



COTSWOLD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Tuesday, 14 September 2021

Tel: 01285 623210 or 623236
e-mail - democratic@cotswold.gov.uk

COUNCIL

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Full Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Trinity Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire on **Wednesday, 22 September 2021 at 6.00 pm.**

Rob Weaver
Chief Executive

To: All Members of the Council

Recording of Proceedings – The law allows the public proceedings of Council, Cabinet, and Committee Meetings to 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 prior to the date of the meeting.

AGENDA

1. **Apologies**
2. **Declarations of Interest**
To receive any declarations of interest from Members and Officers, relating to items to be considered at the meeting.
3. **Minutes 9 - 30**
To confirm the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 14 July 2021.
4. **Announcements from the Chair, Leader of Chief Executive (if any)**
5. **Public Questions**
To deal with questions from the public within the open forum question and answer session of fifteen minutes in total. Questions from each member of the public should be no longer than two minutes each and relate to issues under the Council's or Committee's remit. Any member of the public wishing to ask a public question is requested to contact Democratic Services by no later than 5.00pm the working day before the meeting.
6. **Member Questions**
The following questions have been submitted:

Question from Councillor Julia Judd to Councillor Andrew Doherty, Cabinet Member for the Environment, Waste and Recycling:

This Council notes that an unexpected consequence of Covid-19 has been an escalation in dog ownership. According to the Pet Food Manufacturers Association over 12million of us now own a dog and their Covid-19 Pet Survey confirms a staggering rise in pet acquisition with dogs being the most popular at 57%.

Some of the towns and larger Cotswold villages popular with visitors have suffered from an over-supply of dog waste causing the bins to fill up quickly. Images of dog waste bags lying on the ground around overflowing bins have appeared on social media , especially in Tetbury.

Could resources be made available to address this situation and ensure that sufficient bins are made available and regularly emptied before they overfill where there have been issues?

Questions from Councillor David Cunningham to Councillor Andrew Doherty, Cabinet Member for the Environment, Waste and Recycling:

- 1) In light of the Council's Flood Warden Initiative and the new as yet unseen (I believe) Flood Plan, can the Cabinet Member confirm how much of the impending budget will be allocated for those communities hardest hit by last year's floods.
- 2) Will villages be expected to 'bid' for assistance or will the Council work with the

Environment Agency and other entities to ascertain which communities have the greatest need and have already identified to alleviate solutions to alleviate their flooding issues.

Given this Council's commitment to fighting the climate emergency, will the Cabinet Member acknowledge that this must include taking tangible action against the current effects of climate change and addressing the immediate needs of residents.

Question from Councillor Richard Norris to Councillor Mike Evemy, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance:

- 1) Visitors to Cirencester's car parks are experiencing a number of difficulties in paying by APP since the removal of cash payments. Is Councillor Evemy aware of these problems, if so, could he please explain and advise what action is being taken to resolve all difficulties.
- 2) With reference to the decision taken by Full Council on the 17 March 2021 to enter into an agreement with SLM:
 - a) That Council approves a profit sharing mechanism to recover the support offered to SLM as set out at recommendations a) and b).
 - b) The Council will be entitled to take a 75% share of profits in excess of the tendered financial submission until the funding is recovered.
 - c) That authority to sign an agreement with SLM confirming the terms upon which this financial package is based be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Deputy Leader of the Council or in his absence with the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing.

Has an agreement in fact been entered into and could this agreement be provided along with confirmation that the terms and conditions are being observed by both parties.

Also provided in Agenda Item 12 at 3.2 an initial positive response from users was reported. Could a separate update on footfall be provided for all four locations (Corinium Museum and the leisure centres in Cirencester, Bourton-on-the-Water and Chipping Camden) over the last six months together with comparable figures for the same months and period last year.

7. Funding for Essential Maintenance of Council Service Property Asset - Cirencester Leisure Centre 31 - 36

Purpose

To request funding for essential repairs at the Council property;
Cirencester Leisure Centre

Recommendations

That Council, as recommended by Cabinet:

a) approves the funding request of £110,000 for maintenance within the Cirencester Leisure Centre Pool Hall.

b) that delegated authority is granted to the Deputy Chief Executive to

update the Capital Programme, the Capital Strategy and the Treasury Management Strategy to include the requested funding.

c) that, if the funding is approved, delegated authority is granted to the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and the Group Manager for Commissioning to agree the final funding on receipt of the tenders and to award the contracts for the necessary works set out in the report.

