



COUNCIL

MEETING : Thursday, 9th July 2020

PRESENT : Cllrs. Haigh (Mayor), Lugg (Sheriff & Deputy Mayor), Cook, H. Norman, Gravells, Melvin, Morgan, Watkins, Hilton, Stephens, Tracey, Hanman, Lewis, Wilson, Bhaimia, Williams, D. Brown, Organ, Dee, Taylor, Field, Hansdot, Finnegan, Patel, Toleman, D. Norman, Pullen, Hampson, Brooker, Brazil, J. Brown, Coole, Hyman, Ryall, Walford and Bowkett

Others in Attendance

Managing Director
Corporate Director, Partnerships
Corporate Director, Transformation
Head of Communities
Head of Cultural Services
Head of Place
Head of Policy and Resources
Solicitor (One Legal)
Policy and Governance Manager
Democratic and Electoral Services Team Leader

APOLOGIES : Cllrs. Derbyshire

10. MINUTES

10.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 1 June 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.

11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

11.1 There were no declarations of interest.

12. CALL OVER

12.1 The Mayor invited Members to indicate whether they wished to reserve agenda items 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 for discussion. Members indicated that they wished to reserve items 9 and 11 for discussion.

12.2 Councillor Cook (Leader of the Council) moved and Councillor H Norman (Deputy Leader of the Council) seconded that the Governance

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Arrangements for the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee, the Annual Report of the Audit and Governance Committee 2019-20 and the Appointments to Committees be approved.

12.3 **RESOLVED that:** - Governance Arrangements for the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee be approved.

12.4 **RESOLVED that:** - The Annual Report of the Audit and Governance Committee 2019-20 be approved.

12.5 **RESOLVED that:** - Appointments to Committees be approved.

13. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

13.1 Richard Ford asked the following question of the Leader of the Council:

Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 states :-

“If a member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of his last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, he shall, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of the authority “

No such approval in accordance with s85(1) was made by Gloucester City Council within the requisite time frame and therefore Councillor Lee Hawthorne was automatically excluded from the Council by statute on 10th January 2020.

Please could the Leader of the Council therefore confirm that in accordance with s12(1) of the Scheme of Members' Allowances with regard to overpayments to Councillors former Councillor Hawthorne will be contacted and asked to repay any allowances erroneously paid to him in respect of the period since he was automatically excluded from the Council on 10th January 2020?

13.2 Councillor Cook stated that it was wrong to conclude that former Councillor Hawthorne's absence from the council was not permitted by a lawful leave of absence granted by the Council.

Mr Hawthorne's leave of absence was considered and approved by this council in November 2019, well before the expiry of the statutory sixth month period.

The resolution passed by the council did not restrict the leave of absence to matters relating to the payment of allowances.

The council was asked to approve a leave of absence for a period of up to six months.

The council was aware of the circumstances which prompted the request, and the council approved that absence.

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During that period after, Mr Hawthorne resigned his seat and left the council. The vacant seat would remain vacant because it was not possible to conduct a by-election at present because of the national regulations introduced as a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic and the suspension of local government elections.

