

54. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A copy of the declarations of interest is attached to the signed copy of the minutes.

55. ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Skillzone event

The Chairman advised that unfortunately the previously advertised event for members and their families on 22 September 2018 at Skillzone, Gloucester has been postponed. Members, however, were encouraged to support the Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service Great Gloucestershire Bed Push to raise funds for the Gloucestershire Oncology Cancer Care Charity, Focus. He said that he would be going to Cheltenham later that day to greet them on their arrival at the Oncology Centre. He hoped that everyone would support the bed push by buying raffle tickets.

b) i) Edward Gillespie, new Lord-Lieutenant

The Chairman congratulated Edward Gillespie OBE DL on his appointment as Lord-Lieutenant of ceremonial Gloucestershire. The Chairman had written to Edward congratulating him on his appointment and looked forward to a warm working relationship with the County Council.

ii) Dame Janet Trotter

Edward would be succeeding Dame Janet Trotter OBE DBE CVO on 29 October 2018. The Chairman said that he would be writing to Janet to thank her for all her work on behalf the county since her appointment in 2010.

c) Heritage Hub

Members were invited to visit the information stand on the Council Chamber landing during the lunch break. The Chairman asked them to save the date '5 December 2018' for a launch event.

d) End of First World War Commemoration Service

Members were reminded to respond to Emma Glynn at Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service regarding the invitation to the Cathedral Service on 11 November at 3pm. Further information was provided in Members' Matter.

e) Gloucestershire Pride

The Chairman advised that the Rainbow flag was flying over Shire Hall in celebration of the Gloucestershire Pride event on Saturday, 8 September 2018. He noted that the Conservative Group was holding an event at

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lunchtime to mark the naming of the Conservative Group Room as the Barry Dare Room. Barry's wife and two sons had been invited to come along. He said that Barry had attended Stonewall events and had been a long time supporter of the LGBT community.

56. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Ten questions had been received. A copy of the answers was circulated and is attached to the signed copy of the minutes.

Question 3 – Emma Clifford asked whether the Council could guarantee payment to care workers for travel time?

Cllr Kathy Williams replied that this was not something that could be guaranteed. There are individual contracts and the Council could not dictate what they did with that money.

Q5 – Emma Clifford asked whether the member could understand the frustration of NHS staff of care companies demanding 48 hours notice before restarting a package of care.

Cllr Kathy Williams stated that the County Council worked closely with health. Discharges were planned in the best way possible to minimise this but circumstances did not always allow that.

Question 6 – Emma Clifford stated that she would be interested to know how many care companies had withdrawn after finding clients too difficult or challenging to care for.

Cllr Kathy Williams stated that each case was confidential and so this information could not be provided.

Question 9 – Emma Clifford asked whether a rolling recruitment programme for home care workers indicated a constant turnover of staff.

Cllr Kathy Williams responded that care staff were difficult to recruit and that there was a 'proud to care' campaign. She would provide the member of the public with some more detail on this.

57. CORPORATE PARENTING

Cllr Richard Boyles, the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, presented the Corporate Parenting report. He hoped that members would inform their group representatives on the Corporate Parenting Group of their views on the new Corporate Parenting Pledge. He was anxious that all members signed the pledge.

A member stated that she was concerned that the pledge had not in the past had the support of all members.

Referring to invitations for members to attend foster carer group meetings in their area, a member said that this should be with the agreement of each group. He noted that the primary purpose of the meeting was for foster carers to share their views in an informal way and the presence of members might not always be appropriate.

58. PETITIONS

Cllr Jeremy Hilton presented on petition on behalf of a local resident calling for the Council to adopt the Ethical Care Charter.

59. MOTIONS

Motion 820 – Accessibility through the Shire Hall complex

Cllr Lesley Williams proposed and Cllr Klara Sudbury seconded the motion on the agenda.

