



A GOOD PLACE TO BE

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2022

Present: **Cllr Boulton** **Cllr Doherty** **Cllr Foxall**
 Cllr Harrison **Cllr Lipscombe-Kettel** **Cllr O’Connell**
 Cllr Roberts **Cllr Sanford** **Cllr Stroud**
 Cllr Thornhill

In attendance: Vanessa Lawrence, Roz Morton (Clerks), District Cllr Andrews

- 118 22/23 To receive and accept apologies for absence**
Apologies were received from Cllr Lafford, Cllr Shankland, District Cllr Trotter and County Cllr Morris. These were accepted.
- 119 22/23 Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda**
None received.
- 120 22/23 To approve the Minutes of the Full council meeting held on the 11th October 2022**
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 11th October 2022. Proposed Cllr Sanford, seconded Cllr Foxall – all in favour.
- 121 22/23 Clerks’/Chairman’s report**
The Clerk’s report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Items covered **ACTIONS** from previous meetings and updates:-
- Information on Elections from 2023
- Update on playground improvements
- Update on Town Crier’s competition
- Update on help for Ukrainian families and their host
- 122 22/23 To agree to adjourn the meeting for Public Participation – there is a 10-minute time limit) if members of the public are present.**
N/A
- 123 22/23 To agree to reconvene the meeting following Public Participation, if applicable.**
N/A
- 124 22/23 Chairman’s Announcements**
- The Chair reported that Phil Bird has resigned from the Council due to work commitments.
- Reminder to Cllrs to attend the Remembrance Sunday Parade and service if they are available. The parade meeting point is 10.15 at Hyperion House.
- 125 22/23 To consider correspondence received (for information only emailed)**
Correspondence had been circulated during the month. No comments received.

126 22/23 To receive report from District Councillor/County Councillors (e-mailed)

Cllr Andrews Report:

Council Meeting:16th November

To consider:

- Recovery Investment Strategy
- Schedule of Meetings 2023-24
- Executive Scrutiny Protocol
- Cost of Living Working Group Report

Cabinet Meeting:7th November

- Council Tax Support Scheme – Increase of income bands
- Counter Fraud and Anti-Corruption Policy – Policy Approval
- Council Tax Exemption for Proposed Demolition Properties
- Recovery Investment Strategy – To rescind the policy
- Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy – Initial review. Budget consultation to run from 8th

November to 9th December

- Rural England Prosperity Fund – To approve the application process
- Delivery of 10 carbon zero affordable homes in Down Ampney

Overview & Scrutiny Meeting -18th October 2022

- Performance Task & Finish Group – linking of performance to Corporate Plan
- CDC relationship with Housing Associations
- Car Parking Service
- Executive Scrutiny Protocol

LGA Peer Review

- Last undertaken in 2019
- Interviews and meetings completed. Report awaited

MP Public Flood Meeting 21st October

- Dudgrove Brook catchment area, including Horcott Lakes

Cost of Living – Working Group Update

- Based on Full Council decision on the 20th July
- Purpose to review what CDC can directly act on or influence
- Three meetings since October with a report to Cabinet and Full Council this month

Health

- Urgent and Acute Emergency Care/Ambulance response times. Update on sub-group activity.
- HOSC on 18th October considered;
 - GHNHSFT given “improvement required” status by CQC
 - Reducing Health Inequalities in Gloucestershire

Cotswold Canal –

- NFTR.

Footpaths

- Progress with Sustrans Study of Fairford-Kempsford-Lechlade network
- Lake 103-104 footpaths – NFTR.

Planning

- Lakes 103/104 other issues (Fairford Leisure Facility)
- Initial Community Councillor Briefing held
- CDC Leisure Services briefing planned

Planning Enforcement. Specific issues include:

- Coln House School – NFTR

- Yells Yard – NFTR
- Totterdown Lane – NFTR.