- 13.3 Jon Ellis asked, via telephone, when the Council was going to review its mowing regimes in the city. The 20 day cycle appears unsustainable in a city that seeks an increase its biodiversity. The current regimes need to be replaced with more sensitive and cost effective ones which leave wider verges and more areas for wildlife to flourish.
- 13.4 Councillor Cook advised that the Council had, for a number of years, carried out management regimes on open spaces to improve biodiversity. He stated that there was an annual haycut with a 'tidy up' operation conducted in the autumn. He suggested that there would always been a difference of opinion between people on a subjective matter of appearance of green space.
- 13.5 Deborah Hill asked the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods: As a member of Gloucester City Council and former Chairman of Marketing Gloucester Ltd would you have expected to have been included as a Stakeholder in any Internal Audit work and associated report on Marketing Gloucester Ltd undertaken by Gloucester City Council (as 100% shareholder in Marketing Gloucester Ltd.)?
- 13.6 Councillor Watkins apologised that Ms Hill had had poor experiences with MGL. During her time as Chair, there was no audit report for Councillor Watkins to consider. Had there been, she would have ensured she was aware of the contents of the report and she confirmed that the former Chair was aware of the 2017 internal audit report.
- 13.7 Bob Newby asked: Given that the choice of Hempsted Meadows as the site for a COVID Testing Station displaced up to 100 micro-businesses, risking their bankruptcy, and deprived up to 1,000 buying customers of their chosen place to shop, please explain why it was decided that it was the best location and what other locations were considered?
- 13.8 Councillor Cook stated that he was not aware that other sites were considered. He advised that the NHS had identified the site through consultation with the County Council. Previous to the establishment of the Hempsted site, there had been a testing facility in Brockworth for NHS workers. Other key workers had to go to Worcester or Bristol. A temporary station was initiated at Plock Court but, following an increase in demand, the NHS identified Hempsted Meadows as a viable site to increase testing capacity.
- 13.9 A question from Steve Gower was provided in advance and was read out on his behalf:

Following a recent FOI request to the question:

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Q. Please can you tell me the number of people on the DO NOT rehouse list as on 11/06/2020 used by our emergency homeless call centre (EDT)

A. The Council does not record these figures.

Will the council acknowledge that it is the councils housing officers that contribute information to the list, for what purpose are these lists used and why doesn't council keep a record of them?

13.10 Councillor Watkins confirmed that the Council did not have a 'Do not rehouse' as there was a duty to provide assistance to those who are homeless or threatened with homelessness.

14. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)

14.1 Councillor Hilton raised a petition signed by residents of Green Pippin Close regarding issues pertaining to the footpaths joining it to Barnwood Road and Windfall Way. Councillor Cook advised that he would liaise with Councillor Hilton to examine what action might be necessary.

15. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor

15.1 The Mayor announced that a ceremony would take place at 11am on Friday 10 July 2020 at North Warehouse to mark 25 years since the genocide at Srebrenica. The flag would be flown at half mast.

15.2 The Mayor announced that a certificate had been prepared for Councillor Lugg to mark her being a Councillor for twenty years and invited Members to share their thoughts on her achievement.

Councillor Stephens expressed that he was delighted that Councillor Lugg's long service had been recognized and that she had made an important contribution to the City through both her time as a ward Councillor and her holding Civic Office.

Councillor Lewis stated that Councillor Lugg was a great advocate for the people of Gloucester and expressed the thanks of the Conservative Group.

Councillor Hilton conveyed the congratulations of the Liberal Democrat Group and that it had been a pleasure to have worked with her on the Board of Gloucestershire Airport. He also thanked Councillor Lugg for staying on as a Councillor during the COVID-19 pandemic when she had intended to stand down from her role.

Councillor Gravells thanked Councillor Lugg for her work when Secretary of the National Sherriff's Association.

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Councillor Lugg thanked Members for their good wishes and thanked the Mayor in advance of the delivery of the certificate marking her long service.

- 15.3 The Mayor announced that Paul James had stood down as a Councillor. Councillor Cook noted that Paul James was first elected in 2002 as one of two Conservatives and had been Leader of the Council from 2007 until late 2019. He stated that he was sure that Mr James would always have a fondness for both the City and the Council.

Councillor Stephens stated that, while he and Mr James had numerous political differences, Mr James made an important contribution as a major force in driving the regeneration of the City and would be missed by his constituents. Councillor Stephens conveyed the thanks of the Labour Group for his work and their best wishes for the future.

Members of the Cabinet

- 15.4 The Cabinet Member for Economic Growth and Recovery, Councillor Melvin, brought to Members' attention the newly initiated, 'Monster Hero Safari Trail' and that there were numerous locations for families to discover the stories of the monster superheroes. She stated that she hoped this would bring more people to the City's high streets.
- 15.5 The Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure, Councillor Morgan, informed Members that there had been a meeting of the culture and visitor economy action group and that there had been a lengthy discussion on the need to support local business. He invited Members to support local businesses in recovering from the current pandemic.