In proposing the motion, Cllr Williams stated that with all the work going on at Shire Hall at present there was an opportunity to ensure that access to the building, display facilities and hearing loops met the latest requirements. She suggested that people with disabilities who were not familiar with Shire Hall be taken around the building to allow them to identify any problem areas.

In seconding the motion, Cllr Sudbury stated that it was important that Shire Hall was accessible for all people, irrespective of their disabilities. She said that this included providing a toilet that met the Changing Places requirements. She explained that Changing Places toilets provided additional equipment such as adult sized changing benches, a hoist system and space for up to two carers. These toilets provided comfort and dignity for people with disabilities.

Cllr Ray Theodoulou, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Change, advised that all the work being undertaken at Shire Hall was compliant with the latest building regulations regarding accessibility. He said that new lifts were being installed with protected power and intercom facilities, new doors, ramps, opening up offices to provide wider through routes, improving toilets to meet the requirements recognised by disabled groups and providing extra parking spaces for blue badge holders. He stated that the Council was in ongoing dialogue with disability groups and an audit would be undertaken to identify where there were particular issues to address.

A number of members believed that the Council should take the lead in the county in providing Changing Places toilets. They noted that the reality for people with disabilities was that they stayed at home or faced the indignity of being changed on the floor of a toilet.

A member referred to the lack of breast feeding facilities when babies were frequently brought to Shire Hall to register their birth. Another member noted how difficult it was for disabled people to access certain parts of the building.

A member noted the difficulties that poor vision brought in navigating a complex building like Shire Hall. She thanked Democratic Services and ICT for the support they had provided.

Another member asked that access to Council buildings away from Shire Hall also be included as part of the review. He undertook to pursue this with officers outside the meeting.

On being put to the vote, the motion received unanimous support.

RESOLVED

That this Council notes that extensive work is being carried out throughout the Shire Hall complex to improve both the external facade of buildings and also internally.

That this Council requests:

- *That a full audit is carried out to ensure that all buildings are all easily accessible to the highest standard, signs visible, easily read and in braille where needed, transparent panels in doors so a person in a wheel chair is visible, automatic doors are accessible to people in wheelchairs and every attempt is made to ensure that it is as easy for a person with a disability to move around the buildings as it is for someone who considers themselves able bodied.*
- *That once the audit is complete, all necessary adjustments are made.*

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- *A fully accessible toilet, built to Changing Places standards (<http://www.changing-places.org>) is introduced in Shire Hall, which can be used by disabled people visiting Gloucester as well as Shire Hall.*

Motion 821 - Call for a People's vote on Brexit

Cllr Paul Hodgkinson proposed and Cllr Jeremy Hilton seconded the motion included on the agenda.

This Council notes:

- *The recent warnings from multinational businesses based in the south west, including Airbus and Honda, that exiting the EU customs union will be a catastrophe for trade and may lead them to relocate their manufacturing outside of the UK.*
- *The number of Gloucestershire citizens working for businesses that rely on free movement of trade within the European Union.*
- *That, according to the Government's own figures, under all Brexit scenarios the UK will be considerably poorer.*
- *The additional negative impacts in terms of the UK's international reputation, society and environment.*

This Council therefore agrees that there should be a 'People's Vote' on the final Brexit deal, which should include an option for the United Kingdom to remain a full member of the European Union.

Cllr Hodgkinson thanked the members of the public in the audience who had come along to Shire Hall that morning to express their views on Brexit. He said that the campaign for a 'People's Vote' was gathering momentum with more and more people, businesses and other organisations coming on board. He noted that the Council itself received direct funds of £400,000 with more provided through the Big Lottery Fund. The county would lose around £18 million in farming subsidies and business grants before considering the impact of the loss of the Single Market. Big local employers like Airbus and Honda had already warned of the dangers of a bad deal or no deal and indicated that they may have to leave the UK. He was concerned that the Council had done nothing to consider the potential implications of Brexit on people living and working in Gloucestershire.

