



Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

Royse Court Offices, Bridge Street, Abingdon, OX14 3HU

Cherie Carruthers – Town Clerk/Chief Executive

Telephone: 01235 522642

Email: enquiries@abingdon.gov.uk

Website: www.abingdon.gov.uk

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES TOWN COUNCIL

Council Summons & Agenda

Wednesday 12 March 2025

Date of agenda: 5 March 2025

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 12 March 2025 at 7pm** in the Royse Room 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 different or printed 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.

AGENDA

Act of Reflection

The opening reflection will be led by Father Jamie from Our Lady and St. Edmund's Catholic Church).

1. 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 accordance with the council's code of practice in relation to public participation. If you would like to participate you must contact the Town Clerk **no later than 5pm on Tuesday 11 March 2025**. If you would like to ask a question, you must submit the question 48 hours (or two working days) before the meeting. This may either be by letter to the address above or by e-mail to democratic@abingdon.gov.uk.

Reducing the Risk will attend to make a [presentation](#) on their [work](#) to support victims of domestic abuse.

2. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence.

3. **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.

4. **Minutes**

To adopt and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on [15 January 2025](#).

5. **Mayor's engagements**

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

6. **Oxfordshire County Council**

To receive a report from the County Council.

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

To receive an [update](#) from District Councillors.

8. **Community committee**

To receive and note the draft minutes of the meeting held on [4 February 2025](#).

9. **Town Infrastructure committee**

To receive and note the draft minutes of the meeting held on [13 February 2025](#).

10. **Environment and Amenities committee**

To receive and note the draft minutes of the meeting held on [18 February 2025](#).

11. **Finance, Governance and Asset Management committee**

To receive and note the draft minutes of the meeting held on [3 March 2025](#).

Recommendations

F74/24: the committee recommended that the town council adopts the proposed

new committee structure and meeting calendar, subject to the town council agreeing to the Town Clerk and Chair of FGAM bringing a full proposal to town council in May. A [report](#) is provided from the Town Clerk.

The draft meeting [calendar](#) is provided for information.

12. **Planning committee**

To receive and note the minutes of the meetings held on [13 January 2025](#) and [3 February 2025](#) and the draft minutes of the meeting held on [24 February 2025](#).

Recommendations

P151/24: It was RESOLVED that the town council be requested to:

- request an urgent meeting with representatives of Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board to explain the difference between the response they submitted on the application for a care home in North Abingdon ([P23/V2861/O](#)) and the responses received from local suppliers of the care.
- Request that representatives of Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board attend Abingdon's parish meeting to explain their rationale for care in Abingdon.
- Invite the MP for Abingdon to attend the Parish Meeting.

The Chair of the Planning committee hopes to invite representatives of the care board to speak at the town council meeting on 22 June 2025.

13. **Town council strategy**

Council confirms that its four corporate objectives remain as described in its Strategic Plan and requests that the Town Clerk brings a draft of the Strategic Plan 2025-2029 to the annual meeting on 12 May 2025.

14. **Election of Mayor**

To receive nominations from Members for the election of Mayor for the 2025-26 civic year.

15. **Election of Deputy Mayor**

To receive nominations from Members for the election of Deputy Mayor for the 2025-26 civic year.

16. **VE Day commemoration**

To consider a [report](#) on whether the town council should organise a Bun Throwing to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day on 8 May 2025. This item was referred by the Finance, Governance and Asset Management committee on 3 March 2025.

17. **Twinning conference celebration**

The FGAM committee on 3 March 2025 asked officers to explore the feasibility of marking the forthcoming twinning conference with a commemorative 'Gobo' display in the town centre and report to the town council.

18. **Future agenda items**

- Governance document review & policies

19. **Dates of future meetings**

12 May 2025 – Monday
18 June 2025

20. **Exclusion of the public, including the Press**

The Chair may 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'.

Subject to the approval of the above motion the meeting will then move into confidential session.

21. **Motions under Standing Order 8**

To consider a confidential motion on a civic matter proposed by Cllr Jim Halliday.