



**COTSWOLD  
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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# **COUNCIL AGENDA**

**Tuesday 25th September 2018, 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 Ben Amor on 01285 623236 who will be the Committee Administrator responsible for the Meeting.

### Distribution:

All Members of the Council



**Nigel Adams**  
Head of Democratic Services

17<sup>th</sup> September 2018

# COUNCIL : 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018

## 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> May 2018;
  - (ii) the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018;
  - (iii) the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2018.
- (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.
- (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 Jenny Forde to Councillor Mark F Annett, Leader of the Council**

*'The Conservative administration at this Council made a decision back in 2016 to include child maintenance payments as income when calculating council tax support.*

*Can the cabinet member not see how grossly unfair this decision was, and that it adversely affects single mothers in particular?*

*Why did the Conservative administration decide to include child maintenance as 'income' when calculating Council tax support, particularly when many other councils don't do so?*

(2) From Councillor Jenny Forde to Councillor Mark F Annett, Leader of the Council

*'How many residents has the Leader spoken to who are affected by these (council tax support) changes?'*

(3) From Councillor AR Brassington to Councillor Sue Coakley, Cabinet Member for Environment

*'Cotswold District Council has a responsibility to carry out street cleaning. All over our roads and pavements grit and detritus have been allowed to build up, particularly on our main roads. In turn, this leads to weeds growing in the kerb channel, blocked drains and danger for cyclists. It also looks unsightly and isn't befitting of the beautiful Cotswolds.*

*What can be done to increase the frequency of street cleaning and extend it to prevent build-up of grit and detritus?'*

(4) From Councillor RC Hughes to Councillor Mark Mackenzie-Charrington, Cabinet Member for Planning and Licensing Services and Cirencester Car Parking Project

*'It's been over four months now that I raised the issue of vacant properties in Cirencester falling into disrepair.*

*The former Bramleys site in Brewery Court, which CDC owns the freehold to, has deteriorated even further, with part of the wooden hoarding panels removed and the window smashed even further. The site is now a magnet for anti-social behaviour in the centre of our Town.*

*In an email to me you stated that 'you can't see the CDC spending a penny on it' due to the development of the site into a cinema by Wildmoor, but this process is 'stuck in the mud' due to a dispute between the developer and CDC.*

*Will the cabinet member review his position on this matter and instruct Council officers to undertake an urgent clean-up of the building and secure it, so it looks a little less of an eyesore going into Christmas and the winter months?'*

(5) From Councillor Juliet Layton to Councillor Mark F Annett, Leader of the Council

*'We are aware, as Councillors, that there is an issue in Publica around staff morale and with communication from senior managers about the security and terms of their jobs.*

*What is the Leader doing to understand and allay employees' concerns about these issues?'*

(6) From Councillor JA Harris to Councillor Mark F Annett, Leader of the Council

*'How on earth was a council employee allowed to transfer tens of thousands of pounds from Council coffers to an unknown third party?'*

(7) From Councillor JA Harris to Councillor Mark F Annett, Leader of the Council

*'The scale of this fraud was buried in blandness in earlier audit committee papers, which were limited to five Councillors on the committee.*

*'Why on earth was this not communicated to the full Council at the earliest possible opportunity?'*

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>Corporate Strategy 2016-19 - Update 2018/19</u>	1
(9) <u>Funding Allocations - 2017/18 Budget Surplus</u>	11
(10) <u>Annual Treasury Management Review 2017/18</u>	14
(11) <u>Review of Members' Allowances</u>	TO FOLLOW
(12) <u>Historic Fraud Issue</u>	23

## Other Matters

- (13) Issues/Reports Arising from the Cabinet (if any)
- (14) Issues/Reports Arising from Overview and Scrutiny and/or Audit (if any)

(15) **Notice of Motions**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12, the following Motions have been received:-

(i) **Motion 3/2018 re People's Vote on Brexit**

Proposed by Councillor Andrew Doherty, Seconded by Councillor Dilys Neill:

*'This Council notes:*

- *the recent warnings from multinational businesses based in the south west, including Airbus and Honda, that exiting the EU customs union could be a catastrophe for trade and may lead them to relocate their manufacturing outside of the UK;*
- *the number of Cotswold citizens working for businesses that rely on free movement of trade within the European Union;*
- *that, according to the Government's own figures, under all Brexit scenarios the UK will be considerably worse off, not only in terms of international reputation but also the negative social, environmental and economic impact it will have on the people of Cotswolds.*

*This Council therefore agrees that there should be a 'people's vote' on the final Brexit deal, which should include an option for the United Kingdom to remain a full member of the European Union.'*

(ii) **Motion 4/2018 re A417 'Missing Link'**

Proposed by Councillor Juliet Layton, Seconded by Councillor AR Brassington:

*'This Council welcomes and supports Highways England's recent consultation into the 'Missing Link' at Birdlip and their commitment, alongside Option 30 of the Missing Link, to also address the noise pollution of the A417/419 between Bagendon and Latton. Their decision was announced at a briefing to councillors in July.'*

(iii) **Motion 5/2018 re Council Tax Support Calculations**

Proposed by Councillor JA Harris, Seconded by Councillor Jenny Forde:

*'Council notes the Cabinet decision in 2016 to include child maintenance payments as income when calculating council tax support.*

*Council further notes that the demographic most affected by this change are families on low incomes and, in particular, single mothers.*

*This Council instructs the Cabinet to remove child maintenance payments as income when calculating council tax support, with immediate effect.*

*Council also resolves to refund the 183 families affected by this decision as identified by officers when justifying the inclusion of child maintenance.'*

Note:

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12, any Motion that is duly proposed and seconded shall automatically stand referred to the Cabinet or the appropriate Committee for consideration, unless the Chairman of the Council considers it convenient and conducive to the despatch of business for the Motion to be dealt with at the Meeting. Members will be advised of the views of the Chairman on this aspect as soon as possible.

(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.

(END)