



COUNCIL

MEETING : Thursday, 24th January 2019

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

Others in Attendance

Managing Director
Corporate Director (Service transformation)
Corporate Director (Partnership working)
Solicitor – One Legal
Head of Policy and Resources
Head of Place
Head of Communities
Policy and Governance Manager
Democratic and Electoral Services Officer

APOLOGIES : Cllr. Derbyshire

45. MINUTES

45.1 The minutes of the meeting which took place on 22 November 2018 were agreed and signed as a correct record by the Mayor.

46. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

46.1 There were no declarations of interest.

47. CALL OVER

47.1 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 Item 9 for discussion.

47.2 Councillor James advised that Members had been made aware of a change to the recommendations under Item 13 and that the change had been

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circulated. He then moved the motion, which was seconded by Councillor Watkins.

47.3 RESOLVED – that the recommendations contained within Items 10, 11, 12 and 13 (as amended) be approved.

48. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

48.1 Mr Steve Gower stated that since 2010 there had been 20 per cent cuts to the environmental health department and no prosecutions of rogue landlords since 2015 and a reduction in police numbers of 222 and 70% of crimes being committed with no further action taking place in 2017 alone.

A recent statement from the homeless charity Shelter pleading for at least three million social housing units to be built in the UK. Yet in Gloucester, all empty dwellings, re-structuring of commercial properties into domestic and new build future projects, have no provision for Social Housing at all.

Last year he asked a public question to the then Homeless Councillor - that question was: "How many vulnerable people have died in supported living and HMOs for the homeless that were provided by this city in 2017" and the answer was an emphatic 47. Which was quickly denied the next day. Can the new Homeless Councillor please give a response to the same question for 2018?

He also asked in 2017, who the Independent body overseeing complaints for residents within the applications of the upcoming Social Impact Bond, was and indeed is.

He stated that he was still waiting for a response.

Last year he asked who the Independent body or appropriate professional individual is, that should be contacted in the event of any complaint made about a Councillor in this City.

He asked today for more transparency within Council regarding any professional conflict of interest, so that no confusion exists regarding any such problem facing individuals or indeed Council.

Food bank usage has tripled since 2010.

Will there be a position for councillor of hunger.

He asked the Leader of the Council if he believed that Council members and staff should be ethically, morally and legally accountable for all of the above-stated points – as part of their Public Service to the citizens of this City?

48.2 The Leader of the Council addressed the following points:-

- A rogue landlord had been successfully prosecuted in 2017 but efforts were focussed on resolving issues.

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- Policing was the responsibility of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable.
 - Affordable housing had been determined at 20 per cent in the Joint Core Strategy unless viability assessments indicated a lower figure.
 - Conversion of offices to residential use without the requirement for affordable housing was national policy.
 - Complaints on Councillor conduct should be directed to the Council's Monitoring Officer.
 - Councillors were accountable to the scrutiny process, through public question time and ultimately to the electorate through the ballot box.
- 48.3 Councillor Watkins, Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods advised that the figures for deaths in HMOs had not been provided by the Council although every such death was a tragedy. She advised that complaints from tenants should be addressed to the landlord in the first instance and if necessary to a local Councillor, the Member of Parliament or the Housing Ombudsman.
- 49. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)**
- 49.1 There were no petitions or deputations.
- 50. ANNOUNCEMENTS (10 MINUTES)**
- The Mayor**
- 50.1 The Mayor and Sheriff hosted two very successful Children's Christmas Parties in December and the Mayor expressed her thanks to Councillors David Brown, Hampson, Lewis, Tracey and Wilson for their help with the parties.
- 50.2 The Mayor advised that tickets for the Civic Ball, to be held at Hatherley Manor Hotel on 18th May, were now on sale at £40 and were available from the Civics Officer. She also thanked those Councillors who had donated prizes for the raffle to be held at the Ball.
- 50.3 The Mayor announced that the Council would be hosting a reception for the Windrush Generation to express the City's appreciation of the contribution they have made to the life and prosperity of the City. The reception would be held on Friday, 22nd February at 6.00pm and invitations had been distributed to Councillors.
- 50.4 The Mayor announced that Mike Parry, who had been elected as a Liberal Democrat Councillor for Kingsholm in 1995 and a former County Councillor, had passed away. She extended the condolences of the Council to his family and friends.
- 50.5 She also announced that Peter Grant-Hudson, who had served as Sheriff and Deputy Mayor in 1989/90, had passed away on 19th December. She extended the condolences of the Council to his family and friends.