Councillor Morgan announced that the Music Works project had been offered funding of £1m from the Arts Council as a consequence of the Council's support. He also announced that £200k had been awarded to Music Works and the Culture Trust from the Disabled Facilities Grant fund in order to install a lift in Kings House where Music Works was to be situated on the top floor.

Councillor Morgan brought to Members' attention the launch of the Gloucester Good to Go digital campaign which was important for the promotion of Gloucester businesses.

- 15.6 Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Strategy, Councillor Gravells, stated that he had been working with the South West branch of the Royal Institute of British Architects and that Gloucester had been invited to showcase their recent work at an online conference on 30 July 2020.

16. MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

- 16.1 Councillor Stephens asked if the relevant Cabinet Member could update Members of the forecasted financial deficit over the year and if there were any plans for an emergency budget in the autumn to reset the budget.

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- 16.2 The Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources, Councillor H. Norman advised that the latest delta return would be circulated to group leaders. She further advised that both the s. 151 officer and herself believed there was no requirement to hold an emergency budget but that the right to hold one was reserved should it be necessary.
- 16.3 In response to a question from Councillor Stephens regarding whether a failure by central government to fully reimburse costs incurred in response to the COVID-19 pandemic would represent an act of bad faith, Councillor H. Norman stated that the Council had spent what it needed to and that the support that central government had actioned over recent months was unprecedented in its scale.
- 16.4 Councillor Hilton asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor Cook, why a Cabinet Member is quoted in the media in representations of what he termed good news and an officer is quoted in articles regarding what he termed bad news. Councillor Cook advised that he does not have operational involvement in the Council's communications work and that it was possible that Councillor Hilton was being selective in his reading of coverage.
- 16.5 Councillor Stephens noted that flytipping represented a great cost to the Council and asked if Councillor Cook agreed that the Council needed to be more proactive and, for example, use powers at its disposal under environmental protection law. Councillor Cook advised that officers were already working in Councillor Stephens ward to address this issue and that it was possible a Community Protection Notice could be issued. He further advised that the Council was working with residents in the first instance and that he was fully committed to improving the City's outdoor space.
- 16.6 In response to a question from Councillor Hilton in respect of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's recommendations regarding the options appraisal for the Waste, Streetcare and Ground Maintenance contract, Councillor Cook advised that Cabinet intended to accept the recommendations at it would not present a large additional cost to investigate bring the services 'in house'.
- 16.7 Councillor Hilton asked whether there would be an enhancement in the streetcare provision when a new contract was entered into. Councillor Cook stated that this would likely require additional costs and that this cost would have to come from elsewhere. He invited Councillor Hilton to suggest where this money could come from.
- 16.8 In respect of a question from Councillor Hyman regarding whether there would be any changes to community funding such as the Citizen's Advice Bureau and the Gloucester Law Centre, the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods, Councillor Watkins, advised that there were no planned changes.
- 16.9 Councillor Field noted the good work done by the athletics club at Blackbridge and that young and disabled people would require toilet facilities. He asked Councillor Morgan if he supported this. Councillor

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Morgan agreed that it was an essential part of the experience and that there was no reason why anyone would oppose it.