8. **Notice of Motions**

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

a) **Motion – Scrap the Proposals in the Planning White Paper**

Proposed by Councillor Rachel Coxcoon, Seconded by Councillor Joe Harris:

Council notes:

The significant concerns expressed through the ballot box in Chesham & Amersham over the Conservative Government's proposed Planning Reforms, including:

- Loss of democratic accountability within the planning system, under a proposed zoning system that would grant presumed consent to development in two of the three zones.
- No commitment to using the planning system to tackle climate change, either through genuinely sustainable placemaking, or through the imposition of a building standards system that will deliver zero-carbon homes.
- The expansion of Permitted Development Rights under this Government, which have already led to the development of 'modern day slums'.
- Widespread concerns and condemnation of the Planning White Paper proposals across Local Government, The Planning and Architecture Sector, and organisations concerned with protecting green spaces and heritage.

Council is concerned that:

Government proposals to deregulate planning will remove the rights of residents to influence or object to inappropriate development where they live.

The Government's proposals pass the costly burden of design codes from developers to local government, and result in codes that will hold no statutory weight.

The proposals in the White Paper, coupled with the weakness of the proposed Future Homes Standard and Design Codes and the ease with which Permitted Development Rights can now be used, means that the planning system is in danger of becoming an active enabler of the climate crisis, rather than part of the

solution.

And finally,

That the proposals in the White Paper, designed principally to speed up the delivery of much needed housing, are doomed to fail on this crucial point, since the slow delivery of housing is demonstrably not a result of delays within the planning decision-making system. Rather, it is the result of land-banking and market manipulation by the development industry. Almost a million homes already have planning permission but have not been built out. Zoning, and thus the allocation of more land for housing, will secure land value increases for a small number of major development companies, but will not alter the speed at which housing comes to the market.

Council believes that:

Residents have the right to a say over development that will change the area they live in.

Local councils, in consultation with their businesses and residents are best placed to understand the issues in their area and respond with a spatial strategy tailored to that area.

The planning system is not fit for purpose if climate change is not the pre-eminent test in decision-making, and local planning authorities are not required to manage emissions through the planning system.

International evidence shows that zoning systems, far from producing the simplified system that advocates suggest, can often result in less transparent, less accountable decision-making than a discretionary, plan-led system. The development industry, not the planning system, is the main cause of slow housing delivery.

Council calls for the Government to:

Scrap the proposals in the Planning White Paper and instead look to the proposals in the 2017 Raynsford Review of planning to shape a fairer, more sustainable, people-centred system.

Ensure that any re-imagined planning system has a statutory purpose at its heart, to be defined in the Planning Acts. We suggest the following, from the October 2020 Common Ground Publication:

“The purpose of the planning system is to positively promote the spatial organisation of land to achieve the long-term sustainable development of the nation and the health, safety and wellbeing of individuals. In the Planning Acts, ‘sustainable development’ means managing the use, development and protection of land, the built environment and natural resources in a way, or at a rate, which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing while sustaining the potential of future generations to meet their own needs.”

And finally,
Ensure that the Planning Acts and the Climate Change Act are bound together in law, making climate change considerations a central test in any planning policy making and decision-making process.

b) Motion - Community Funding for the 2022 Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Proposed by Councillor Julia Judd, Seconded by Councillor Stephen Hirst:

Council notes that the May Bank Holiday Weekend 2022 will be moved to Thursday 2 June 2022 and an additional Bank Holiday will see a four - day weekend to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee – the first time any British monarch has reached this historic milestone.

This will also mark the first truly large community gathering since 2019 owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, so could arguably be considered a double celebration. There is likely to be a strong appetite from communities to celebrate this unique milestone.

There is no recent parallel for such an event, the closest being the Armistice commemorations and town and villages will benefit from a long lead time to plan , agree the format and issues such as road closures, refreshments and even catering.

This council therefore resolves to set aside specific community funding to support communities to run special events over the weekend, enabling them to kick-start their plans to organise a one off never to be forgotten event.

c) Motion – Cotswold Shopping Festival

Proposed by Councillor Richard Morgan, Seconded by Councillor Stephen Hirst:

“After the successful vaccine rollout, it seems that the COVID-19 lockdown restrictions will be fully lifted on Monday 19 July (in what some people have labelled “Freedom Day”)

As we all know, throughout the pandemic many of our local businesses have been significantly impacted, and our high streets and town centres have been particularly hard hit.