Planning Enforcement Cases – Currently subject to a review process:

- Lake 103/104
- Land Behind Wick House (The Wall)
- Compliance of wall reconstruction
- Hyperion House
- Gardenside, Cinder Lane

Forthcoming Meetings:

- TBC – Ward visit by Chief Exec – Rob Weaver [Postponed from June]
- 9th November Planning 10am
- 15th November – Joint HOSC and Adult Social Care and Communities Scrutiny Committees
- 16th November Council 2pm
- 22nd November Overview & Scrutiny 4pm
- 23rd November Licencing Sub-Committee 4pm

Cllr Doherty Reported:

Regulation 15 Decision for the Fairford Neighbourhood Development Plan: The plan was approved to proceed to examination on the 21st October. Approval from CDC is based purely on technical considerations – i.e., did the plan meet the basic legal conditions but it's a key milestone that permits wider consultation and the plan's full examination prior to a local referendum, and hopefully the plan's adoption.

Local Council Tax Support (LCTS) Scheme: After consultations with residents and local organisations (e.g., Citizens Advice) Cabinet has agreed revisions to the scheme to reflect recent inflationary changes and to ensure that we don't see large number of eligible households receiving lower levels of support due to changes in their income and/or costs. The LCTS scheme is important as it's one of the main ways the council can support those who are in financial difficulty. We've gone to greater efforts to publicise it over the last few years but there are almost certainly people who still do not realise they are eligible. We will be having a push on communications for the scheme again in the next couple of months. Estimates suggest that around 10% of households should be eligible for some support.

CDC Budget and Consultation Launch: The 1st draft of the council's Medium Term Financial Strategy, incorporating the draft budget for 2023/24 has been reviewed by cabinet and is being progressed to the consultation stage with residents and partner organisations (like town councils). Budget is even more difficult this year due to recent financial instability and the recent rapid increases in inflation and interest rates. Currently projections for future funding and government policy are subject to huge uncertainty – even for next year the estimates of our funding gap range between £767,000 and £1,954,000 with the difference entirely due to government decisions that haven't been made yet. This is a huge problem across local government with very major gaps in funding and a fourth year of local authorities being unable to plan more than 1 year ahead. Cabinet has also agreed to withdraw the recovery investment strategy, changes in loan rates from the Public Works Loan Board and in government policy mean that the strategy can no longer achieve the required rates of return.

New Zero-Carbon Social Housing Projects: The cabinet has recently agreed to progress to the next stage of a project to build new zero-carbon social housing in Down Ampney (on two blocks of land jointly owned by CDC and Bromford Housing). It's the intent of both partners that this should be a model for future developments of zero-carbon, low running cost housing that's genuinely affordable. CDC will be looking to try and develop other sites in a similar way where possible.

Skate Park (Crowdfund Cotswold): CDC has also now allocated funds towards the project both from its own funding pot and from the remaining build back better covid funding.

Planning Policy (Town Centre Commercial Properties): There is considerable debate over the application of existing CDC local plan policy in respect of changes to commercial property – particularly in respect of a recent planning decision on the high street. There's disagreement between FTC's planning committee and CDC officers over how policies EC7 and EC8 should be interpreted and applied. I am concerned that current policies don't give enough protection to existing commercial properties in some situations. With that in mind I'm pursuing efforts to try and get more policy protection incorporated as part of the partial local plan review that's in progress.

Parish and Town Council Elections (Voter ID / Costs): CDC has started updating town and parish bodies on the changes imposed by the Elections Act 2022. The elections in May 2023 will be first held where voters will be required to show photo ID before being issued with a ballot paper. There are some significant new costs being borne by the polling authorities (CDC in this case) so CDC has also been updating towns and parishes on how the new cost and charging arrangements will work. There is a good summary of voter ID from the House of Commons available here: <https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-9187/CBP-9187.pdf>

Recent Meetings, Decisions and Events

3-October – Cabinet Meeting: Approval of new Data Retention Policy, Review of Draft Cabinet & Scrutiny Protocol, Draft Quarter 1 Financial and Performance Report. Agenda, minutes, and webcast video:

<https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1136&Mid=1950>

4-October – Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Financial, Council Priority and Service Performance Report Q1 2022/23, Leisure and Culture Contracts Procurement Update, Community Safety Partnership Annual Report, Planning and Development Update, CDC Flood Forum, Forward Plan and Work Plan, Recovery Investment Strategy. Agenda, minutes, and webcast video: <https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1165&Mid=1963>

5-October – Full Council Extraordinary Meeting: Review and agree consolidated updates to the council's constitution documents. Report. Agenda, minutes, and webcast video: <https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1154&Mid=2024>