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- 50.6 The Mayor announced that the funeral of former Liberal Democrat Councillor Gordon Heath would be held at 12.30pm on Tuesday, 29th January at Hempsted Church. She extended the condolences of the Council to his wife Joan, his family and friends. She invited the Liberal Democrat Group Leader, Councillor Hilton to say a few words.
- 50.7 Councillor Hilton paid tribute to Gordon Heath who had been a Councillor for Westgate ward for eight years. He had also been President for the Gloucester Liberal Democrats and would be greatly missed. Councillor Hilton also advised that Mike Parry had served as a County Councillor for two terms and his wife had served as a City Councillor.

Cabinet Members

- 50.8 Councillor Noakes, Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure announced that the Guildhall had been awarded Silver at the recent Best Bar None Awards and she congratulated Guildhall staff on their achievement.

Chairs of Committees

- 50.9 Councillor Williams, Chair of the General Purposes Committee, announced that the Committee had considered the personal safety of members following an incident which she had experienced last year. She stated that further information and guidance would be circulated to all Councillors and she stressed the importance of the advice which it would contain. She also stated that training on this vital issue would be arranged and encouraged all Members to attend.
- 50.10 Councillor Coole, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, advised that the meeting of that Committee on Monday, 28th January would be held in the Guildhall.

51. REVIEW OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES 2019

- 51.1 Council considered a report of the Independent Remuneration Panel concerning the Council's Members' Allowances Scheme and seeking a decision on an appropriate scheme for the payment of allowances in 2019-20.
- 51.2 Stewart Dove, Chair of the Independent Remuneration Panel introduced the report and thanked the other Panel Members, those Councillors who had responded and the Policy and Governance Manager for her support.
- 51.3 Councillor James moved and Councillor Watkins seconded that the recommendations in the report be accepted.
- 51.4 Councillors James, Pullen and Hilton thanked the Panel for their work.
- 51.5 **RESOLVED that -**

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- (1) **The recommendations of the Member's Allowances Panel be noted and the proposed Members' Allowances Scheme attached at Appendix 2 be approved for the payment of allowances in 2019-20.**
- (2) **That the Council adopts a Parental Leave Policy for Councillors that takes into account any recommendations or policy approved by the Local Government Association.**
- (3) **The next four yearly detailed review of Members' Allowances be scheduled to report in March 2023.**

52. MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

Leader and Cabinet Members' Question Time

- 52.1 Councillor Pullen asked the Cabinet Member for Environment for an update on his discussions with Amey.
- 52.2 Councillor Cook replied that discussions were continuing but it would not be appropriate to comment on those discussions in a public forum at this stage. He hoped that the discussions would reach a conclusion soon.
- 52.3 Councillor Pullen noted that the loss of recyclables had been identified in June and the service had continued to deteriorate.
- 52.4 Councillor Cook reiterated that he expected a conclusion to the discussions soon.
- 52.5 Councillor Pullen noted that the funding bid for £5.6 million for a culture hub had been unsuccessful and he asked the Leader of the Council if this would impact on the plans for the Kings Quarter development.
- 52.6 Councillor James replied that it had already been agreed that in the event of the bid not succeeding it was still intended to deliver a Creative Entrepreneurs Hub and it would make no difference to the Kings Quarter development.
- 52.7 Councillor Noakes, Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure advised that the bid had reached a national shortlist of nineteen. She noted that a representative of the Arts Council would be visiting on 1st February to discuss the reasons why the bid had not been successful. She stated that other opportunities for funding would be pursued.
- 52.8 Councillor Pullen stated that he would appreciate an opportunity to see the feedback. He asked the Leader of the Council if the Council would be bidding for the Future High Streets Fund.
- 52.9 Councillor James confirmed that the Council would be submitting a bid. He advised that the Cabinet Member for Policy and Resources had recently had an encouraging meeting with the Minister and expressions of interest had to be submitted by 22nd March 2019.

