

14 January 2010

All Members of the Council

Dear Sir/Madam

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **Council of the Town of Abingdon** to be held in **The Guildhall (Council Chamber), Abingdon** on **Wednesday 20 January 2010** at **7.00 pm** for the transaction of the business stated below.

Yours faithfully

Nigel Warner
Town Clerk

SECTION I (Open to the Public Including the Press)

AGENDA

1 Prayers

2 Public participation

It is Council policy that the Council sets aside a total of 15 minutes prior to the commencement of full Council Meetings for residents of Abingdon or owners/managers of businesses in Abingdon to ask questions of the Mayor, Chair of Finance and General Purposes Committee and Chair of the Planning and Highways Committee or to express views by way of making a statement.

In order to ask questions or make a statement written notice of questions or statements, served by way of letter or e-mail (enquiries@abingdon.gov.uk), must be given to the Town Clerk by 5.15 pm on Monday 18th January 2010.

3 Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence.

4 Declarations of Interest

Councillors are asked to declare any personal interest, and the nature of the interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting (please refer to notes at the end of the agenda).

5 Minutes

To adopt and sign as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 18 November 2009.

7 Mayor's Announcements

8 Finance and General Purposes Committee

To receive and consider the minutes of the budget meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of 8th December 2009 and 5 January 2010 and the

reconvened meeting held on 12 January 2010 and to approve any recommendations therein.

8 County Hall Museum Management Committee

To receive and consider the minutes of the meeting of the County Hall Museum Management Committee held on 1 December 2009 and to approve any recommendations therein.

9 Amenities and Recreation Committee

To receive and consider the minutes of the meeting of the Amenities and Recreation Committee held on 2 December 2009 and to approve any recommendations therein.

10 Planning and Highways Committee

To receive and consider the minutes of the Planning and Highways Committee meetings held on 9 and 30 November 2009, 21 December 2009 and 11 January 2010 and to approve any recommendations therein.

11 To receive Notices of Motion under Standing Order No. 8 as follows:

(1) Motion proposed by Cllr Julie Mayhew-Archer and seconded by Cllr Colin Walters.

Abingdon Town Council has long believed in the benefit to Abingdon of a full diamond interchange on the A34 at Lodge Hill.

The Halcrow report for Oxfordshire County Council on the impact of a full interchange demonstrates changes which would offer environmental benefits to Abingdon, to the peripheral road, to traffic flow and air quality, without overloading the A34.

The Town Council therefore calls on the County Council Highways Department to place the project high on its list of priorities for the Local Transport Plan currently under consultation and ensure that this necessary improvement is achieved.

Motion proposed by Cllr Julie Mayhew-Archer and seconded by Cllr Colin Walters.

(2) Motion proposed by Cllr Martin Smith and seconded by Cllr Lesley Legge:

The Town Council notes that the County Council has published a proposal to introduce a 20 mph speed limit for the town centre streets. Whilst it accepts the proposal, it is concerned that should the scheme go ahead that the County Council work with Thames Valley Police to ensure that the new limit is effectively enforced – particularly at times when there is less traffic in the town i.e. evenings and weekends. It therefore instructs the Town Clerk to formally submit this comment to the ongoing consultation.”

12 Motion under Standing Order No.34, to permanently vary the Council's Standing Orders

The Finance and General Purposes Committee has recommended at minute 100 that Standing Order 31 be amended in relation to payment and cheque procedures (see minute 100(1) page 20).

This is brought as a motion to Council, proposed by Councillor Lesley Legge (Chair of Finance and General Purposes Committee) and seconded by Councillor Julie Mayhew-Archer (Vice-Chair), subsequent to a recommendation of the Finance and

General Purposes Committee. This motion, having been moved and seconded, will then stand adjourned without discussion until the next meeting of the Council.

13 Meeting dates

Mayor Making and Annual Council meeting, Wednesday 12 May 2010

To report that the Guildhall is available for the Council's usual and preferred date of the second Wednesday in May (i.e. 12th May 2010) for the Mayor Making and Annual Council meeting and to request that the Council approve the change of date from the published calendar.

Members will recall that usually the calendar of meetings for the next Council year (i.e. the year from May 2010) is considered during the next cycle. However to assist in agreeing dates well in advance it is intended that a draft calendar be circulated ahead of this Council meeting for Members to consider.

14 Exclusion of the Public, Including the Press

The Mayor will move:

"That in accordance with section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public, including the press, be excluded from the meeting because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted as summarised below."

SECTION II (Excluding the public and the press)

Items for Discussion:

- Confidential minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 30th September 2009;
- Confidential minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 11th November 2009;
- Confidential minutes of the County Hall Museum Management Committee held on 13th October 2009;
- Confidential minutes of the Amenities and Recreation Committee held on 28th October 2009.

Notes on Declarations of Interest

1. Any Member arriving after the start of the meeting is asked to declare personal interests, as necessary, as soon as practicable after their arrival even if the item in question has been considered.
2. With the exception of the circumstances listed in paragraph 9(2) of the Local Code of Conduct for Members, a Member with a personal interest also has a prejudicial interest if it is one which a Member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgment of the public interest. In such circumstances, the Member must withdraw from the meeting room and should inform the Chair immediately.
3. It is not practical for the Town Clerk to offer detailed advice during the meeting on whether or not a personal interest should be declared, or whether a personal interest should also be regarded as prejudicial.