As Freedom Day approaches, we believe that this Council has a duty to support our high streets and encourage people back into our town centres and help build consumer confidence. For this reason we would like to propose the following Motion:

- CDC launches a “FREE FOR THREE” parking scheme. This would involve offering free parking in CDC Car Parks for three days (Preferably a Friday, Saturday, Sunday long weekend).
- During the “Free for Three” period, CDC would also hire several local musicians, street performers and children’s entertainers to provide small scale, modest popup shows. These small business owners have also been

hard hit during the pandemic so are worthy of support.

- Launch a social media campaign and a PR campaign to publicise a “Free for Three” shopping festival. The marketing to be themed around:
 - o Visit our town centre and park for free.
 - o Bring the whole family and enjoy some local street entertainers.
 - o Do your shopping in our amazing shops and support small business owners.

Retail research has shown that if you can attract a customer to your shop three times, they become a loyal customer and visit again and again. For this reason, if the first “Free for Three” event is successful we should consider running it again. (Once a month for three months.)”

d) Motion – Dog Waste Bin Provision

Proposed by Councillor Julia Judd:

“This Council notes that an unexpected consequence of Covid-19 has been an escalation in dog ownership. According to the Pet Food Manufacturers' Association over 12 million of us now own a dog and their Covid-19 Pet Survey confirms a staggering rise in pet acquisition with dogs being the most popular at 57%.

Many Cotswold parishes suffer from an over-supply of dog waste causing the bins to fill up quickly. It is common to see dog waste bags lying on the ground around overflowing bins, photos of this regularly appear on Social Media, especially in Tetbury.

It is also common to see filled dog waste bags hanging from trees, trodden into footpaths, dropped in grit bins, left lying by gateways or on top of Cotswold stone walls. Requests from Parishes for extra dog waste bins and more frequent collections have been turned down, even if Parishes are prepared to pay for the new bins.

Waste collection is a core service which all Councils are expected to deliver, Council Tax Payers expect it and pay for it. It is a service which upholds the Council's Civic Pride agenda and is imperative for public health.

One Cotswold village was told ‘we are currently unavailable to install any additional litter / dog waste bins.....we have had to put (this) in force across the whole of the district for various reasons and has been previously raised with Cabinet Member Cllr Andrew Doherty. As a result of COVID 19 we have received a high volume of requests for additional bins, we are unable to fulfil these requests at the present time as we have reached our limit on capacity and the amount of weight the vehicle can collect on each round. We are hopeful that with the easing of lockdown measures the volume of waste will reduce to pre-lockdown figures and we can start looking at getting any additional bin requests installed.’ This response implies the Council considers that the problem might go away post Covid-19.

The Ubico team in Chipping Campden were surprised to hear from Cllr

Blomefield that we have been told that collection efforts are at maximum capacity, as public bin waste is less than normal owing to there being fewer tourists over the pandemic.

New signs on the bins include information to contact the Council that the bin needs to be emptied and also to encourage people to take their dog waste bags home with them. This rather defeats the purpose of the bins in the first place but more to the point, many people will choose not to take them home, especially if they are travelling in a car, as it is such an unpleasant and potentially hazardous thing to do.

Waste collection is a mandatory, core service. Residents, especially those in towns and bigger villages are suffering from poor service. This situation needs resolving and I ask that Council resolves to approve the appropriate funding to ensure that sufficient bins are made available and regularly emptied before they overflow."

e) Motion – 20mph is Plenty Where People Are

Proposed by Councillor Jenny Forde, Seconded by Councillor Andrew Doherty:

This Council:

- believes that 20 mph is plenty where people are;
- agrees with and supports the UK Government's recent endorsement of The Stockholm Declaration, which stipulates in Resolution 11 that a council should "mandate a maximum road travel speed of [20mph] in areas where vulnerable road users and vehicles mix...except where strong evidence exists that higher speeds are safe";
- resolves to formally adopt Resolution 11. In practice, this means that the default speed limit on the Cotswold District's urban and rural residential streets will be 20mph, except on main roads where speed limits, if higher, must be both safe and appropriate;
- calls on Gloucestershire County Council, as the Local Highways Authority, to consult the county's District Councils, Parish Councils and communities to identify all the roads which should adopt a 20mph speed limit no later than 30 April 2025 and to make significant progress towards realising these changes in tandem - establishing 20mph limits in identified places quickly if communities agree;
- calls on Gloucestershire County Council to provide the necessary funding, to achieve the goal of making our residents feel safe and be safe, across the Cotswolds."

9. **Next meeting**
Wednesday 17 November 2021 – 2pm

(END)