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- 52.10 Councillor Hilton referred to the Central Post Office which was an attractive 85 year old building and asked the Leader of the Council why a public toilet had been placed in front of the building.
- 52.11 Councillor James advised that the siting of toilets in Kings Square had been dictated by the location of utilities. He noted that the toilets were of a semi-permanent nature and could be moved in the future.
- 52.12 Councillor Hilton stated that he keen to see more public toilets in the City but he believed that there must be a better location for those in Kings Square.
- 52.13 Councillor James indicated that other locations had been considered but he reiterated that the siting was dictated by the location of utilities. He noted that the toilet block may not be required when the Kings Quarter development was delivered.
- 52.14 Councillor Hilton noted that the Cabinet Member for Environment had previously stated that Amey were a nightmare to deal with and he asked Councillor Cook why he had not terminated the contract.
- 52.15 Councillor Cook advised that if the contract was terminated the Council could face legal proceedings for breach of contract and he was not prepared to take the risk which had the potential to cost the Council millions.
- 52.16 Councillor Hilton noted that the end of the financial year was approaching and would be an appropriate time to terminate the contract.
- 52.17 Councillor Cook doubted that alternative arrangements could be put in place within that timescale. He believed that the situation had to be dealt with step by step with the best interests of Council tax payers in mind.
- 52.18 Councillor Haigh asked the Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Strategy if he would commit to the numbers of homes in the Supplementary Planning Document for Matson.
- 52.19 Councillor Organ stated that Gloucester City Homes would control this development. A development brief had been submitted in December and officers would consult prior to submission to the cabinet in March. He noted that viability would be the key to numbers achievable.
- 52.20 Councillor Haigh noted that the Supplementary Planning Document would be the property of the City Council when it was adopted. She stated that City residents needed more social and affordable housing and asked Councillor Organ again if he would commit to numbers.
- 52.21 Councillor Organ stated that the document would be subject to consultation and the decision of the Planning Committee therefore he was unable to give any commitment to numbers.

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52.22 Councillor Coole asked the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources for an update on the recommendation to Cabinet that customers who interact with Council services be surveyed on their preferred methods of using services.

52.23 Councillor Hannah Norman responded that the survey would be undertaken in the near future.

52.24 Councillor Wilson asked the Leader of the Council what arrangements had been made for items of historical significance in the warehouses in light of the forthcoming office move.

52.25 Councillor James replied that most of the items of historical significance were in North Warehouse which would not be vacated. He was not aware of any such items in the other warehouses but if any were found he would ensure that they were dealt with in an appropriate manner.

52.26 Councillor Stephens asked the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods if she would comment on the following statistics:

- 4,904 people on the Housing Waiting List, of whom
- 153 were in the Gold Band (very urgent need)
- 1,580 were in the silver band (urgent need)
- Representing 1,737 people in urgent need of housing
- 153 households in temporary accommodation
- 8 households in temporary accommodation outside Gloucester
- Cost of dealing with homelessness this year was £1.3 million

52.27 Councillor Watkins replied that this was the first question regarding homelessness she had received at Council in the eight months since homelessness had been added to her portfolio of responsibilities. She stated that the latest statistics (14/12/18) were as follows:

- 4,478 people on the Housing waiting list
- 145 households in temporary accommodation
- 3 households in temporary accommodation outside Gloucester

She stated that these reductions were welcomed and whilst Officers were working hard, there was still more work to be done. She stated that there was a focus on the causes of homelessness and the need to reduce those issues.

52.28 Councillor Stephens was pleased to learn that the Cabinet recognised the need for additional temporary accommodation and he called for the investment of £5 million to provide more temporary accommodation in the City. He was pleased to see a reduction in the figures which he still considered to be disgraceful.

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- 5.29 Councillor Watkins responded that the Council needed to look at how it worked with its partners. She believed that the Homelessness Reduction Act was working and she anticipated announcements of more funding in the near future.
- 5.30 Councillor David Brown asked the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources for an update on the My Gloucester app. He noted that residents were increasingly encouraged to do things for themselves and the app was not always working.
- 5.31 Councillor Hannah Norman agreed that My Gloucester had not been the best part of the transformation process but would be further developed as part of the Ignite project.

