



Wednesday, 9 November 2022

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 at the Civic Suite, North Warehouse, The Docks, Gloucester, GL1 2EP on **Thursday, 17th November 2022** at **6.30 pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business:

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. **BY-ELECTION RESULTS**

To note the result of the Tuffley By-Election on 13 October 2022 as set out below:

Lorraine Campbell (Conservative)

3. **MINUTES (Pages 9 - 24)**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 29 September 2022.

4. **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.

5. **CALL OVER**

(a) Call over (item 10 only) will be read out at the meeting and Members invited to reserve the item for discussion.

(b) To approve the recommendations of those reports which have not been reserved for discussion.

6. 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 questions do not contravene the provisions set out Council Procedure Rules 10(2).

To ask a question at this meeting, please submit it to democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk by 12 noon on Friday 11 November 2022 or telephone 01452 396203 for support.

7. 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

8. 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

9. MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

- a) Leader and Cabinet Members' Question Time (45 minutes)

Any member of the Council may ask the Leader of the Council or any Cabinet Member up to five questions 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

- b) Questions to Chairs of Meetings (15 Minutes)

Questions and responses will be published at least 24 hours before the meeting. Supplementary questions will be put and answered during the meeting, subject to the relevant time limit.

ISSUES FOR DECISION BY COUNCIL

10. APPOINTMENTS

Council is asked to **RESOLVE** that it be noted that Councillor Campbell has been appointed to the vacant Conservative seat on the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

1. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR PULLEN

“At the beginning of November 2022 there were 11 empty units in The Eastgate Shopping Centre. This is a sad reflection on the state of the economy, the state of retail business and the changing face of the city centre.

Businesses have failed and moved out because they haven't been able to afford rising costs and business rates, have been unable to compete with on line shopping and as the way the public buy things has changed, some businesses have been unable to keep up.

Having empty units in the Eastgate Centre is costly to the council, is economically unviable and results in a loss of income.

Empty units are also unsightly, gives the impression of a lack of investment, leads to a rundown environment, which in turn affects footfall.

Now that the Gloucester City Council owns the Eastgate Centre one way in which the council could address the issues with empty units is to introduce a 'Meanwhile Space' initiative. Such a scheme would enable local community organisations, small business start-ups, social enterprises and similar organisations the opportunity to use empty units for temporary or short term periods based on realistically reduced and affordable terms and conditions.

Such occupancy would not only fill vacant premises in the Eastgate Centre but would also bring a diversity of uses and illustrate to the public the wealth of community initiatives and organisations that exist in Gloucester.

It would also be far better to have units used for alternative purposes rather than keep them empty for an extended period.

This council therefore resolves to:

- Initiate a Meanwhile Space scheme in the Eastgate Centre.
- Consider vacant units that could be put to Meanwhile Space use
- Identify potential organisations, community groups and business start-ups who might take advantage of the scheme

- Lead by example and encourage landlords in other parts of the city centre to consider Meanwhile Space usage.”

2. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HILTON

“This council notes that Gloucestershire County Council has put in an expression of interest in creating so called investment zones, a scheme proposed by the short lived Liz Truss government.

This council notes that one of the areas proposed for central Gloucestershire is located around Gloucestershire Airport.

This council agrees that the best way to boost investment in Gloucestershire would be for the UK to re-join the European Single Market and Customs Union.

This council also notes both Stroud District Council and Cheltenham Borough Council have confirmed that they oppose the establishment of these so called investment zones, which will give businesses operating within them an unfair tax advantage over other well established businesses operating elsewhere in Gloucestershire.

This council also notes that the creation of these investment zones could undermine the planning policies established in the Joint Core Strategy, which is also currently under review. It would mean local residents getting less say on planning matters.

This council agrees not to support the county council’s bid, whilst the full implications of creating these mini tax havens with watered down planning controls in Gloucestershire, are still unknown.”

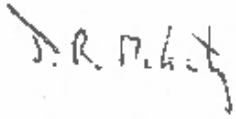
3. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR RADLEY

“This council recognises that micro-generation is a useful way for residents and businesses to make a contribution to energy sustainability and security.

This council notes that micro-generation is the production of heat, electricity or both on a small scale from a low/zero carbon source. Many of the technologies use renewable sources, such as solar and wind power etc.

This council requests that the climate change and decarbonisation officer produce a report on how to expand micro-generation projects in the city of Gloucester within 3 months to better understand the opportunity and challenges this presents.”

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. R. McGinty". The signature is written in a cursive style with some loops and a long tail on the final letter.

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.

Any recording must take place in such a way as to ensure that the view of Councillors, Officers, the Public and Press is not obstructed. The use of flash photography and/or additional lighting will not be allowed unless this has been discussed and agreed in advance of the meeting.

FIRE / EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

If the fire alarm sounds continuously, or if you are instructed to do so, you must leave the building by the nearest available exit. You will be directed to the nearest exit by council staff. It is vital that you follow their instructions:

- You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts;
- Do not stop to collect personal belongings;
- Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building; gather at the assembly point in the car park and await further instructions;
- Do not re-enter the building until told by a member of staff or the fire brigade that it is safe to do so.