- 16.10 Councillor Wilson asked what discussions had taken place at the Cabinet away day in respect of a 'worst case scenario' regarding monies being reimbursed by central government for spending related to the Covid-19 pandemic. Councillor H. Norman replied that all Cabinet Members were examining their budgets and what projects could be postponed. She advised that this did not include changing staffing levels. Councillor H. Norman also stated, in response to Councillor Wilson's supplementary question, that she did not believe that the Council was at the point of having to choose between statutory and non-statutory services.
- 16.11 Councillor Morgan, in response to a question from Councillor Hampson as to what support would be given to the Aspire Trust, stated that he was aware of the difficulties that faced the leisure sector and that he would be continuing discussions with them despite there being no request for help at present. Councillor Cook advised that a letter would be sent by South West Councils to the government regarding providing funding for the leisure industry.
- 16.12 Councillor Coole asked Councillor Melvin if she had had any discussions with businesses and stakeholders regarding how the Council could support the recently announced 'Eat Out to Help Out' scheme. Councillor Melvin advised that there were continual discussions and that officers were working with the relevant venues to which the scheme applied.
- 16.13 Councillor Hampson asked Councillor Watkins if she was aware that there was an acute shortage of bespoke housing support for veterans, particularly for those with mental health issues such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. He also asked if officers had relevant training. Councillor Watkins replied that she was aware and relevant information had been passed to the housing team.

17. COUNCIL PLAN EXTENSION – PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS FOR 2020/21

- 17.1 Councillor Cook moved and Councillor Watkins seconded the motion.
- 17.2 Councillor Cook outlined the recommendations and informed Members that its purpose was to continue projects already in progress as well initiate new ones. He highlighted some of the higher priority projects including the delivery of new homes, the establishment of a climate change strategy as well as a social value policy and the delivery of a successful festival and events programme. Councillor Cook also indicated that he would be amenable to discussing accepting parts of the amendment tabled by Councillor Hilton.
- 17.3 Councillor Hilton moved and Councillor Field seconded the following amendment:

Add these three clauses

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- Start and finish a stock condition survey to determine the number of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) in the following wards, which are most affected by such conversions namely, Kingsholm & Wotton, Barton & Tredworth, Moreland and Westgate. The purpose to gather data to consider introducing an Article 4 Direction to require planning permission for the conversions of family homes into HMOs for six persons or less.
- Implement the council's unanimous decision to approve the motion to acquire 67/69 London Road for a housing regeneration project as approved unanimously by members on 21st May 2018.
- Work with Gloucestershire County Council to improve facilities in Gloucester for pedestrians and cyclists, with the aim of encouraging a modal shift towards active travel, namely cycling and walking.

Change these clauses to read

3. Develop sustainable programme for Kings Square, and improved coordination of a low- carbon impact festivals and events programme across the City **that is diverse, inclusive and innovative.**
4. Seek clarity on the process and timescales for City of Culture, **but accept the recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which agreed overwhelmingly that no further work should be carried out on a bid during the life of this council.** ~~and explore whether future candidate city status would complement and help drive the City's wider ambitions for culture, events and festivals, history and heritage, social and capital investment, digital and climate action.~~

17.4 Councillor Stephens moved and Councillor Pullen seconded the following amendment to the amendment tabled by Councillor Hilton:

- Start and finish a stock condition survey to determine the number of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) in the following wards, which are most affected by such conversions namely, Kingsholm & Wotton, Barton & Tredworth, Moreland and Westgate. The purpose to gather data to consider introducing an Article 4 Direction to require planning permission for the conversions of family homes into HMOs for six persons or less.
- ~~Implement the council's unanimous decision to approve the motion to acquire 67/69 London Road for a housing regeneration project as approved unanimously by members on 21st May 2018.~~
Reaffirms the Council's commitment to the redevelopment of 67 – 69 London Road for a housing regeneration project as listed in the draft City Plan. It further commits to:
 - i) Obtaining an independent valuation as to the site value
 - ii) Seek Counsel's opinion as to the likely success of any application for a Compulsory Purchase Order to secure the site; and
 - iii) The likely cost of any such order
 - iv) That the above be presented to Cabinet as soon as is practicably possible

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- Work with Gloucestershire County Council to improve facilities in Gloucester for pedestrians and cyclists, with the aim of encouraging a modal shift towards active travel, namely cycling and walking.