53. COUNCIL TAX - EMPTY HOMES PREMIUM

- 53.1 Council considered a report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources concerning the introduction of a Council Tax Empty Homes Premium.
- 53.2 **RESOLVED –**
- (1) **That a Council Tax Empty Homes Premium of 50% is implemented from 01 April 2019 in respect of properties that have been unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for more than two years, increasing to 100% from April 2020.**
 - (2) **That the Empty Homes Premium be implemented from 01 April 2020 at 200% on properties which have been empty for more than five years and from 01 April 2021 at 300% on properties which have been empty for more than ten years.**

54. LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME

- 54.1 Council considered a report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources concerning the Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTS) for 2019/20.
- 54.2 **RESOLVED - That the current Local Council Tax Support scheme as the approved scheme for Gloucester City Council in 2018/19 be adopted for 2019/20.**

55. PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS, MAY 2019-APRIL 2021

- 55.1 Council considered a report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources concerning the two-year programme of ordinary meetings of Council and other meetings for the period of May 2019 to April 2021.
- 55.2 **RESOLVED –**

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- (1) **That meetings of the General Purposes Committee be arranged as and when required, with the exception of a scheduled meeting in January of each year to approve the annual review of Members' allowances.**
- (2) **That the two-year programme of ordinary meetings of Council and other meetings for the period of May 2019 to April 2021 be approved.**

56. APPOINTMENTS

56.1 RESOLVED –

- (1) **That the appointment of Councillor Walford to replace Councillor H. Norman as Chair of the Licensing and Enforcement Committee be ratified.**
- (2) **That the appointment of Councillor Taylor to replace Councillor H. Norman as Vice-Chair of the General Purposes Committee be ratified.**

57. NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice of Motion from the Liberal Democrat Group

57.1 Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Hilton, proposed the following motion:-

“This Council recognises the invaluable contribution being made by EU citizens, working in both the private and public sectors, in making Gloucester a better place for us all to live and work.

This Council therefore:

1. Pledges to support and protect all EU citizens who live or work in the City, throughout and after the Brexit process;
2. Confirms that it believes that all EU citizens in the City should retain their right to vote in and be candidates in local elections;
3. Requests cabinet to explore ways in which it can help EU citizens in the City apply for permanent residence and citizenship.”

57.2 Councillor James, seconded by Councillor Watkins, proposed the following amendment:-

“This Council recognises the invaluable contribution being made by EU citizens, working in both the private and public sectors, in making Gloucester a better place for us all to live and work.

This Council therefore:

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1. Pledges to support and protect all EU citizens who live or work in the City, throughout and after the Brexit process;
2. Confirms that it believes that all EU citizens in the City should retain their right to vote in and be candidates in local elections; will provide and publicise advice to EU citizens on electoral matters in line with national guidance.
3. Notes that the Government reached an agreement with the European Union on citizens' rights in December 2017 which protects the rights of EU citizens after the UK leaves the EU and enables them to live their lives as now;
4. Further notes that EU citizens and their family members will need to apply to secure their rights through a simple digital system to get settled status;
5. Welcomes the Government's decision not to charge a fee for applications for settled status;
6. Agrees to support any staff members who are EU citizens in applying for settled status;
7. Resolves to work with the County Council to publicise the scheme and with community groups and agencies such as GARAS to support those who need help in making an application;
8. Requests that Members promote the advice and support available amongst their communities.

~~Requests cabinet to explore ways in which it can help EU citizens in the City apply for permanent residence and citizenship.”~~

57.3 Councillors Wilson and Hilton indicated that they would accept the amendment which then became the substantive motion.

57.4 The substantive motion was put to the vote and was carried.

57.5 **RESOLVED** that –

“This Council recognises the invaluable contribution being made by EU citizens, working in both the private and public sectors, in making Gloucester a better place for us all to live and work.