In seconding the motion, Cllr Hilton stated that he had voted to join the Common Market in 1975. He said that it helped to secure peace in Europe and encouraged countries to sit down together to understand the issues they were facing. The current position following Brexit was confusing with the public unsure whether the UK was going to stay in the Single Market or not. He was concerned that the rights

that people living in the UK enjoyed as EU citizens would be lost. He believed that the public should be given the opportunity to have their say through a 'People's Vote'.

A number of members spoke strongly in support of the motion. They believed that the Government's Brexit negotiations had become a shambles. They said that the Brexit campaign ahead of the referendum had been misleading but now people had a better understanding of the issues. They felt that in the circumstances it was perfectly legitimate to have another vote. This would allow people to have the opportunity to have the final say on leaving or staying in the EU. They expressed particular concerns about the uncertainties relating to the freedom of movement across Europe, the availability of critical services and supplies, criminal justice, the falling value of the pound and the impact on the economy.

Other members spoke against the motion. They said that a referendum had been held and a decision had been made that the UK should leave the EU. They believed that it was an insult to people's intelligence to say that they did not know what they were voting for. A second referendum would undermine democracy and they felt that everyone should get behind the Government in negotiating a deal that met the needs of people living in the UK.

In summing up, Cllr Hodgkinson stated that it was the Government who had got it wrong and no one was saying that UK people had got it wrong. He said that the people deserved the final say on the biggest issue that had faced the country in years.

On being put to a recorded vote, the motion was defeated.

The voting was as follows:

For (18): Cllrs David Brown, Chris Coleman, Dr John Cordwell, Iain Dobie, Joe Harris, Colin Hay, Jeremy Hilton, Paul Hodgkinson, Graham Morgan, Brian Oosthuysen, John Payne, Nigel Robbins, Rachel Smith, Klara Sudbury, Eva Ward, Simon Wheeler, Jack Williams, Suzanne Williams

Against (27): Cllrs Carole Allaway-Martin, Matt Babbage, Rob Bird, Richard Boyles, Kevin Cromwell, Stephen Davies, Andrew Gravells, Terry Hale, Tim Harman, Mark Hawthorne, Dr Andrew Miller, Patrick Molyneux, Nigel Moor, Dave Norman, Shaun Parsons, Sajid Patel, Loraine Patrick, Alan Preest, Keith Rippington, Brian Robinson, Vernon Smith, Lynden Stowe, Ray Theodoulou, Robert Vines, Kathy Williams, Roger Wilson, Will Windsor-Clive

Abstentions (2): Cllrs Kate Haigh and Lesley Williams

Motion 822 - Diabetes

Cllr Klara Sudbury proposed and Cllr Simon Wheeler seconded the motion on the agenda.

In presenting the motion, Cllr Sudbury advised that there were approximately 400,000 adults and 29,000 children in the UK living with Type 1 Diabetes. She explained that it was an autoimmune disease and there was little that people could do to prevent it. Type 1 sufferers often faced a lifetime of misunderstanding with people believing that the disease was a result of a poor lifestyle and diet. She believed that it was important that activities were undertaken in schools and preschools to raise awareness of Type 1 Diabetes.

In seconding the motion, Cllr Wheeler spoke of the difficulties of the discrimination that someone with Type 1 Diabetes in his own family had suffered. He said that the attitude of his employer and some of his colleagues had made life difficult for him at times. He referred to an example when his family member had been asked not to inject insulin in the work canteen.

Cllr Tim Harman, the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities, welcomed the motion and thanked Cllrs Sudbury and Wheeler for bringing it to members' attention. He said that a multi-disciplinary team was providing support for people suffering with both Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes.

Other members spoke in support of the motion. They noted that 8% of the NHS budget nationally was spent on Diabetes. They recognised that there was a lack of understanding about Diabetes in general. With the dangers of sugar levels and associated hypos it was important that there was a greater public understanding of what to do in an emergency situation.

In summing up, Cllr Sudbury noted how important it was for people to be careful in their choice of language around people who were suffering with Type 1 Diabetes. The number of sufferers was relatively small in comparison with Type 2 Diabetes. She echoed the comments of other members about raising awareness of what to do in someone suffered a hypo.