12-October – Planning and Licensing Committee: No applications in Fairford in this meeting. Agenda, minutes, and webcast:

<https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1162&Mid=1985>

14-October – Cabinet Member for Economy and Transformation Decision-Making Meeting: Approval of the upgrade of parking machines to support roll-out of cashless parking. Agenda, minutes, and webcast:

<https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1174&Mid=2027>

18-October – Overview and Scrutiny Meeting: Performance Task and Finish Group, Housing Services – Housing Associations and CDC housing support, Car parking service update, Executive Scrutiny Protocol, Executive Forward Plan / Work Plan. Agenda, minutes, and webcast: <https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1165&Mid=2020>

21-October – Cabinet Member for Development Management and Licensing

– Decision Making Meeting: Neighbourhood Planning: Regulation 15 Decision for the Fairford Neighbourhood Development Plan. Agenda, minutes, and webcast:

<https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1311&Mid=2028>

3-November – Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance – Decision Making Meeting: Review and decisions on various applications for discretionary council tax discounts. Agenda, minutes, and webcast:

<https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1171&Mid=2031>

7-November – Cabinet Meeting: Consideration of and recommendation to council of the revisions to the Council Tax Support Scheme. Review and approve Counter Fraud and Anti-Corruption Policy. Review and approve Long Term Council Tax Empty Premium Exemption on Proposed Demolition Properties, Rescind the Recovery Investment Strategy, Review and approve for consultation the draft council budget for 2023/24. Review indicative funding allocations and arrangements for the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF). Review of warm places motion, funding to prior and current work ongoing to support people in the cost-of-living crisis. Delivery of carbon-zero homes through collaboration agreement with Bromford Housing Association and associated land transfer arrangement. Agenda, minutes, and webcast video:

<https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1136&Mid=1951>

Forthcoming Meetings, Decisions and Events

Public council meetings, key decisions and events expected before the next FTC meeting.

9-November – Planning and Licensing Committee: No planning applications in, or adjacent, the Fairford TC area under consideration. FTC Planning Committee has suggested submitting a public question to this meeting but I'm not sure that the planning committee takes public questions (TBC). Agenda:

<https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1162&Mid=1986>

16-November – Full Council Meeting: Agenda yet to be published:

<https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1154&Mid=1995>

22-November – Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Agenda yet to be published:

<https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1165&Mid=1964>

23-November – Licensing Sub-Committee: Agenda yet to be published:

<https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1168&Mid=1974>

5-December – Cabinet: Agenda yet to be published:

<https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1136&Mid=1952>

County Cllrs Report – Cllr D. Morris

- 1. Levelling up together – £1.5m Gloucestershire grant launched** Gloucestershire County Council has launched its Levelling Up Together grant scheme with £1.5million committed to supporting the ten areas of the county that need it most. <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/levelling-up-together-15m-gloucestershire-grant-launched/>
- 2. ‘Dismay’ at Stagecoach’s decision to cancel bus services.**
Gloucestershire County Council have today expressed dismay that Stagecoach have registered intent with the Traffic Commissioner to cancel or change bus services across the county. <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/dismay-at-stagecoach-s-decision-to-cancel-bus-services/>
- 3. Just the beginning of work on Severn Edge say leaders following fusion announcement**

Leaders of the Western Gateway Partnership bid to bring the UK's STEP programme to Severn Edge say this is "not the end of the road" for the site as the government announce the UK's first fusion plant will be built in Nottinghamshire.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/just-the-beginning-of-work-on-severn-edge-say-leaders-following-fusion-announcement/>

4. Gloucestershire honoured with 'Tree of Trees'

Three Gloucestershire organisations have been honoured with trees from the 'Tree of Trees' sculpture which formed the glorious green centrepiece to the late Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee celebrations at Buckingham Palace in June.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/gloucestershire-honoured-with-tree-of-trees/>

5. New chargepoints and electric vehicles as green revolution revs up

New charging points for electric vehicles (EVs) are being installed at sites run by Gloucestershire County Council as part of its strategy to tackle the climate emergency.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/new-chargepoints-and-electric-vehicles-as-green-revolution-revs-up/>