This Council therefore:

- 1 Pledges to support all EU citizens who live or work in the City, throughout and after the Brexit process;
- 2 Confirms that it will provide and publicise advice to EU citizens on electoral matters in line with national guidance.
- 3 Notes that the Government reached an agreement with the European Union on citizens' rights in December 2017 which protects the rights of EU citizens after the UK leaves the EU and enables them to live their lives as now;

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- 4 Further notes that EU citizens and their family members will need to apply to secure their rights through a simple digital system to get settled status;**
- 5 Welcomes the Government's decision not to charge a fee for applications for settled status;**
- 6 Agrees to support any staff members who are EU citizens in applying for settled status;**
- 7 Resolves to work with the County Council to publicise the scheme and with community groups and agencies such as GARAS to support those who need help in making an application;**
- 8 Requests that Members promote the advice and support available amongst their communities.**

Notice of Motions from the Labour Group

- 57.5 Councillor Lugg, seconded by Councillor Coole, proposed the following motion:-

"This Council supports the 'Sending a Message in a Bottle' Campaign initiated by Llanidloes the first town on the Severn to encourage all the villages, towns , cities and counties bordering the Severn to work to prevent rubbish and plastics polluting the river on its way to the sea."

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

- 57.7 **RESOLVED that –**

"This Council supports the 'Sending a Message in a Bottle' Campaign initiated by Llanidloes the first town on the Severn to encourage all the villages, towns , cities and counties bordering the Severn to work to prevent rubbish and plastics polluting the river on its way to the sea."

- 57.8 Councillor Haigh, seconded by Councillor Coole, proposed the following motion:-

"This Council notes that terminally ill employees are not currently protected under national disability legislation and can therefore be dismissed if they are no longer able to conduct their role with reasonable adjustments. This can mean that terminally ill people can be subjected to stressful assessments, subsequent dismissal and the loss of death in service benefits – all following the diagnosis of a terminal illness.

This Council believes that those receiving a terminal diagnosis are entitled to dignity at work.

This Council resolves to:

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- Review sick pay and sickness absence procedures, with specific reference to those with a terminal diagnosis
 - Make a commitment not to dismiss a member of staff with a terminal illness, due to their condition
 - Ensure that the Council has a competent programme with the capacity to provide support to any person with a terminal diagnosis
 - Provide staff training on dealing with terminal illnesses
 - Ensure that Human Resources have procedures in place to make necessary adaptations to work arrangements for staff with a terminal illness
 - Sign and adopt the TUC's dying to work charter."
- 57.9 Councillor Hannah Norman, seconded by Councillor Finnegan, proposed the following amendment:-
- "This Council notes that terminally ill employees are not currently protected under national disability legislation and can therefore be dismissed if they are no longer able to conduct their role with reasonable adjustments. This can mean that terminally ill people can be subjected to stressful assessments, subsequent dismissal and the loss of death in service benefits – all following the diagnosis of a terminal illness.
- This Council also notes that as part of the existing framework of employment practice and procedure in Local Government there are policies in place which make such an outcome extremely rare. These include policies which govern how the Council deals with disability and its commitment to making reasonable adjustments and the provisions within the Local Government Pension Scheme which provides for early retirement on ill-health grounds.**
- This Council believes that those receiving a terminal diagnosis are entitled to dignity at work.

This Council resolves to:

- Review sick pay and sickness absence procedures, with specific reference to those to maintain its commitment to dealing compassionately with employees with a terminal diagnosis
- Make a commitment not to dismiss Ensure that all reasonable efforts are made to avoid the dismissal of a member of staff with a terminal illness, due to their condition
- Ensure that the Council has a competent programme with the appropriate policies and procedures and the capacity to provide support to any person with a terminal diagnosis including making reasonable adjustments and adaptations to work arrangements for staff with a terminal illness

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- ~~Provide staff Make available training on-and support to all staff who may be dealing with or impacted by terminal illnesses~~
- ~~Ensure that Human Resources have procedures in place to make necessary adaptations to work arrangements for staff with a terminal illness~~
- Sign and adopt the TUC's dying to work charter."

57.10 Councillors Haigh and Coole indicated that they would accept the amendment which then became the substantive motion.