An amendment to include the following at the end of the motion was accepted by Council:

This Council further requests that Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee invite the Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group to discuss their approach to funding Insulin Pumps and Continuous Glucose Monitors in Gloucestershire.

On being put to the vote, the following resolution received unanimous support.

RESOLVED that

This Council notes that:

- *Approximately six per cent of the UK population is living with Diabetes. Of this number, people with Type 1 Diabetes only account for approximately 10 per cent.*
- *Type 1 Diabetes is an autoimmune disease which bears no relation to excess body weight, diet or physical inactivity.*
- *Due to the low numbers of people with Type 1 Diabetes, combined with high profile warnings about diet and Type 2 Diabetes, these individuals are often stigmatised and blamed for having this disease.*

This Council also notes that:

- *Type 1 Diabetes is often diagnosed in childhood; however it can develop in later life.*
- *Symptoms can develop quickly over a few days or weeks and can be incredibly dangerous if left undiagnosed or untreated.*
- *The four major symptoms of Type 1 Diabetes are often referred to as “The Four Ts”*

This Council therefore resolves to coordinate with Gloucestershire CCG, Gloucestershire’s schools and the county’s independent academies to run a diabetes awareness campaign – both to increase understanding of type 1 diabetes and awareness of “The Four Ts”.

This Council further requests that Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee invite the Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group to discuss their approach to funding Insulin Pumps and Continuous Glucose Monitors in Gloucestershire.

Motion 823 - Ethical Care Charter

Cllr Brian Oosthuysen proposed and Cllr Kate Haigh seconded the motion on the agenda.

In proposing the motion, Cllr Oosthuysen stated that adopting the Ethical Care Charter would show that the Council really valued care workers and the vulnerable people that they looked after. He briefly outlined the requirements of the charter including providing a named carer and giving them enough time to talk to their clients.

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Cllr Roger Wilson, the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care Commissioning, said that where the Council had influence it complied or very nearly complied with the charter. It was not practicable, however, for the Council to insist that providers comply with every aspect of the charter.

A number of other members spoke in support of the motion. They stated that the charter showed what best practice looked like and they believed that signing up to it would strengthen the Council's hand in dealing with care providers. They referred to fair rostering, paying for travel time and not restricting the length of visits. They felt that they were fundamental principles that the Council should be supporting.

In seconding the motion, Cllr Haigh said that she could not understand why the Cabinet Member was saying that it was not practicable to sign up when a number of other councils across the country had already done so. She stated that the charter provided dignity and respect for care workers and made the carer profession a more attractive career path.

On being put to the vote, the following motion was lost:

This Council notes that:

- *A survey of homecare workers undertaken by UNISON, entitled Time to Care, found a committed but poorly paid and treated workforce doing its best to maintain good levels of quality care in a system that is in crisis and that poor terms and conditions for workers can contribute towards lower standards of care for people in receipt of homecare services.*
- *In light of these findings, UNISON has called on local authorities to commit to becoming Ethical Care Councils by commissioning services which adhere to its Ethical Care Charter - <https://www.unison.org.uk/content/uploads/2016/08/22014.pdf>*
- *To date, 30 councils and a number of social care companies have signed up to the Charter.*

This Council further notes that whilst Gloucestershire County Council achieves much of what is in the charter in practice, we wish to make a clear statement of the standards and ethics through which we deliver care services to residents.

This Council resolves therefore to publicly commit to Stages 1 and 2 of the Ethical Care Charter with a view to implementing Stage 3 in future.

60. MEMBER QUESTIONS

Forty one questions had been received. A copy of the answers was circulated and is attached to the signed copy of the minutes.

Question 2– Cllr Klara Sudbury stated that she had asked a similar question in January 2010 relating to road maintenance and was surprised that the information was available in 2010 but not in 2018. She asked what had changed.

