



COUNCIL

MEETING : Thursday, 22nd November 2018

PRESENT : Cllrs. J. Brown (Mayor), Hyman (Sheriff & Deputy Mayor), James, Watkins, Cook, Noakes, H. Norman, Pullen, Hilton, Gravells, Tracey, Stephens, Lugg, Hanman, Lewis, Morgan, Wilson, Haigh, D. Brown, Dee, Taylor, Hansdot, Patel, Toleman, D. Norman, Hampson, Brooker, Brazil, Coole, Derbyshire, 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 Place
Policy and Governance Manager
Democratic and Electoral Services Officer

APOLOGIES : Cllrs. Organ, Bhaimia and Williams

35. MINUTES

35.1 The minutes of the ordinary meeting which took place on 27 September 2018 and the Special meeting which took place on 25 October 2018 were agreed and signed as a correct record by the Mayor.

36. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

36.1 Councillor D. Norman declared a personal interest agenda items 10(5) and (7) by virtue of his position as a Gloucestershire County Council Cabinet Member.

36.2 Councillors Gravells and Patel declared personal interests in agenda items 10(5) and (7) by virtue of their position as Gloucestershire County Councillors

37. CALL OVER

37.1 The Mayor invited Members to indicate whether they wished to reserve agenda item 9. No Members indicated as such and Councillor James was

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therefore invited to move agenda item 9. Councillor Watkins seconded the motion.

- 37.2 **RESOLVED** - that the recommendations of those reports which have not been reserved for discussion be approved.

38. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

- 38.1 A Gloucester resident stated that over a year ago, as a newly hhrs certified person he had offered his services to inspect all the Houses in Multiple Occupation in Gloucester for free, due to the twenty per cent cuts imposed by the Council on environmental health officers. He noted that the last prosecution of a rogue landlord in Gloucester was in 2015.

He stated that this week someone voluntarily had given information of a suspected property in breach of its licence accompanied with photographs and testimonial by e-mail to the environmental health contact in the Council. He asked Councillor James how he would feel if similar information was being gained from a known vulnerable person on a social media platform at the request of a responsible person. Would he feel if that was morally, ethically and legally correct.

- 38.2 Councillor James advised that the gentleman's offer made to the Cabinet had been declined as it was not appropriate for volunteers to undertake that function. He advised that the last prosecution of a landlord was in October 2017 and ensuring a satisfactory standard for private rented accommodation was a priority for the Council. He stated that we all had a duty to protect vulnerable people and that this included not raising individual cases in a public forum or meeting.

- 38.3 Another Gloucester resident asked the Cabinet Member for Housing Strategy and Planning if he was aware that residents of the Greyfriars development while having some parking provision were reliant on on-street parking and a difficult situation was worsening as the City centre population increased. He asked if a review could be considered.

- 38.4 In the absence of Councillor Organ, Councillor James advised that on-street parking was a County Council responsibility and he noted that there was a motion to be tabled later on the agenda which welcomed the County Council's forthcoming review of parking in Gloucestershire and called for parking in the inner city wards of Gloucester to be reviewed at an early stage of the review process.

39. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)

- 39.1 The following petition, signed by 95 people, was presented by a group of Gloucester residents:

Save Greyfriars Bowling Green

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We the “Friends of Greyfriars Bowling Green” are adamant that we need to protect this area.

If you want to support the retention of the space and be kept informed as to progress please sign out petition.

Why is this important?

If you have ever walked along Constitution Walk, behind the Gloucester City Museum and Library, you will have passed a mostly neglected area of public space consisting of a bowling green, redundant bowling club building and a sealed off public garden. With what appears to be a complete lack of vision the City Council is considering the sale of the space to developers, a space which has great potential to become a quiet, calming community garden right in the heart of the City Centre.

Our view is that the garden also provides space for small community events such as mini markets, art and literature events, children activities, outdoor theatre, community picnics and mini sports events.

In the past it has been used by the community to deliver numerous events: a book fair, a children’s summer play zone, an archaeology event featuring Phil Harding from ‘Time Team’, camp for Civil War re-enactors, a theatre and poetry day etc.

39.2 A member of the Friends of Greyfriars Bowling Green stated that Constitution Walk was in a neglected area and residents wished the bowling green to be protected and retained as public open space. There were many possible community uses for the green space which was currently leased to Young Gloucestershire. He noted that a report had been prepared on the refurbishment of Eastgate Market which suggested the development of the bowling green and Aviation Gardens to raise a capital receipt. He asked the Council to keep an open mind and stated that the Friends of Greyfriars Bowling Green would be prepared to talk to Councillors.

39.3 Councillor James referred to the motion tabled later on the agenda which addressed this matter and he stated that he wished that it be looked as part of the overall plans for the area.

40. ANNOUNCEMENTS (10 MINUTES)

The Mayor

40.1 The Mayor congratulated Councillor Derbyshire on her recent marriage.

40.2 The Mayor congratulated Councillor Coole on being named Young Councillor of the Year at the Local Government Association (LGA) Councillor Awards.

40.3 The Mayor reported the sad news that former Councillor Brian Crawford, of Tuffley Ward, has passed away. She advised that funeral details would be circulated when available.

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- 40.4 The Mayor reminded Members that the annual Children's Christmas Party would take place on 15th December at Ribston Hall. Any offers of help from Councillors would be most welcome.
- 40.5 Sebastian and Vicki Field have organised a charity concert to be held on Tuesday, 11th December at St John's, Northgate at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. There is no fixed charge but donations will be welcome.

