



Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

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ABINGDON-ON-THAMES TOWN COUNCIL

Council Summons & Agenda

Wednesday 20 March 2024

Date of agenda: 15 March 2024

To All Members of the Council

Dear Councillors,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council to be held on **Wednesday 20 March 2024 at 7pm** in the **Old Magistrates Court** for the transaction of the business stated below.

At each open agenda item there are links to the relevant documents which open the document from the town council website. Should you require a separate pdf version of individual documents please e-mail democratic@abingdon.gov.uk.

Any queries on the agenda should also be directed to democratic@abingdon.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Cherie Carruthers

Town Clerk/Chief Executive (signed electronically)

Abingdon Town Council - Our Vision

To develop an inclusive community so that Abingdon is the place where everyone wants to live and where the wellbeing of residents is prioritised. In developing this community the town will be one which is environmentally sustainable, vibrant, resilient and safe.

Our key objectives

1. To respond effectively and speedily to the climate emergency.
2. To develop a resilient, sustainable town which will provide a home for residents now and in the future.
3. To manage the Council's assets efficiently and effectively to meet for the needs of the community now and in the future.
4. To work with community partners to support those who are vulnerable and in need and to create opportunities to increase social inclusivity.

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1. Prayers

Prayers will be led by Deacon Selina Nisbett.

2. Public participation

It is council policy that the council sets aside a total of 15 minutes prior to the commencement of business in council meetings for residents of Abingdon-on-Thames or owners/managers of businesses in Abingdon-on-Thames to ask questions of the council or to express views by way of making a statement with regards to agenda items in this meeting. In order to ask questions or make a statement written notice of questions or statements, served by way of letter or e-mail (democratic@abingdon.gov.uk), must be given to the Town Clerk by **5pm on Tuesday 19 March 2024.**

The Abbey Buildings Trust will make a presentation.

3. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence.

4. **Declarations of interest**

To receive any declarations of interest from Members in relation to any items to be considered at the meeting, in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

5. **Minutes**

To adopt and sign as a correct record the draft minutes of the meetings held on [17 January 2024](#).

6. **Mayor's announcements**

To note the list of the Mayor's Engagements, which can be found [here](#).

7. **Oxfordshire County Council**

To receive a report from County Councillors.

8. **Vale of White Horse District Council**

To receive a [report](#) from District Councillors.

9. **Community Committee**

To receive and note the minutes of the meeting held on [6 February 2024](#).

Matters arising

C39/23 – The committee agreed to establish a working party which would report to the Town Infrastructure Committee and would include members from the Community Committee and the Town Infrastructure Committee, in addition to one other councillor. Cllr Margaret Crick was recommended as the additional member and the town council is asked to consider this.

C43/23 – the next date for the Community Committee to meet is **Wednesday 29 May 2024**.

10. **Environment and Amenities Committee**

To receive and consider the minutes of the meeting held on [20 February 2024](#).

11. **Town Infrastructure Committee**

To receive and note the minutes of the meeting held on [22 February 2024](#).

12. **Finance, Governance and Asset Management Committee**

To receive and consider the draft minutes of the meeting held on [5 March 2024](#).

Recommendations

F105/23 **Planning committee terms of reference**

It was **proposed** by Cllr Halliday, **seconded** by Cllr Forder and **RESOLVED** that the [terms of reference](#) for the proposed planning committee be recommended to council.

13. **Regeneration of the Abbey Buildings**

To consider future actions with regard to the Abbey Buildings Trust.

14. **Flag policy**

To approve the [updated flag policy](#), which includes changes agreed by the town council on 4 October 2024 (minute T99/23)

15. **Radley Lakes Trust**

The town council is asked to determine whether to nominate a representative to Radley Lakes Trust. Minute T147/23 refers: officers were asked to advise on the frequency of meetings and the proposed status of the town council nominee. Radley Lakes Trust was approached and has reported as follows:

Meetings

There are four formal trustee meetings each year, usually held at 5pm on a Monday night for 2 hours each. In addition one or two informal trustee meetings are held at other times in the year to help with forward planning. All Trustees can participate in sub-groups to help deliver improvement projects, responses to planning issues and arrange events.

Town council nominee

The town council nominee would be a full trustee of the Radley Lakes Trust for a period of three years, provided they remained a nominated representative of the Town Council.

16. **Draft meeting calendar**

To consider a [draft calendar of meetings](#) for 2024-25.

17. **Motion under standing order 8**

To consider the following motion **proposed** by Cllr Mark Giddins and **seconded** by Cllr Midwinter:

Deteriorating NHS Medical Services in Abingdon

Abingdon Town Council notes that:

- a) Abingdon has an increasingly ageing population of existing residents
- b) New households are unable to register with any Abingdon GP Practice (all at maximum capacity) and only one NHS Dentist currently able to offer any capacity, which is insufficient for the current increasing demand.
- c) Abingdon Minor Injuries Clinic running under extreme pressure.
- d) Abingdon Community Hospital under constant pressure from the Oxford hospitals to accommodate more discharges from them so Oxford has more space to deal with acute case admissions
- e) Abingdon's new developments of 1100 properties are only between 20 – 25% built, with planned retirement and care homes not yet built. So the town's NHS provision is at maximum without these properties that will, if built, generate further demand.
- f) The Buckinghamshire Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB) now have responsibility for local NHS services in the Abingdon area, but the lead landholder for the District Centre on the development North of Dunmore Road and Twelve Acre Drive has advised that progress on delivering a new GP Practice is currently not proceeding. This seems contrary to BOB ICB's Joint Forward Plan of June 2023 (which aimed to expand Primary Care Delivery through the use of S106 and CIL funds from new developments).
- g) The existing Abingdon GP Practices that are planning to expand are not adding sufficient capacity to replace the demand for the Northern District Centre Practice (which may not be proceeding – see point f) above);

The Council therefore asks the Town Clerk to:

- a) Write to the Chief Executive of BOB ICP expressing the Town Council's extreme concern regarding Abingdon's medical service provision and seeking an urgent solution to increase medical services in Abingdon to the levels required to meet the town's current and planned future demand; and that copies of the letter be sent to the Cabinet member for Community Health and Wellbeing at the Vale of White Horse District Council, all Abingdon Town's District Councillors, and to Abingdon's Member of Parliament.
- b) Ensure the Council's action is reported on our website and Social Media

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- c) Submit a report detailing all the replies received to these letters to the next Council Meeting, and to include an item on the agenda to permit further discussion (if necessary).

18. Future Agenda Items

- Governance document review & policies
- Terms of reference for planning committee, if agreed
- Members' allowances

19. Dates of future meetings

15 May 2024