Cllr Vernon Smith explained that the information was in the asset management plan and presented a series of data sheets to demonstrate the complexity of the work taking place. The Chairman suggested that the councillors meet to discuss what information was available outside of the meeting.

Question 9 – Cllr Klara Sudbury identified the money from on street parking from Cheltenham Borough Council and asked if their money could be ring-fenced and reinvested into Cheltenham’s pavements.

Cllr Vernon Smith replied that money from on- street parking was reinvested in highways.

Question 12 – Cllr Klara Sudbury drew the member’s attention to vehicles travelling the wrong way through Boots Corner in order to bypass the cameras. She asked what was happening on the ground in response.

Cllr Nigel Moor replied that this was being continually monitored and had been reported at Cheltenham Borough Council scrutiny.

Question 17 – Cllr Lesley Williams asked when the review of Children’s Centres would be ready

Cllr Richard Boyles explained that it would be in September 2018.

Question 19 – Cllr Lesley Williams asked that work continued to encourage people to take up the MMR vaccine as the figures suggested challenges in this area.

Cllr Tim Harman stated that the latest data showed the council moving in the right direction with a 90% vaccination rate.

Question 21 – Cllr Lesley Williams asked whether Cllr Mark Hawthorne had received a response from the Regional Schools Commissioner, to a letter seeking reassurance that they will robustly monitor and challenge poor performance of academies.

Cllr Mark Hawthorne replied that he was not aware of a response and as soon as it was received it would be circulated to all councillors. He noted that this was not just a Gloucestershire problem.

Question 22 – Cllr Eva Ward emphasised the importance of monitoring the outcomes from the social impact bond. She asked how members would be kept informed.

Cllr Kathy Williams replied that District Councils had officers that go out and monitor on the street and feed back to County Council. She would be happy to share the figures with the member as they came in.

Question 25 – Cllr Paul Hodgkinson asked what preparations were being made by emergency services (as far as the leader knew) in case of civil unrest relating to Brexit.

Cllr Mark Hawthorne stated that he would not waste tax payers money on hypothetical scenario planning around this issue and felt it could be dealt with under normal procedures and by the police.

Question 26 – Cllr John Cordwell asked whether it was a bit late to start examining the implications of a 'no deal' Brexit?

Cllr Mark Hawthorne stated that the information was published by the LGA who were doing a huge amount of work on this. Local Government also had a seat at the table for Brexit negotiations.

Question 27 – Cllr Chris Coleman, responding to the leader criticising the member questions on Brexit, asked how his question about the potential £8.4 billion UK-wide funding gap for local government was 'sad and pathetic'?

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Cllr Mark Hawthorne replied that the LGA publications from which his answers stemmed from were available to the member to read in his position as Cabinet Member for Cheltenham Borough Council.

Question 28 – Cllr Iain Dobie asked whether the Leader supported future freedom of movement for EU workers.

Cllr Mark Hawthorne replied that the Prime Minister had made it clear that one of the key messages from the referendum was that an exit from the EU must end free movement. It was important that critical roles in health and social care sector were filled and that many of these came from outside the EU. This continued to be a priority for the Government.

Question 29 – Cllr Colin Hay asked could the Leader, in his role, please ensure that people had adequate supplies of medical products following Brexit.

Cllr Mark Hawthorne– stated that there was a clear intention from government to ensure supplies are maintained. It was not in the interest of those pharmaceutical companies to see that prohibited.

Question 31- Cllr Joe Harris asked the Leader's opinion on Dr Fox's criticism of Theresa May's handling of Brexit.

Cllr Mark Hawthorne replied that he had confidence in the Prime Minister to make sure we get a deal for Britain and that the European Union often finalised deals at a late stage.

Question 32 – Cllr Kate Haigh understood that the Council was monitoring the shared space scheme at Kimbrose Triangle, she asked what would trigger changes to be made and would a review be undertaken?

Cllr Vernon Smith replied that he would be happy to talk through with the member what was being done to monitor Kimbrose Triangle.