6. Cost-of-living 'Support Hub' launches alongside county warm bank offer

Gloucestershire County Council has brought together a wealth of information from the public and third sector, to help everyone get faster access to the support they need during the cost-of-living challenges.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/cost-of-living-support-hub-launches-alongside-county-warm-bank-offer/>

7. Waste wizard will leave recyclers spellbound

A magical new website tool has been launched to help people in Gloucestershire find out how to get rid of items sustainably. <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/waste-wizard-will-leave-recyclers-spellbound/>

8. County Council launches its bid to Government for two Investment Zones

Gloucestershire County Council has launched its bid to the Government for two Investment Zones in the county. <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/county-council-launches-its-bid-to-government-for-two-investment-zones/>

9. Land appeal to help manage county's waste

Gloucestershire County Council is preparing a new waste local plan, setting out a strategy to manage the county's waste into the next decade.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/land-appeal-to-help-manage-county-s-waste/>

10. Council to install barrier to keep cyclists and pedestrians safe

Gloucestershire County Council will install a barrier between a cycle lane and the road in Gloucester next week to improve safety for road users.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/council-to-install-barrier-to-keep-cyclists-and-pedestrians-safe/>

11. Public engagement exercise launches for Cheltenham Mini-Holland scheme

Gloucestershire County Council has launched a public engagement exercise as part of its funding bid for a Mini-Holland scheme, which will improve the future of walking and cycling in Cheltenham. <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/public-engagement-exercise-launches-for-cheltenham-mini-holland-scheme/>

12. Call for county's Armed Forces community to share views

Gloucestershire's Armed Forces Covenant Partnership is inviting the local Armed Forces community to have their say on a new community hub to provide information and support. <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/call-for-county-s-armed-forces-community-to-share-views/>

13. National fostering film 'Childhood' launched in Gloucestershire

Fostering services across the country have joined together to produce 'Childhood' a short film to raise awareness of the need for foster carers.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/national-fostering-film-childhood-launched-in-gloucestershire/>

14. Academy sponsor announced for new primary special school

The Regional Director has approved SAND Academies Trust as the preferred sponsor to run Gloucestershire's new special school for children aged 4-11.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/academy-sponsor-announced-for-new-primary-special-school/>

15. County council launches pilot rural minibus in the Cotswolds

Gloucestershire County Council has today launched its £1.35 million rural minibus pilot in the Cotswolds.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/county-council-launches-pilot-rural-minibus-in-the-cotswolds/>

16. Book on the day to visit your local Household Recycling Centre

You can now book to visit your local Gloucestershire Household Recycling Centre on the same day.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershire-county-council-news/news-october-2022/book-on-the-day-to-visit-your-local-household-recycling-centre/>

127 22/23 To receive other reports: -

Cllr Thornhill reported on the Farmers Endowed Trust meeting. Another meeting is to be arranged and a fuller report will be submitted following that meeting. No funds could be allocated as details relating to the accounts were not available.

The Clerk (RM), attended the Community Response Network Meeting at Deer Park School hosted by Emma Johnson (Early Help Co-ordinator, GCC). The Door, Sportily, Fusion and representatives from Kingshill School and Deer Park were present. Minutes of the meeting are filed with these Minutes. Both schools are currently using The Door, who will be meeting with Farmor's School this week and Lechlade Town Council next week.

The Clerk (VL) reported on a Teams meeting detailing changes relating to elections from 2023 which includes details of costs which town and parish councils will have to pay from 2024. Details of the meeting have been forwarded to Councillors.

Project Working Groups: -

- **Skate Park Project** - The Clerk reported that further pledges have been received from organisations such as The Bulldogs,, Arkells, Kempsford Parish Council. The current total is £68,828. CDC have also agreed to support the project with a grant of £15094 and a further grant for £20k is expected.
- **Community Building** – Cllr Foxall will be meeting with G. Ellis from the Rugby Club shortly to look at grant funding possibilities. We are awaiting possible costs for the building from the architect.

ACTION: Clerk to chase this.

- **Burial Ground** – The legal process is underway. Will be looking at work to the area that is required, such as the creation of paths, hedging etc early in the New Year. The burial regulations to be reviewed and suitable wording to be agreed by ECT.
- **Transport Plan** – This will need to be re-distributed to another Councillor due to the resignation of Phil Bird. Cllr Shankland has agreed to take this on.
- **Fairford to Lechlade Path** – Meeting held today. Lakes by Yoo are still keen to progress this project. Owners of land at Whelford Pools and along the Whelford Road have expressed their support but formal permission is awaited. A new Sustrans representative has been introduced to the project and a meeting is arranged for later this month.