Change these clauses to read

5. Develop sustainable programme for Kings Square, and improved coordination of a low- carbon impact festivals and events programme across the City that is diverse, inclusive and innovative.
6. Seek clarity on the process and timescales for City of Culture, but ~~accept the recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which agreed overwhelmingly that~~ no further work should be carried out on a bid during the life of this council.

17.5 Councillor Hilton accepted the amendment to the amendment.

17.6 Councillor Hilton stated his belief that research should be done to examine the possibility of needing permission for any conversions of properties to Homes in Multiple Occupation. He further stated that the part of amendment in relation to acquiring 67-69 London Road was a request that this be revisited. Councillor Hilton also drew to Members' attention that local authorities had been awarded £250m to improve the take up of walking and cycling and that this should be reflected in the Council Plan.

17.7 Councillor Field expressed his thanks to Councillor Morgan for the invitation to join the cultural committee and that it was positive to have cross party representation alongside Councillor Hampson. With regard to the potential City of Culture bid, he stated that he had spoken with colleagues elsewhere who had been involved in successful bids. Following these discussions, he suggested the priority should be establishing a good programme of events and then perhaps consider a bid.

17.8 Councillor Cook stated that he did not accept the amendment in its entirety but would accept:

- Work with Gloucestershire County Council to improve facilities in Gloucester for pedestrians and cyclists, with the aim of encouraging a modal shift towards active travel, namely cycling and walking.

AND

5. Develop sustainable programme for Kings Square, and improved coordination of a low- carbon impact festivals and events programme across the City that is diverse, inclusive and innovative.

17.9 Councillor Gravells stated, in relation to the bringing forward the count of HMOs, that a count had always been planned for 2021 and that the budget to do it now was not there.

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- 17.10 With regard to 67-69 London Road, Councillor Cook noted that the motion to which Councillor Hilton had referred asked for the acquisition to be considered which had been done.
- 17.11 Councillor Morgan stated that he was opposed to the amendment regarding a City of Culture bid and that there were no plans to use significant amounts of officer time. He stated that if the Council's partners in the culture sector believed that Gloucester would not consider a bid at all, it may adversely affect organising an appealing cultural offer.
- 17.12 Councillor Stephens suggested that background work be conducted for a City of Culture bid to examine the best way forward. He stated that Members had been told that if there was not cross party support there would not be a bid. He further stated that such support did not currently exist and, as such, a bid should not be progressed.
- 17.13 In summing up, Councillor Cook stated that there would be costs for seeking Counsel's opinion in relation to examining the prospect of success in a Compulsory Purchase Order application. With regard to the City of Culture amendment, he stated that if the Council were to rule out a bid entirely, it may dissuade potential funders from supporting Gloucester's festival and events offer.

- 17.14 The following part of the amendment was put to the vote and was lost:

Start and finish a stock condition survey to determine the number of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) in the following wards, which are most affected by such conversions namely, Kingsholm & Wotton, Barton & Tredworth, Moreland and Westgate. The purpose to gather data to consider introducing an Article 4 Direction to require planning permission for the conversions of family homes into HMOs for six persons or less.

- 17.15 The following part to the amendment was put to the vote and was lost:

Reaffirms the Council's commitment to the redevelopment of 67 – 69 London Road for a housing regeneration project as listed in the draft City Plan. It further commits to:

- i) Obtaining an independent valuation as to the site value*
- ii) Seek Counsel's opinion as to the likely success of any application for a Compulsory Purchase Order to secure the site; and*
- iii) The likely cost of any such order*
- iv) That the above be presented to Cabinet as soon as is practicably possible*

- 17.16 The following part to the amendment was voted on and was lost:

Seek clarity on the process and timescales for City of Culture, but ~~accept the recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which agreed overwhelmingly that no further work should be carried out on a bid during the life of this council.~~

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17.17 Councillor Stephens moved and Councillor Coole seconded the following amendment:

Priority 3 (13) in the Council Plan Extension Priorities for 2020/21 be amended to read: “work with partners to improve the health and wellbeing of our population, in particular through the development of the Blackbridge site **and other community initiatives.**”

17.18 Councillor Cook stated that he did not accept the amendment.

17.19 The amendment was put to the vote and was lost.

17.20 **RESOLVED that:-** the one year extension to the Council Plan and the priorities and actions outlined in Appendix A as amended to add: •

Work with Gloucestershire County Council to improve facilities in Gloucester for pedestrians and cyclists, with the aim of encouraging a modal shift towards active travel, namely cycling and walking.

