



Shire Hall
Westgate Street
Gloucester
GL1 2TG

Wednesday, 16 September 2020

TO EACH MEMBER OF GLOUCESTER CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** of the **CITY OF GLOUCESTER** to be held virtually via Microsoft Teams on **Thursday, 24th September 2020** at **6.30 pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business:

AGENDA

VIEWING ARRANGEMENTS FOR REMOTE MEETINGS

View the meeting here: <https://bit.ly/2FCERui>

The meeting is being broadcast live using Microsoft Teams. We recommend that you install the Microsoft Teams app on your device for the best viewing experience. If viewing via a web browser, please note that this is not possible if using Safari; instead please download the Microsoft Teams app or the Microsoft Edge browser.

Further advice on accessing meetings through Teams, is available here:
<https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Attend-a-live-event-in-Teams-a1c7b989-ebb1-4479-b750-c86c9bc98d84>

1. **APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. **MINUTES (Pages 11 - 28)**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9 July 2020.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive from Members, declarations of the existence of any disclosable pecuniary, or non-pecuniary, interests and the nature of those interests in relation to any agenda item. Please see Agenda Notes.

4. **CALL OVER**

- (a) Call over (Item 9) will be read out at the meeting and Members invited to reserve the items for discussion.
- (b) To approve the recommendations of those reports which have not been reserved for discussion.

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)**

The opportunity is given to members of the public to put questions to Cabinet Members or Committee Chairs provided that a question does not relate to:

- Matters which are the subject of current or pending legal proceedings or
- Matters relating to employees or former employees of the Council or comments in respect of individual Council Officers.

If you would like to ask a question at this meeting, please contact democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk as soon as possible and by Monday 21 September 2020 at the latest.

6. **PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)**

A period not exceeding three minutes is allowed for the presentation of a petition or deputation provided that no such petition or deputation is in relation to:

- Matters relating to individual Council Officers, or
- Matters relating to current or pending legal proceedings

If you would like to present a deputation or petition at this meeting, please contact democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk as soon as possible and by Monday 21 September 2020 at the latest.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive announcements from:

- a) The Mayor
- b) Leader of the Council
- c) Members of the Cabinet
- d) Chairs of Committees
- e) Head of Paid Service

8. MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

a) Leader and Cabinet Members' Question Time (30 minutes)

Any member of the Council may ask the Leader of the Council or any Cabinet Member any question without prior notice, upon:

- Any matter relating to the Council's administration
- Any matter relating to any report of the Cabinet appearing on the Council's summons
- A matter coming within their portfolio of responsibilities

Only one supplementary question is allowed per question.

c) Questions to Chairs of Meetings (15 Minutes)

ISSUES FOR DECISION BY COUNCIL

9. APPOINTMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL (Pages 29 - 32)

Report of the Corporate Director concerning the appointment of members to the Independent Remuneration Panel.

MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

1. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HILTON

"That this council welcomes the establishment of the City Centre Commission under the chairmanship of the Dean of Gloucester.

The changing nature of town and city centres shows how important the City Centre Commission will be in creating the ideas that can be implemented to breath life back into our city centre.

We need to make Gloucester's historic centre a place for businesses to thrive, local shops to trade, great attractions to encourage visitors to enjoy, with wonderful places to eat and stay; and finally a city centre where many people live and work.

We encourage the City Centre Commission to use its remit to come forward with imaginative proposals that can be taken forward to fruition."

2. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR D. BROWN

“This council agrees that the cycling infrastructure within the city of Gloucester could be improved to encourage far more journeys to be taken on two wheels.

This council agrees to work with the county council to improve cycling infrastructure in Gloucester.

This council requests that the appropriate cabinet member prepares a report on the current cycling infrastructure within the city boundaries, to include recommendations on how this infrastructure could be better interconnected and improved to make cycling a more popular mode of transport.”

3. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR COOK

“This council awaits, the Government’s white paper on potential Local Government reorganisation in the autumn and maintains an open mind as to the implications for this Council and Gloucester residents.

This Council believes that Local Government reorganisation at this time will deflect attention from the immediate priorities of recovery after the Covid pandemic, and therefore should not be considered further at this stage. Should the status quo not be possible, this Council requests that the reorganisation will include all levels of local representation including Parish/Town Councils and serious consideration is given to the establishment of area committees to ensure equal local representation across all current district areas.

The Council commits to:

- consulting widely with a broad cross-section of Gloucester residents and businesses, and community, faith, sporting and voluntary groups once further information on any local government reorganisation proposals are known
- supporting Council staff through any reorganisation process which may occur in the future
- continuing with Group Leaders briefings and working in a cross-party manner
- ensuring that the focus of this Council shall remain on the delivery of services and post Covid-19 recovery
- discussing any local government reorganisation options with leadership, from the other five districts, the county council, and the Gloucester MP Richard Graham
- Preserving the City’s historic and ancient civic offices of Sheriff and Mayor and the traditions which accompany them.”

4. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HILTON

“This council notes that J Sainsbury PLC has announced the closure of its popular city centre store on Northgate Street.

This council notes that this wonderful supermarket has been serving customers for nearly half a century.

This council agrees that it should do all it can to stop the supermarket’s closure by persuading J Sainsbury PLC to keep it open.”

5. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR STEPHENS

“Council notes that local government has played a crucial role in combatting the Covid-19 pandemic, supporting local communities and will have a vital role to play in monitoring and containing the virus, restoring public confidence and reinvigorating our local economies as we move forward.

