or duties or which affects the District.

The following questions have been submitted:-

- (1) **From Mr I Bullock of South Cerney to Councillor Sue Coakley, Cabinet Member for Health, Environment and Communities**

'It is nine months since Councillor Stowe announced at a public meeting in South Cerney Village Hall that the Council were withdrawing their planning application for a waste transfer station at the Packers Leaze site in South Cerney in the light of public outcry and objection. Since that time the Council has also withdrawn their application for planning permission for a transport depot at the site, instead pursuing a CLEUD for the site. It is understood that the Council has now bought the site and works are being undertaken in preparation for the transfer of transport operations to the site. Can the Councillor please set out what the Council's intentions are for the site including answers to the following questions?

1. Can the Council confirm that they have purchased the site and set out the cost of the acquisition (including taxes and acquisition costs)?

2. What works are the Council undertaking at the site in preparation for the transfer of the transport facilities to the site?
3. When are transport operations expected to relocate from the T Barry site to the Packers Leaze site?
4. When will all SITA waste containers and other equipment be removed from the site?
5. Is the Council assessing the suitability of the site for a waste transfer station and is it the Council's intention to re-apply for planning permission for a waste transfer station at the Packers Leaze site?

(2) From Mr T Golics of Cirencester to Councillor NJW Parsons, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Forward Planning

'This question is concerned with the Local Plan and the Bathurst outline application for building 2350 homes on the edge of Cirencester.

The Head of Cirencester Town Council's Planning Committee has stepped down from the Conservative's local branch saying he thought it wise to do so, so that there is no suggestion of party politics and to avoid accusations of a conflict of interests and accusations of cronyism. We understand why he has done that.

In the context of this and comments made in the public realm about cronyism, are CDC and its individual councillors confident that it, and they, are unaffected by possible conflicts of interest?'

(3) From Mr P Moylan of Cirencester to Councillor NJW Parsons, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Forward Planning

'The local plan states "Having tested many options and combinations for delivering the appropriate amount of housing for Cirencester, it concludes that a single strategic site is the only viable solution" Many local people think otherwise. An alternative site or sites would be to build on poorer quality farmland south of Preston toll bar adjacent to the A419 and also land nearby between the A419 and the A417. This location is much better than at South Chesterton for many reasons including proximity of roads and utilities and services already provided to the Dobbies site and the military base.

Can the council provide evidence that it has in fact tested "many" options and combinations and whether it has actively sought alternatives for delivering housing, including extending the development boundary to the south/south east alongside the A419 and A417?'

(4) From Mr J Nicholas of Cirencester to Councillor NJW Parsons, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Forward Planning

'Of the Chesterton strategic site, the local plan says ..... "This will probably be the largest development in the District over the next 20 years and as such it is important that the community and stakeholders are fully involved in its conception and design"

Section 61W of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 added by the Localism Act 2011 places a legal duty on developers to consult local communities on very large scale development proposals prior to submitting a planning application. The obligations of the council were thus fortunately taken on mostly by the developer.

The council set out a table of methods that could be used:-

- Media (local press, radio, etc)
- Internet (website, e-mails, etc)
- Notice boards
- Town meetings
- Public exhibitions
- One to one meetings
- Focus groups
- Workshops
- Working groups

Given the importance the council attaches to communication and consultation, it is surely important to have a record of which of these methods were used, their frequency, who attended and so on. It would be important also to try and measure how effective these methods have been, for example by eliciting community feedback. Does it believe that a good job has been done and how does it know this?’

(5) From Mr D James of Cirencester to Councillor NJW Parsons, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Forward Planning

‘In CDC’s promotional leaflet for Chesterton it says ... "to help Cirencester remain a good place to live and work, and further improve its facilities in the future, the town must continue to accommodate a sizeable share of the district’s future housing and employment requirement".

Can Councillor Parsons explain why accommodating a sizeable share of the district’s future housing will help Cirencester remain a good place to live and also why such a sizeable share will further improve facilities in the town and what those improvements will be (over and above those changes, e.g. highways, which are required for the development per se)?’

