



COTSWOLD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Tuesday, 11 January 2022

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COUNCIL

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Full Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Trinity Road, Cirencester on **Wednesday, 19 January 2022 at 2.00 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**
To confirm the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 15 December 2021 (Draft minutes to follow)
4. **Announcements from the Chair, Leader or 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 Joe Harris, Leader of the Council:

The Feedback Report of the Corporate Peer Challenge carried out in November 2019 was made available to this Group in April 2020.

The LGA Corporate Peer Challenge process includes a follow up visit. The purpose of which is to help the Council assess the impact of the Peer Challenge and demonstrate the progress it has made against the areas of improvement and development identified by the peer team. It is a lighter-touch version of the original visit and does not necessarily involve all members of the original peer team. The timing of the visit is determined by the Council. Our expectation is that it will occur within the next two years.

When does this Council propose this re-visit is to be held? The 2-year expectation is now two months overdue.

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

What criteria was used to justify the need to engage two Clean & Green Officers whose role overlaps the role of District, Town & Parish Councillors?

Question from Councillor Gina Blomefield to Councillor Michael Evemy, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance:

Last year I requested that future Budget surveys had a section where responding residents could be invited to add their own comments and I am delighted this has been introduced and 228 people, out of the total response of 432, used it to express their views.

Fifteen different communication channels were used to inform and engage people in this Budget survey. Can you let us know how much the various consultations cost, as well as the time taken up by Officers preparing and collating them, so that we can see what that represents as a cost per response?

7. External Audit Contract 5 - 26

Purpose

To consider the options for procuring the Council's external audit services for the period from 2023/24.

Recommendation(s)

That Council approves the procurement of external audit services from 2023/24 through the National Procurement Framework using Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd.

8. Gambling Act 2005 - Review of the Statement of Principles 27 - 64

Purpose

The report details the proposed revisions to the Council's Statement of Principles (Gambling Act 2005) (the Act), based on legislative requirements and statutory guidance.

Recommendation(s)

a) That the reviewed Statement of Principles, attached at Annex 'A' to the circulated report, be approved;

b) that the Council continues to adopt a "no-casino resolution" for inclusion in the published Gambling Act 2005 Licensing Policy Statement.

9. Cotswold District Council Draft Schedule of Meetings 2022-23 65 - 70

Purpose

To receive the draft Schedule of Meetings for the civic year 2022-23.

Recommendations

That the Council approves the schedule of meetings for 2022-23.

10. Notice of Motions

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

a) Motion - Armed Forces Covenant Re-Endorsement

Proposed by Councillor Stephen Andrews, Seconded by Cllr Julia Judd

Nearly a decade ago, in February 2012, Cotswold District Council, along with its partners within Gloucestershire, local NHS representatives, and the Police and Crime

Commissioner, signed the Armed Forces Community Covenant.

On the 15th December 2021 Royal Assent was given to the Armed Forces Act 2021 enshrining the Armed Forces Covenant in law for the first time.

The Covenant is a statement of mutual support between the civilian community and its local Armed Forces Community. It encourages support for the Armed Forces Community residing in Cotswold District and recognises and remembers their sacrifices. This includes in-service and ex-service personnel, their families and widow(er)s, reservists, their partners and their families in Cotswold District. It is important that we continue to work with veterans in the District and that we place on record our appreciation and gratitude to those organisations which work tirelessly with our local Veterans and their families.

For the District Council and those Organisations that it works with within Gloucestershire, the Armed Forces Covenant presents an opportunity for us all to continue sharing our knowledge and experience of how Local Government is structured and how it works, with the local bases in South Cerney and where appropriate, Fairford, in order to assist and advise our military neighbours and their families in practical ways when they might need our help or advice. It also represents an opportunity to work with Service Charities on aspects relating to the welfare of Service Families and Veterans resident in Cotswold District, including those who may be based, or previously based, at sites outside of Cotswold District, such as at RAF Brize Norton or the Defence Academy at Shrivenham.

MOTION:

Now, with the passage of the Armed Forces Covenant into law, this Council believe that the time is right to update and reinforce the commitment of this Council to the Covenant.

Therefore, this Council proposes that in 2022, on the 10-year anniversary of the original signing, this Council re-sign it, highlighting our continued commitment to working with, and honouring, the Armed Forces Community.

11. **Next meeting**
16 February 2022 – 6pm

(END)