AND

Develop sustainable programme for Kings Square, and improved coordination of a low- carbon impact festivals and events programme across the City that is diverse, inclusive and innovative.
be approved.

18. GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE ECONOMIC GROWTH JOINT COMMITTEE

18.1 **RESOLVED that:** - Governance Arrangements for the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee be approved.

19. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2019-20

19.1 Councillor Coole moved and Councillor Ryall seconded the motion. Councillor Coole stated that it was an honour to Chair the Committee for a unexpected further year, the May 2020 elections having been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

19.2 Councillor Coole thanked all Members of the Committee, particularly Councillor Ryall and Vice-Chair and Councillor Lewis as Spokesperson. They also stated how pleased they were to have Councillor Tracey back on the Committee as she brought a great deal of experience.

19.3 Councillor Coole outlined that since lockdown, they had been meeting with colleagues across the country and they reported that Gloucester is very well regarded for excellent and innovative scrutiny. They provided a summary of the work of the Committee over the course of the year and that the

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Committee had identified the culture portfolio as a priority for the year ahead. Councillor Coole advised that the Committee would be looking forward in terms of marketing the City in the future as well as examining COVID recovery plans in some detail.

- 19.4 Councillor Ryall praised the collegiately of the scrutiny process and the collaborative work with the Cabinet.
- 19.5 Councillor Lewis stated that Councillor Coole had developed the Committee into a real critical friend and that whilst some recommendations had been controversial, the culture had been very positive.
- 19.6 **RESOLVED that:-** the Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2019-20 be noted.

20. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE 2019-20

- 20.1 **RESOLVED that:** - The Annual Report of the Audit and Governance Committee 2019-20 be approved.

21. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

- 21.1 **RESOLVED that:** - Appointments to Committees be approved.

22. NOTICES OF MOTION

- 22.1 Councillor Hilton moved and Councillor Stephens seconded the following motion:

“This council records its thanks to everyone that has helped during the coronavirus pandemic, be they council staff, those working in the NHS or the care sector and the many volunteers who helped others within our close-knit communities.

This council agrees that Gloucester must retain and encourage the continued development of the volunteer-led community support system that worked so well to help many people in Gloucester during the lockdown, including the homeless, those living in poverty and the vulnerable.

We also agree that we should make sure that this diverse support system is able to assist in the event of a second wave of Covid-19 infections should it happen in Gloucestershire within the next few months.”

- 22.2 The motion was put to the vote and was carried.

- 22.3 **RESOLVED that:-**

This council records its thanks to everyone that has helped during the coronavirus pandemic, be they council staff, those working in the NHS or the care sector and the many volunteers who helped others within our close-knit communities.

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This council agrees that Gloucester must retain and encourage the continued development of the volunteer-led community support system that worked so well to help many people in Gloucester during the lockdown, including the homeless, those living in poverty and the vulnerable.

We also agree that we should make sure that this diverse support system is able to assist in the event of a second wave of Covid-19 infections should it happen in Gloucestershire within the next few months.”

22.4 Councillor Hansdot moved and Councillor Coole seconded the following motion:

“Council is appalled by and condemns the recent killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, America.

Council recognises and supports the ‘Black Lives Matter’ campaign and its efforts to raise awareness of racial inequality and institutionalised racism within the United Kingdom.