Question 33 – Cllr Kate Haigh stated that information from FGM centre suggests child abuse linked to faith is a larger problem in this country. She asked if the member would investigate this further.

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Cllr Richard Boyle replied that an October meeting of the Safeguarding Board was scheduled with those groups where this issue would be discussed.

Question 34 – Cllr Jeremy Hilton asked if the Council had invested in Wonga?

Cllr Ray Theodoulou replied that the answer was no.

61. SCRUTINY REPORT

Cllr Patrick Molyneux, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, to present the report on recent scrutiny activities.

Following the lunch break, Cllr Andrew Gravells, the Chairman of the Council, left the meeting to greet the Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service Great Gloucestershire Bed Push at the Cheltenham Oncology Centre. Cllr Patrick Molyneux, the Vice-chair of the Council, chaired the remainder of the meeting.

Cllr Molyneux presented the scrutiny report as the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee. He said that the main items at the last meeting were an update on period poverty and the review of scrutiny. He explained that the review would be looking at best practice elsewhere and allow members to consider the Council's approach. He encouraged all members to get involved in the review to ensure that scrutiny met the needs of members.

He said that a number of workshops would be held as part of the review and these would include consideration of the findings of the Communities and Local Government Select Committee inquiry into scrutiny.

Answering a question, Cllr Richard Boyles, the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, confirmed that the Council was embracing the Police and Crime Commissioner's child friendly Gloucestershire proposal. He noted that the Director of Children's Services would shortly be meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

62. SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT (SHE) REPORT

Cllr David Norman, Chair of the SHE Panel, presented the SHE Annual Report. He drew members' attention to four specific areas: accidents continued to be low risk, appropriate action had been taken in response to asbestos being removed without a licence, staff sickness was lower than the national average but was on an upward

trend and the support available to staff and members through the Employee Assistance Programme.

He advised that the SHE Panel were mindful of any implications arising from the Grenfall Inquiry and appropriate action would be taken when the findings were published. He thanked the members of the SHE Panel for their work throughout the year. He also paid tribute to the SHE Team for their efforts throughout the year which were clearly paying dividends with a reducing number of incidents.

A member expressed concern at the rising trend in staff sickness, particularly the increase in the number of people absent due to substance abuse.

Answering questions, Cllr Norman stated that it was a matter for managers to ensure that appropriate display equipment assessments were undertaken for staff. The Council paid for eye tests and for glasses if they were specifically for display screen use. Responding to concerns regarding library staff being discouraged from providing first aid, he explained that qualified first aiders would normally be expected to respond but not others. He said that he would investigate to see if more staff in libraries could be trained as first aiders.

Another member noted that the number of health and safety incidents was sharply down in comparison with the past. However, he was concerned that sickness absence rates for staff were rising, notably for depression and substance abuse.

RESOLVED to note the SHE Annual Report for 2017-18

63. CABINET DECISION STATEMENT

RESOLVED to note the Cabinet Decision Statement for the meeting held on 18 July 2018.

64. CABINET MEMBER DECISION STATEMENTS

A number of members expressed concern at the potential impact of the changes in opening hours for the household recycling centres. They enquired who had been consulted on the changes and raised serious concern that the reduced opening hours each day and the closure one day each week would result in an increase in the incidence of fly tipping. One member suggested that 'a view the queue' facility be made available on the Council website so that members of the public could pick a time to visit when the recycling centres were less busy.

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Cllr Nigel Moor, the Cabinet Member for Fire, Planning and Infrastructure, explained that surveys had been undertaken of each of the recycling centres affected by the change of opening hours. Measures needed to be taken to reduce costs and it was evident that people were not visiting the centres early or late in the day. He said that Ubico who operated the centres had been consulted along with officers working in the districts. He undertook to provide members with more information on the usage surveys that had been undertaken.

RESOLVED to note that the Cabinet Member Decision Statements for the period 1 June to 31 August 2018.

The meeting ended at 2.35pm

Chairman