57.11 The substantive motion was put to the vote and was carried.

57.12 **RESOLVED** that –

"This Council notes that terminally ill employees are not currently protected under national disability legislation and can therefore be dismissed if they are no longer able to conduct their role with reasonable adjustments. This can mean that terminally ill people can be subjected to stressful assessments, subsequent dismissal and the loss of death in service benefits – all following the diagnosis of a terminal illness.

This Council also notes that as part of the existing framework of employment practice and procedure in Local Government there are policies in place which make such an outcome extremely rare. These include policies which govern how the Council deals with disability and its commitment to making reasonable adjustments and the provisions within the Local Government Pension Scheme which provides for early retirement on ill-health grounds.

This Council believes that those receiving a terminal diagnosis are entitled to dignity at work.

This Council resolves to:

- **Review sick pay and sickness absence procedures to maintain its commitment to dealing compassionately with employees with a terminal diagnosis**
- **Ensure that all reasonable efforts are made to avoid the dismissal of a member of staff with a terminal illness, due to their condition**
- **Ensure that the Council has appropriate policies and procedures and the capacity to provide support to any person with a terminal diagnosis including making reasonable adjustments and adaptations to work arrangements for staff with a terminal illness**

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- **Make available training and support to all staff who may be dealing with or impacted by terminal illnesses**
- **Sign and adopt the TUC's dying to work charter."**

Notice of motion from the Liberal-Democrat Group

57.13 Council Brazil, seconded by Councillor Ryall, proposed the following motion:-

"This Council notes that on 28th March 2018, the Government announced its intention to consider introducing a deposit return scheme in England for single use drinks containers, whether plastic, glass or metal.

This Council agrees that a deposit return scheme would help increase the amount of single use drinks cans and bottles that are recycled rather than left to litter our streets, being sent to landfill or to incineration.

This Council notes that supermarket chains (Iceland, Co-op, Morrisons and Tesco) have been trialling a deposit return scheme.

This Council agrees that the three group leaders should write to the Secretary of State, Michael Gove to encourage him to introduce such a scheme and also to the MP for Gloucester to let him know that this Council supports the introduction of a nationwide single use drinks container deposit return scheme."

57.14 Councillor Cook, seconded by Councillor Melvin, proposed the following amendment:-

"This Council notes that on 28th March 2018, the Government announced its intention to consider introducing a deposit return scheme in England for single use drinks containers, whether plastic, glass or metal.

This Council agrees that a deposit return scheme, **as a part of the Government's Resource and Waste Strategy, and not in isolation**, would help increase the amount of single use drinks cans and bottles that are recycled rather than left to litter our streets, being sent to landfill or to incineration.

This Council notes that supermarket chains (Iceland, Co-op, Morrisons and Tesco) have been trialling a deposit return scheme.

This Council agrees that the three group leaders should write to the Secretary of State, Michael Gove to encourage him to introduce such a scheme and also to the MP for Gloucester to let him know that this Council supports the introduction of a nationwide single use drinks container deposit return scheme **in conjunction with the delivery of the Resource and Waste Strategy.**"

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57.15 Councillors Cook and Melvin indicated that they would accept the amendment which then became the substantive motion.

57.16 The substantive motion was put to the vote and was carried.

57.15 **RESOLVED** that –

"This Council notes that on 28th March 2018, the Government announced its intention to consider introducing a deposit return scheme in England for single use drinks containers, whether plastic, glass or metal.

This Council agrees that a deposit return scheme, as a part of the Government's Resource and Waste Strategy, and not in isolation, would help increase the amount of single use drinks cans and bottles that are recycled rather than left to litter our streets, being sent to landfill or to incineration.

This Council notes that supermarket chains (Iceland, Co-op, Morrisons and Tesco) have been trialling a deposit return scheme.

This Council agrees that the three group leaders should write to the Secretary of State, Michael Gove to encourage him to introduce such a scheme and also to the MP for Gloucester to let him know that this Council supports the introduction of a nationwide single use drinks container deposit return scheme in conjunction with the delivery of the Resource and Waste Strategy."

58. WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

58.1 There were no written questions.

Time of commencement: 6.30 pm

Time of conclusion: 8.15 pm

Mayor