Council notes that black people in the United Kingdom are:

- 8 x more likely to be stopped as part of ‘stop and search laws’ than white people
- More likely to be in low paid jobs or unemployed
- More likely to live in poor housing conditions
- Less likely to have good educational opportunities
- More likely to die from the COVID-19 pandemic

Council is committed to tackling racial discrimination and working with our BAME community to address issues of racial discrimination.

This includes undertaking a review of all statues/ monuments/ plaques within the City that celebrate the lives of those who profited greatly from the slave trade/ plantation ownership.

Council resolves to:

1. Write to the American Ambassador on behalf of the City setting out our deep concerns and condemnation at the killing of George Floyd
2. Set up a Commission with partner organisations in the City including the Police & Crime Commissioner, County Council, NHS and representatives of BAME community to review race relations in Gloucester with a view to producing recommendations to improve the lives of and enhance opportunities for BAME communities within the City
3. Undertake a review of all monuments, statues and plaques within the City connected with the slave trade/ plantation

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ownership with a view to renaming or removing them as appropriate

4. The above review to include Bakers Quay and Phillpotts Warehouse. Both Samuel Baker and Thomas Phillpotts were heavily involved in and much of their wealth was generated by the slave trade/ plantation ownership.”

22.5 Councillor Patel moved and Councillor Gravells to following amendment:

“Council is appalled by and condemns the recent killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, America.

Council recognises and supports the ‘Black Lives Matter’ ~~campaign and its~~ efforts to raise awareness of racial inequality and institutionalised racism within the United Kingdom, **however deplores any violence and damage in the name of the campaign.**

Council notes that black people in the United Kingdom are:

- 8 x more likely to be stopped as part of ‘stop and search laws’ than white people
- More likely to be in low paid jobs or unemployed
- More likely to live in poor housing conditions
- Less likely to have good educational opportunities
- More likely to die from the COVID-19 pandemic

Council **recognises that whilst we have generally good community relations in the City, and these are reinforced by our cross party equalities working group we remain** is committed to tackling racial discrimination and working with our BAME community to address issues of racial discrimination.

~~This includes undertaking a review of all statues/ monuments/ plaques within the City that celebrate the lives of those who profited greatly from the slave trade/ plantation ownership.~~

Council resolves to:

1. Write to the American Ambassador on behalf of the City setting out our deep concerns and condemnation at the killing of George Floyd
2. Set up a Commission with partner organisations in the City including the Police & Crime Commissioner, County Council, NHS, **the Civic Trust** and representatives of BAME community to review race relations in Gloucester with a view to producing recommendations to improve the lives of and enhance opportunities for BAME communities within the City.
3. Undertake a review of all monuments, statues and plaques **including Bakers Quay** within the City connected with the slave trade/ plantation ownership **and for Cabinet and Scrutiny to consider its**

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recommendations, taking advice from the Commission, and further resolves to review the way in which the contribution of minority communities is presented as part of the City's history, including at the Museum of Gloucester ~~renaming or removing them as appropriate.~~

~~4. The above review to include Bakers Quay and Phillpotts Warehouse. Both Samuel Baker and Thomas Phillpotts were heavily involved in and much of their wealth was generated by the slave trade/ plantation ownership."~~

22.6 Councillor Hansdot accepted the amendment which became the substantive motion.

22.7 The motion was voted on and was carried.

22.8 **RESOLVED that:-**

Council is appalled by and condemns the recent killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, America.

Council recognises and supports the 'Black Lives Matter' efforts to raise awareness of racial inequality and institutionalised racism within the United Kingdom, however deplors any violence and damage in the name of the campaign.

Council notes that black people in the United Kingdom are:

- 8 x more likely to be stopped as part of 'stop and search laws' than white people
- More likely to be in low paid jobs or unemployed
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- Less likely to have good educational opportunities
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Council recognises that whilst we have generally good community relations in the City, and these are reinforced by our cross party equalities working group we remain committed to tackling racial discrimination and working with our BAME community to address issues of racial discrimination.