Council further notes that the cost of dealing with Covid-19 has placed an intolerable strain on local government finances. The Institute for Financial Studies (IFS) has estimated that councils will be left with a £2 billion funding gap this year. Councillor Richard Watts, Chair of the Local Government Association’s Resources Board has estimated that the funding shortfall could be at least as high as £6 billion.

The CEO of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) has warned that: “...a financial tsunami of reduced income and increased cost is heading in councils’ way. While it’s vital that our health service is given everything it needs to fight this disease, we must not forget the crucial role of services like public health, social care and all community services.”

In Gloucester we are forecasting a shortfall in funding this year more than £500,000. Our budget in future years will be constrained by predicted reductions in business rates, lost council tax income, lost income from commercial property and increased costs. Unfortunately, Government has stated that it will not reimburse councils for lost commercial income.

Council believes that it is vitally important that we are properly financed to be able to deal effectively with this unprecedented crisis and provide adequate support and services for our communities.

Cancellation of local authority debt would significantly reduce the burden on local authorities releasing around £4.5 billion extra a year, this would enable councils to begin to stabilise and grow their services in line with social needs. In Gloucester we currently pay over £1.5 million per annum in interest payments to service our debt to the PWLB.

Council resolves to:

1. Make representations to the Government and City MP that we should be fully

- reimbursed (as promised) for all the costs of dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic including loss of commercial income.
2. Support the national campaign for the cancellation of local authority debt to the Public Works Loans Board and call on the Government and City MP to support this.”

6. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR PULLEN

“Council recognises that both GL1 – Gloucester Leisure Centre and the Oxstalls Tennis Centre are a vital part of the City’s leisure and sporting infrastructure and make a significant contribution to the health and well-being of many Gloucester residents.

Council further notes that Aspire Trust has experienced serious financial problems due to lockdown during the Covid-19 pandemic. The impact of Covid-19 and in particular social distancing measures mean that capacity at both venues has been greatly reduced and it is therefore likely that a comprehensive support package will need to be put in place to support Aspire over the coming months to ensure its survival.

Council resolves:

1. To pledge its ongoing support to Aspire Trust to ensure that both GL1 and Oxstalls Tennis Centre remain open and continue to serve the needs of Gloucester people.
2. To continue to have regular dialogue with the Trust and its Board so that we are fully informed as to any problems the Trust may be experiencing.
3. At an appropriate time a report be produced and considered by the Council’s Cabinet setting out the current and forecast financial recovery position and detailing if needed a package of support measures, including financial support that may be required to ensure Aspire remains a profitable concern.”

7. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR COOLE

“This Council

- Notes that 2020 is the 25th anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which saw over 8,000 Muslim men and boys killed by Serbian nationalist forces.
- Notes that in 2009 the European Parliament passed a resolution that 11 July should be recognised as the day of commemoration of the Srebrenica genocide all over the EU; and in 2015 urged the development of educational and cultural programmes that promote an understanding of the causes of such atrocities and raise awareness about the need to nurture peace and to promote human rights and interfaith tolerance. All UK political parties have supported the work of Remembering Srebrenica in this regard.

- Applauds the work of those involved in the pursuit of justice for the victims and their surviving relatives, including the International Commission of Missing People (ICMP) and the Mothers of Srebrenica, whose courage and humility in the face of unthinkable horror is an inspiration to us all.
- Commends the work of the charity, Remembering Srebrenica, in raising awareness of this tragic and preventable genocide and working in communities across Britain to help them learn the lessons of Srebrenica.

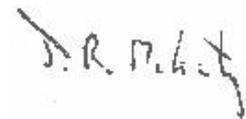
This Council resolves to

- Support Srebrenica memorial events in July each year throughout Gloucester as part of the UK-wide Remembering Srebrenica Memorial Week.
- Support the work of Remembering Srebrenica in communities across Gloucester to learn the lessons from Srebrenica to tackle hatred and intolerance to help build a better, safer and more cohesive society for everyone.
- Support the work of schools and education providers to bring the lessons of Srebrenica to young people across Gloucester.”

11. WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS (Pages 33 - 38)

Written questions and answers. Only one supplementary question is allowed per question.

Yours sincerely



Jon McGinty
Managing Director

NOTES

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

The duties to register, disclose and not to participate in respect of any matter in which a member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest are set out in Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011.

Disclosable pecuniary interests are defined in the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 as follows –

<u>Interest</u>	<u>Prescribed description</u>
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the Council) made or provided within the previous 12 months (up to and including the date of notification of the interest) in respect of any expenses incurred by you carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between you, your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner (or a body in which you or they have a beneficial interest) and the Council (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the Council's area. For this purpose "land" includes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for you, your spouse, civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the Council's area for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) – (a) the landlord is the Council; and (b) the tenant is a body in which you, your spouse or civil partner or a person you are living with as a spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where – (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the Council's area and (b) either – i. The total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share

- capital of that body; or
- ii. If the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

For this purpose, “securities” means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

NOTE: the requirements in respect of the registration and disclosure of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and withdrawing from participating in respect of any matter where you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest apply to your interests and those of your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner where you are aware of their interest.

Access to Information

Agendas and reports can be viewed on the Gloucester City Council website: www.gloucester.gov.uk and are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date.

For enquiries about Gloucester City Council’s meetings please contact Democratic Services, 01452 396126, democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk.

If you, or someone you know cannot understand English and need help with this information, or if you would like a large print, Braille, or audio version of this information please call 01452 396396.

Recording of meetings

Please be aware that meetings may be recorded. There is no requirement for those wishing to record proceedings to notify the Council in advance; however, as a courtesy, anyone wishing to do so is advised to make the Mayor aware before the meeting starts.