FINANCE

The Chair of Finance reported that the budget setting process is underway. Cllr Foxall has been instrumental in putting together a plan to obtain a better overview. The Clerks have been actively working on this. A report has been prepared to enable the Committee to look ahead for the next few years but this will be presented to the Finance Committee in the first instance for assessment following which a final report will be presented to Full Council alongside the proposed Precept request.

- 128 22/23 To approve retrospectively payments for October 2022**
It was **RESOLVED** to approve, retrospectively, payments for October 2022. Proposed Cllr Doherty, seconded Cllr Foxall – all in favour.
- 129 22/23 To consider and agree Reconciliation Report end October 2022**
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Reconciliation Report at the end of October. Proposed Cllr Doherty, seconded Cllr Boulton – all in favour.
- 130 22/23 To receive Income & Expenditure figures end October 2022**
The Income & Expenditure figures were received with no comment.
- 131 22/23 To consider and agree approval of Financial Regulations for 2022/23 as recommended by Finance Committee.**
The Chair of Finance reported that the only change to the Financial Regulations was an additional clause (No. 17). It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Financial Regulations for 2022/23. Proposed Cllr Doherty, seconded Cllr Foxall – all in favour.
- 132 22/23 To consider and agree approval of Financial Reserves Policy for 2022/23 as recommended by Finance Committee.**
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Financial Reserves Policy. Proposed Cllr Doherty, seconded Cllr Foxall – all in favour. Cllrs advised that this would be re-considered following completion and approval of the budget and the precept, if required.
- 133 22/23 To consider and agree donation to RBL Poppy Appeal**
It was **RESOLVED** to agree a donation of £60.00. Proposed Cllr Boulton, seconded Cllr Foxall – all in favour.

PLANNING

- 134 22/23 To receive the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 18th October and 1st November 2022 (unapproved)**
The Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held in October and November were received with no comment.
- 135 22/23 To receive report from Chair of Planning**
The Chair of the Planning Committee had circulated his report prior to the meeting. He advised that new proposals for Yells Yard had been submitted and this would be considered at the next Planning Committee meeting next week.
- 136 22/23 Update on NDP**
The Clerk reported that the NDP has now gone to Reg. 16. Comments can be made via the CDC website by any individual.

WORKS & EVENTS

- 137 22/23 To receive the Minutes of the Works & Events Committee meeting held on the 25th October 2022**
The Minutes of the Works & Events Committee meeting held on the 25th October were received with no comment.

138 22/23 To receive a report from the Chair of the Works & Events Committee

No report available.

139 22/23 To consider and agree format for Coronation in 2023

A debate ensued relating to the type of event that the Town Council might sanction given the current financial climate. Various suggestions were made but it was agreed to not rush but to ask residents for their views in January. In the meantime, we would ask GCC what arrangements are being made for road closures.

ACTION: Clerk to contact GCC and to ask residents for the views in January via the Fairford Facebook page and newsletter

140 22/23 Update on change to Town Crier Competition.

Do to the Coronation in May 2023, it was agreed at the Works and Events meeting in October to contact the Town Criers Association and agree a new date in 2024 for the Town Crier competition.

ACTION: Clerk to ascertain new date in 2024.

141 22/23 To consider and agree rota for Christmas activities - putting up decorations

Help is required from Tuesday 22nd Nov to wrap the little trees with lights and on Saturday 26th November from 10am to put the little trees and lights up around the Town

- marshalling at Christmas market

Help is required on Friday 2nd December from 10am to marshal road closures throughout the day and also to assist with the clear up at the end of the market.

Clerk asked Councillors to be mindful that help is always required at the end of the event to clear up.

Cllrs agreed to help if possible.

OTHER MATTERS

142 22/23 To receive details of the Remembrance Sunday programme

The programme was received without comment.

143 22/23 Anything the Chair considers urgent.

Nothing of note.

144 22/23 Date of next meeting – Tuesday 10th January 2022

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.40pm

.....Chairman

.....2022