



COTSWOLD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET

4TH NOVEMBER 2019

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA ITEM (3)

Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet - 7th October 2019

CAB.33 Member Questions

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11 the following question had been submitted by Councillor Stephen Andrews to Councillor Joe Harris, Leader of the Council:-

'At the last meeting of the Full Council on the 25th September 2019 a Motion proposed by Councillor Richard Norris and seconded by myself was referred to Cabinet. Papers for this meeting of Cabinet were published today (30th September 2019) and this item is not on the agenda.

Will the leader explain to the people of Fairford and Tetbury why this was not the case and introduce the matter as an item of urgent business for this Cabinet meeting in order that the community groups currently fighting to retain their community facilities can make their plans and apply for the grant aid that they need and can justify within the scope of the motion so that there can be a measure of continuity of service provision.'

For ease of reference, the motion (10 of 2019/20), including an amendment tabled at the meeting of Full Council (in red), is reproduced below.

(vi) Motion 10 of 2019/20 re Leisure Facilities in Fairford and Tetbury Proposed by Councillor Richard Norris, Seconded by Councillor Stephen Andrews.

'Local communities in Tetbury and Fairford have been left devastated by the recent and sudden closures of their leisure centres. Both communities are working hard to find solutions to try and keep their leisure centres open for local residents and local community groups. As leisure facilities are so crucial to the mental and physical wellbeing of residents, this council fully supports efforts by local communities and so will offer financial support if requested.

This Council resolves to:

Offer a grant of up to £25,000 for each leisure centre (£25,000 for Tetbury and £25,000 for Fairford) to help transition from their previous organisation

structure to their new structure. This grant will be available immediately and will be in place for the next 24 months. Funding can be spent on anything related to the present and or future labour and equipment needed for the successful start-up of each centre. For clarification:-

- monies cannot be spent on past leisure centre operations or outstanding debts;**
- will be subject to the submission of a proposal by the local community organisation; and,**
- will be with the agreement of the school that in principle the facilities will be made available to the local community organisation.**

The grant can (for example) be spent on:-

- * Funding to purchase, update or develop new booking and administration systems (including software, hardware and any increase labour costs associated with new administration procedures).**
- * Funding for marketing activities so local communities are informed about the new opening and ongoing availability of the centres.**
- * Funding to purchase and install new doors and locking systems if necessary (for example a magnetic key fob system or card swipe systems).**
- * Funding to purchase any new security systems deemed necessary (for example CCTV).**
- * Funding to purchase new insurance deemed necessary by the new organisations.**
- * Funding to purchase or replace any old or damaged equipment.'**

Grants are to be applied for by the community organisation to the Council setting out what the grant is for and why it is needed to ensure the continued delivery of the service to the community. The application to be submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet Member for Health Wellbeing and Public Safety who should ensure that a satisfactory case has been made to provide grant support to that community organisation.

The following response had been provided by Councillor Harris:-

'Given the extremely short timescales between the Council Meeting and the Cabinet Meeting agenda despatch, it was not feasible for the Motion to be presented to this Meeting. We need detailed information regarding the significant financial and other implications of your proposals in order to make a properly-informed decision on the matter (this was the reason for the Motion being referred to the Cabinet rather than being considered at the Council Meeting), and there was simply not enough time for such a report to be produced. In this regard, I have asked officers to prepare a comprehensive report for our next Meeting in November, setting out the various implications, risks, opportunities and funding position/options; and, if funding is available, a suggested framework and process for any grant applications.

As I mentioned at the Council Meeting, and as offered by Councillor Jenny Forde in her role as relevant Cabinet Member, we would welcome a meeting with yourself and Councillor Norris on the matter - in advance of our November Cabinet Meeting. I know that Councillor Forde would also welcome your input, and that of other councillors, as she seeks to develop a future health and well-being strategy for the Cotswolds (that will help inform spending decisions).'

Councillor Andrews thanked the Leader for his response and looked forward to meeting with Councillor Forde to discuss this issue.

Note:

1. The amendment to the Minute was notified after the Minutes for the Cabinet Meeting to be held on 4th November 2019 had been printed and circulated. The extract in **bold** is the text previously omitted from those Minutes.
2. It should be noted that the above Motion should also supersede the published version in Paragraph 2.1 of Agenda Item (10) - Notice of Motion - Leisure Facilities in Fairford and Tetbury.

(END)