

Budget Consultation Response - Letter from a Cirencester Resident

Cotswold Budget Proposals 2020-2023

With regard to the publication referenced above, thank you for your invitation and the opportunity to comment on the proposed budget.

I have assumed that as you have requested input and comments, and in line with FOI, that you will be able to provide more detail on the proposed allocation of funds?

1] £740k towards the local plan. This assumes that as it is for a review, significant expenditure has previously been made? More detail on how much was paid, and to whom, would be appreciated, and again whom to, for the new proposed expenditure.

2] Cycle and walking routes. I recollect that the government has fairly recently made a grant for this, although I am unaware of any sign of this being implemented in and around the town.

3] There appears to be no allocation of funds for car parking in or around the town. The plan appears to identify parking just as a revenue generator, and not providing any additional car parking?

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted line]

[Redacted line]

[Redacted line]

[Redacted line]

Response from Weston sub Edge Parish Council

1. £750k addressing climate change.

It is noted that £750k was allocated in exactly the same way last year but it is unclear what has been delivered to date against that budget except for a staff appointment with some direct responsibility.

WsE PC is supportive of the principle but, as comments on this administration's last two budgets, there is no detail of any deliverables with a time line of when they will be delivered together with the allocation of funds to each initiative.

WsE PC considers it reasonable for council tax payers to have visibility of what the spend is actually on and when deliverables are due. ie what is the council tax payer getting for its money and when.

The only detail provided is:

- *Encouraging residents to switch to electric vehicles by delivering charging points across the District.* Obvious question- how many, where and when at what cost? (Same question as last year)
 - *Reviewing use of offices and buildings etc.* Obvious question – When will the review be published and how much will it cost.
 - *Identifying opportunities to use our assets to support our climate strategy.* How much is being spent and when will the findings be published?
2. £100k to plan and develop greener transport options in the District including cycle and walking routes and innovative bus options.
- In last year's budget there was exactly the same budgetary provision. What was delivered against spend? What are the deliverables, with a time line and associated spend in 2022/23

It is disappointing to find a lack of detail in CDC's budget for the third year in succession.

The above are a repeat of previous year's comments and questions which did not receive definitive responses. It is frustrating to effectively make the same generic comments and raise the same generic questions without adequate response, year after year.

At the Moreton in Marsh Forum event 20 October similar questions from WsE PC remained unanswered.

WsE PC would welcome detailed responses please.

Bill Carruthers
Chairman WsE Parish Council

Email :

Subject: BUDGET CONSULTATION

Body: Good morning

Please find below comments from Tetbury Town Councillors regarding Cotswold District Councils budget consultation.

Provide evidence what they plan will improve our conditions. Looking online it appears that a 20mph limit has in at least one area led to an increase in accident rates by nearly 150% plus we need to know the effect on use of petrol/diesel at that speed which markedly increases the amount used. No political views needed - just facts to justify what is planned!

In Tetbury, car parking is a very urgent priority; there is little point in trying to encourage tourism etc if visitors have nowhere to park. There is no room at the Goods Shed or Church St and West Street carparks...or the Chipping or the other small ones. If electric charging points detract from current car parking, that will make the situation worse. I'm fully supportive of ECPs, but not if they take up valuable parking spaces...they need to be e.g. using the blocked off spaces on the way to Car Care, opposite Tesco.

It is right that Climate Charge receives a significant proportion of the budget - this area is strong and well managed and will benefit us all.

Why does reviewing the local plan cost so much? I assume this isn't just about reviewing it, but also the cost of the actions to address the local plan.

Fully support the local housing studies...but should this be more?

Supportive of development of better transport options, walking, cycling routes etc.

All the rest OK... but I was surprised there was no mention of funds to tackle flooding, like last Christmas, or perhaps this is GCC or in the climate change budget.

I am not concerned about an increase in parking charges, however this is done, but in Tetbury, there needs to be more parking available!!!

Parking Free after 3pm CDC pray tell how does this encourage tourists or residents to shop in towns , look at Cirencester with the empty shops and banks will be next for Cirencester.

After the loss of the Leisure Centre at £500,000 thru poor management from CDC and SWR Leisure Ltd to only allocate £30,000 is disgraceful.

CDC owe Tetbury a Leisure Centre no hot air!!!!

£400,000 invest in feasibility studies other work providing on social housing.

Social Housings is a business so why are these companies not investing in their business.

CDC needs to focus on here today needs and put these issues into their planning strategy that ALL new developments need to have heat source , Solar panels, Charging points etc.

£200,000 to improve the cleanliness of the district would hopefully continue visitors to the district should help pay for itself.

£35,000 each year to continue the fight against fly tipping is a police matter as it's criminal offence.

Don't seem a lot compared to other budgets!!!

£25,000 open space seems minimum spend but it's just a review so is this a paperwork exercise only!

£23,000 helping individuals with complex needs , homelessness to access secure accommodation.

Is there not professional out there such as Shelter doing this is a health and well-being matter.

At this current time of austerity Health & Wellbeing should be the priority throughout the District.

Not Climate change or Greening

Climate Change THE IN WORD costing the world millions , I accept that we should all be responsible but we can only do so much.

Electric vehicles to build have a bigger carbon footprint than the cars currently on the road.

Do we have enough resources to support the amount of electric needed or will we have to go back to nuclear.

Hydrogen may be the alternative transport for a strategy for CDC !!

Mr Robert Weaver

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Just my opinion!!!!

Colin Pearce

From: Judith Taylor <judithtaylor@tetbury.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 November 2021 18:20
To: Robert Weaver <Robert.Weaver@cotswold.gov.uk>
Cc: Nikki Ind <nikkiind@tetbury.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Budget Consultation in Tetbury

Thank you for taking the time to email me; that is appreciated.

I have completed the budget consultation online, but I wanted to stress two particular issues:

1. There is a very serious lack of parking in Tetbury. Even in November, car parks are still full until late in the afternoon and, even then, there are few spaces. Tetbury desperately needs a new carpark for about 80 cars.
2. As I understand CDC are looking to develop a route to Kemble, we want to develop a walking/cycling route from Kemble to Tetbury. Improvements to the Tetbury Trail have been very successful and we should build upon this.

Many thanks.

Judith Taylor Cllr