Council resolves to:

1. Write to the American Ambassador on behalf of the City setting out our deep concerns and condemnation at the killing of George Floyd
2. Set up a Commission with partner organisations in the City including the Police & Crime Commissioner, County Council, NHS, the Civic Trust and representatives of BAME community to review race relations in Gloucester with a view to producing recommendations to improve the lives of and enhance opportunities for BAME communities within the City.

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3. Undertake a review of all monuments, statues and plaques including Bakers Quay within the City connected with the slave trade/ plantation ownership and for Cabinet and Scrutiny to consider its recommendations, taking advice from the Commission, and further resolves to review the way in which the contribution of minority communities is presented as part of the City's history, including at the Museum of Gloucester.

22.9 Councillor Stephens moved and Councillor Pullen seconded the following motion:

“Council notes that the COVID-19 pandemic has presented many serious challenges both in terms of resources and particularly pressure on the Council’s finances due to increased expenditure and loss of income.

As at the end May 2020 Council has:

- Spent an additional £1.312 million directly on COVID-19 related expenditure
- Estimated lost income from collection fund of £1.4 million (£900,000 business rates and £500,000 council tax)
- Estimated lost income from sales, fees, and charges of £2.2 million
- Estimated lost income from property (commercial rents etc) of £730,000

To date Council has received £1.355 million from government to cover additional costs.

Total estimated lost income is £4.3 million. Council expects to recover £900,000 of lost income leaving a total shortfall of £3.4 million.

If we are to avoid further cuts to services/ redundancies it is vital that government reimburses Council fully for additional expenditure and lost income due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Council resolves to:

1. Support the Local Government Association in its campaign to ensure local government is fully reimbursed for additional expenditure and loss of income due to COVID-19
2. Seek the support of the City MP in lobbying central government in support of the Council’s demands

Instruct the Leader of the Council to write to Robert Jenrick MP, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government in support of our claim.”

22.10 The motion was put to the vote and carried.

22.11 **RESOLVED that:-**

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Council resolves to:

1. Support the Local Government Association in its campaign to ensure local government is fully reimbursed for additional expenditure and loss of income due to COVID-19
2. Seek the support of the City MP in lobbying central government in support of the Council's demands
3. Instruct the Leader of the Council to write to Robert Jenrick MP, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government in support of our claim."

23. WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

23.1 In respect of question 10, Councillor Ryall asked of the Cabinet Member for Resources on what basis would it be determined whether the use of the Gloucester Old Boys RFC was or was not causing issues. Councillor H. Norman advised that she would speak with the asset management team to find out what criteria would be applied and that ward councillors' input would be useful.

23.2 With regard to the questions regarding allotments (11,12 and 13), Councillor Field asked what measures were being considered to increase future supply of allotments. Councillor Cook replied that the opportunity to extend provision at Netheridge Farm was being considered. It was unclear how many could be accommodated but discussions were ongoing.

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- 23.3 Councillor Field asked, in respect of mitigating climate change as referred to in question 14, whether, instead of the Prime Minister's call for the country to, 'Build, Build, Build' as a central theme of the Covid recovery, it would be preferable to, 'Plant, Plant, Plant.' Councillor Cook noted the upcoming distribution of 300 for each Member to plant in their ward. He encouraged Members to start planting the trees as soon as possible,
- 23.4 With regard to question 21, Councillor Field expressed concern that some who were using the City's parks were not taking hygiene precautions and asked if there was anything that could be done to encourage precautions to be taken. Councillor Cook noted that there were signs advising such in play areas and social media was being deployed to encourage this. He further noted that residents did need to take personal responsibility to protect them and others from the spread of Covid.
- 23.5 In relation to question 24, Councillor Hilton clarified that he was the nominated substitute for Councillor Bowkett on the Economic Recovery Task Force.

**Time of commencement: 6.30 pm hours
Time of conclusion: 9.50 pm hours**

Chair