(6) From Mr G Burley of Cirencester to Councillor NJW Parsons, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Forward Planning

‘As we understand it, the size of the Chesterton strategic site at 110 hectares, on which it was planned to build 2500 houses, was found to have constraints which led to a rather more than expected diminution in space so that only 55 hectares could be built on. The local plan and the BDL application now proposes 2350 dwellings. The council must be aware that to persist with 2350 dwellings with such a large and unexpected diminution will result in a housing density much higher than originally envisaged. Will the council explain why it is trying to meet its target on an ever smaller area of land?’

(7) From Mr M Pratley of Cirencester to Councillor NJW Parsons, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Forward Planning

‘Cirencester has 3387 new homes allocated to it in the draft local plan. Since the start of the plan period, and in the absence of an approved local plan, houses have been built and permissions granted for at least one thousand dwellings. An application has been made for 2350 homes at Chesterton. It is likely that new builds and permissions will continue so that the Cirencester target allocation will be exceeded unless the number at Chesterton is reduced accordingly.

Is it the council's policy to irrespectively ring fence Chesterton so that 2350 dwellings will be built and is it possible that Cirencester could in fact get many more new homes than 3387 over the plan period?

Given that 3387 means that Cirencester already has the highest burden of new homes of similar sized towns, how can the council justify this policy and this outcome?

Note:

The above questions were submitted by the time by responses are guaranteed to be provided to the questioner at least 24 hours before the Council Meeting (by virtue of the Council's Procedure Rules). As such, written responses will be provided to all Members either in advance of, or at, the Council Meeting.

(6) **Member Questions**

Council Procedure Rule 11 - Not more than fifteen minutes allowed for written questions to be put by Members on any matter in relation to which the Council has any power or duties or which affects the District.

The following questions have been submitted:-

(1) From Councillor Juliet Layton to Councillor Sue Coakley, Cabinet Member for Health, Environment and Communities

'Now that the Council has concluded its purchase of the Packers Lease site at South Cerney, there remains the challenge to ensure that the amenity of local residents and leisure users are protected in line with British Standard 4142. To that end there is a short window of opportunity to establish baseline noise levels at the site before operations start in earnest later in the year. Will the Council undertake baseline noise assessments so that the impacts of operations at the site can be measured and controlled?'

(2) From Councillor Juliet Layton to Councillor Mrs. SL Jepson, Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing

'Can Councillor Jepson assure me that the Highway conditions on visibility splays at the Packers Lease site are being met? Highways stated that visibility splays of 4m x 150m and 100m should be maintained (Condition 6. 2000) - are these figures consistent with current Highway's guidance, and are they being met by the recent changes to the neighbouring Berite fence?'

Note:

The above questions were submitted by the time by responses are guaranteed to be provided to the questioner at least 24 hours before the Council Meeting (by virtue of the Council's Procedure Rules). As such, written responses will be provided to all Members either in advance of, or at, the Council Meeting.

(7) **Petitions (if any)**

## Items for Decision

	<u>Page Number</u>
(8) <u>Draft Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016/17 to 2019/20 and Budget 2016/17</u> (Report from the Cabinet)	1
(9) <u>Council Tax 2016/17</u> (Report of the Chief Finance Officer)	47
(10) <u>Draft Corporate Strategy 2016-19</u> (Report from the Cabinet)	63
(11) <u>Treasury Management - Half-Year Report 2015/16, including Prudential Indicators</u> (Report from the Audit Committee)	79
(12) <u>Treasury Management Strategy 2016/17</u> (Report from the Audit Committee)	89
(13) <u>2020 Vision Programme Appointments</u> (Report of the Head of Paid Service)	108

## Other Matters

- (14) Issues/Reports Arising from the Cabinet (if any)
- (15) Issues/Reports Arising from Overview and Scrutiny and/or Audit (if any)
- (16) Sealing of Documents

To resolve:

“that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to all contracts, conveyances and any other documents necessary for carrying into effect all resolutions passed by the Council.”

Note:

The Register of Sealing will be available at the Meeting for Members' inspection.

(17) **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

To consider and, if so agreed, to

RESOLVE that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and Press be excluded from the Meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph (1) of Part I of Schedule 12A to the said Act (information relating to an individual) and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information concerned.

**Item of Exempt Business  
for Consideration and Decision**

**Page Number**

- (18) **2020 Vision Programme**  
**(Report of the Head of Paid Service)**

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(END)