



**COTSWOLD**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Tuesday, 13 February 2024

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## COUNCIL

A meeting of the Council will be held in the Council Chamber - Council Offices, Trinity Road, Cirencester, GL7 1PX on **Wednesday, 21 February 2024 at 6.00 pm.**

Rob Weaver  
Chief Executive

To: Members of the Council

(Councillors Gina Blomefield, Claire Bloomer, Ray Brassington, Patrick Coleman, Daryl Corps, David Cunningham, Tony Dale, Mike Every, David Fowles, Joe Harris, Mark Harris, Paul Hodgkinson, Roly Hughes, Nikki Ind, Angus Jenkinson, Julia Judd, Juliet Layton, Andrew Maclean, Helene Mansilla, Mike McKeown, Dilys Neill, Nigel Robbins, Gary Selwyn, Tony Slater, Lisa Spivey, Tom Stowe, Jeremy Theyer, Clare Turner, Chris Twells, Michael Vann, Jon Wareing, Ian Watson, Tristan Wilkinson and Len Wilkins)

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**  
To receive any apologies for absence.
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 (Pages 7 - 26)**  
To confirm the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 24 January 2024.
4. **Announcements from the Chair, Leader of Chief Executive (if any)**  
To receive any announcements from the Chair of Council, Leader/Deputy Leader of the Council and/or the Chief Executive Officer.
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 one minute each and relate to issues under the Council's remit. At any one meeting no person may submit more than two questions and no more than two such questions may be asked on behalf of one organisation.

The Chair will ask whether any members of the public present at the meeting wish to ask a question and will decide on the order of questioners.

The response may take the form of:

- a) a direct oral answer;
- b) where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, a reference to that publication; or
- c) where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated later to the questioner.

6. **Member Questions**  
A Member of the Council may ask the Chair, the Leader, a Cabinet Member or the Chair of any Committee a question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the Cotswold District. A maximum period of fifteen minutes shall be allowed at any such meeting for Member questions.

A Member may only ask a question if:

- a) the question has been delivered in writing or by electronic mail to the Chief Executive no later than 5.00 p.m. on the working day before the day of the meeting; or
- b) the question relates to an urgent matter, they have the consent of the Chair to whom the question is to be put and the content of the question is given to the Chief Executive by 9.30 a.m. on the day of the meeting.

An answer may take the form of:

- a) a direct oral answer;
- b) where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other

- published work, a reference to that publication; or
- c) where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated later to the questioner

No Member Questions have been submitted prior to the publication of the agenda.

**7. Future of the Old Station and Memorial Cottages, Cirencester (Pages 27 - 30)**

Purpose

To seek agreement and allocation of funding to carry out structural works to rebuild an unstable wall at the Old Station, Cirencester.

Recommendation

That Council resolves to:

1. Approve to carry out the works to rebuild the unstable wall at The Old Station, utilising £158,000 of capital budget from the Asset Management Strategy capital scheme.

**Budget Council Protocol**

The Budget Council protocol within the Council's Constitution (Part G Appendix D) sets out the process by which the Council will determine its Budget for the forthcoming financial year within the statutory framework.

**8. 2024/25 Revenue Budget, Capital Programme And Medium-Term Financial Strategy (Pages 37 - 184)**

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present the budget for 2024/25.

Recommendations

That Council resolves to approve:

1. the Medium-Term Financial Strategy set out in Annex B
2. the Savings and Transformation items for inclusion in the budget, set out in Annex C
3. the Council Tax Requirement of £6,596,721 for this Council
4. the Council Tax level for Cotswold District Council purposes of £153.93 for a Band D property in 2024/25 (an increase of £5)
5. the Capital Programme, set out in Annex D
6. the Annual Capital Strategy 2024/25, as set out in Annex E
7. the Annual Treasury Management Strategy and Non-Treasury Management Investment Strategy 2024/25, as set out in Annex F
8. the Strategy for the Flexible use of Capital Receipts, as set out in Annex H
9. the balances and reserves forecast for 2024/25 to 2027/28 as set out in Section 6 of the report.
10. the Council Tax Support scheme recommended by Cabinet summarised in paragraphs 7.29 and 7.30 of this report

9. **Council Tax 2024/25** (Pages 185 - 202)

Purpose

To set the Council Tax for 2024/25.

Recommendations

Council is recommended that (subject to confirmation of Gloucestershire County Council's precept):

- 1) for the purposes of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 Section 35(2), there are no special expenses for the District Council in 2024/25;
- 2) it be noted that, using their delegated authority, the Deputy Chief Executive calculated the Council Tax Base for 2024/25:
  - (a) for the whole Council area as 42,855.33 [item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]; and
  - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish Precept relates as in the attached Schedule 1.
- 3) the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2024/25 (excluding Parish Precepts) is £153.93.
- 4) the following amounts be calculated for the year 2024/25 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
  - (a) £47,469,352 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (2) of the Act, taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils and any additional special expenses.
  - (b) £36,246,995 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act.
  - (c) £11,222,349 being the amount by which the aggregate at 4(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 4(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
  - (d) £261.87 being the amount at 4(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish Precepts and Special Expenses);
  - (e) £4,625,628 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Precepts and Special Expenses) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act as per the attached Schedule 2.
  - (f) £153.93 being the amount at 4(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 4(e) above by Item T(2(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish Precept or special item relates;
  - (g) the amounts shown in Schedule 2 being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 4(f) above, the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area shown in Schedule 2 divided in each case by the amount at 2(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council

Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate;

- (h) the amounts shown in Schedule 3 being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 4(f) and 4(g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation Band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands;
- 5) it be noted that for the year 2024/25 the Gloucestershire County Council and the Police & Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire have issued precepts to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated below:

<i>Valuation Band</i>	<i>Gloucestershire County Council</i>	<i>Police and Crime Commissioner</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>1,066.55</i>	<i>205.39</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>1,244.30</i>	<i>239.62</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>1,422.06</i>	<i>273.85</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>1,599.82</i>	<i>308.08</i>
<i>E</i>	<i>1,955.34</i>	<i>376.54</i>
<i>F</i>	<i>2,310.85</i>	<i>445.00</i>
<i>G</i>	<i>2,666.37</i>	<i>513.47</i>
<i>H</i>	<i>3,199.64</i>	<i>616.16</i>

- 6) the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in Schedule 4 as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2024/25 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.
- 7) the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2024/25 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- 8) the following Council/Public Officers: Deputy Chief Executive, Group Manager – Resident Services, Director of Governance and Development, Legal Executive, Business Manager – Operational Services, Revenues Manager, Revenues Lead and Court Officer be authorised to:
- (a) collect and recover any National Non-Domestic Rates and Council Tax; and
- (b) prosecute or defend on the Council's behalf or to appear on its behalf in proceedings before a magistrate's court in respect of unpaid National Non-Domestic Rates and Council Tax.

*Note: the Section 151 Officer will confirm at the meeting that the Gloucestershire County Council have agreed their budget and provided the formal notification of their precept.*

10. **Notice of Motions**

No motions have been submitted for the meeting.

11. **Matters exempt from publication**

If Council wishes to exclude the press and the public from the meeting during consideration of any of the items on the exempt from publication part of the agenda, it will be necessary for Council to pass a resolution in accordance with the provisions of section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that their presence could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Council may maintain the exemption if and so long as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

12. **Exempt Annex for Agenda Item 9 (Pages 203 - 204)**

13. **Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 20 March 2024 at 2pm.

(END)