Cabinet Members

- 40.5 Councillor Watkins announced that 151 staff (68 per cent) and 11 Councillors (28 per cent) had attended training and signed up as Dementia Friends. She advised that further training sessions would be held on 7th December and 13th January and she encouraged all Members to attend one of these sessions.
- 40.6 Councillor Watkins advised Members that Lloyd Griffiths, Head of Communities would be shortly by leaving the Council for a new post at Worcester City Council. She thanked Mr Griffiths for his hard work for the Council over a number of years and wished him well in his new role.

Chairs of Committees

- 40.7 Councillor Coole reminded Members that the annual Budget Overview and Scrutiny Committee would take place on 26 November 2018 and encouraged all Members to attend.

41. MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

a) Leader and Cabinet Members' Question Time

- 41.1 Councillor Pullen asked the Leader of the Council if austerity was over in Gloucester.
- 41.2 Councillor James referred to the motion on the agenda (item 10.4) and advised that the tough decisions of the last eight years would not be reversed and additional funding would be directed to priority areas such as the National Health Service.
- 41.3 Councillor Pullen noted that Councillor James had said that more money would be available for priorities in Gloucester.
- 41.4 Councillor James stated that there would be no changes to the assumptions in the Council's Money Plan.
- 41.5 Councillor Pullen noted that the litter contract awarded to 3GS had not been finalised and he asked the Cabinet Member for Environment if this had been due to adverse publicity surrounding 3GS's performance in other areas.

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- 41.6 Councillor Cook replied that the target date for finalising the contract was 21st January 2019. He advised that there had been difficulties with some terms of the contract which had now been resolved.
- 41.7 Councillor Pullen asked Councillor Cook if he would have been happier had the service had been provided 'in-house'.
- 41.8 Councillor Cook believed that the Council could not deliver the service effectively with the resources at its disposal.
- 41.9 Councillor Hilton asked if Councillor Cook was aware that 3GS had been taken over by the Red Snapper Group.
- 41.10 Councillor Cook stated that he had been assured that the Red Snapper Group would deliver the service as agreed.
- 41.11 Councillor Hilton noted that Brighton and Hove City Council had terminated a similar contract and he asked Councillor Cook if he had contacted Brighton and Hove City Council.
- 41.12 Councillor Cook advised that he had received assurances that the Red Snapper Group would not be incentivising the collection of fines by its workers.
- 41.13 Councillor Hilton asked Councillor Cook why it had not been possible to obtain a schedule for leaf clearance in Kingsholm and Wotton from Amey.
- 41.14 Councillor Cook advised that it was a complex database and he was endeavouring to ensure that the data was presented in a manner that could be easily read by Councillors and members of the public. He noted that when ward Members had been asked for the areas where leaves should be cleared in their wards there had been no reply from Councillor Hilton.
- 41.15 Councillor Hilton asked for an assurance that all Autumn leaves would be cleared from Kingsholm by the end of the year.
- 41.16 Councillor Cook stated that he had asked only yesterday for a progress update. He stated that Councillors could assist by informing officers about priority areas in their ward.
- 41.17 Councillor Coole asked Councillor James, in the absence of the Cabinet Member for Housing Strategy and Planning, whether he considered that the provision of affordable housing was a priority.
- 41.18 Councillor James agreed absolutely that the provision of affordable housing was a priority and he had met recently with a large housing association in that regard.
- 41.19 Councillor Coole noted that the Council intended to invest £80 million in property and he asked Councillor James if that money could be used to fund affordable housing as part of the regeneration of Matson and Podsmead.

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- 41.20 Councillor James replied that the money would be used to purchase property as an investment to provide income to support Council services and that other channels were being explored in respect of affordable housing.
- 41.21 Councillor Haigh noted that the Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure had said that she visited Tourist Information Centres in other areas on her travels to see how they compared with the award winning centre in Gloucester. She asked if Councillor Noakes had ever seen a Tourist Information Centre situated on a first floor.
- 41.22 Councillor Noakes stated that she had but could not recall the location. She would advise Councillor Haigh where it had been.
- 41.23 Councillor Haigh asked Councillor Noakes if she would explore the possibilities of extending the frontage of the Guildhall to incorporate the Tourist Information Centre and a Café Bar at ground level.
- 41.24 Councillor Noakes stated that the possibilities were being explored and that a report would be prepared in due course.
- 41.25 Councillor Ryall stated that the University of Gloucestershire graduation ceremonies had been held in Cheltenham and she believed that this had resulted in the loss of potential trade to the City from students and their families. She asked the Leader of the Council if he would speak to the University to ensure that students studying in Gloucester can graduate in Gloucester.
- 41.26 Councillor James undertook to raise the issue of University graduation ceremonies with the Vice-Chancellor of the University. He noted that the graduation ceremonies for Gloucester College would be held on 23rd November in the City..
- 41.27 Councillor David Brown had received complaints from people receiving parking fines when faults with the pay and display machines had been reported. He asked the Leader of the Council if there were any plans to replace the machines.
- 41.28 Councillor James stated that there were plans to replace the mechanisms of the machines. He undertook to request the Property Commissioning Manager to provide Councillor David Brown with details. He noted that people receiving parking tickets in those circumstances could submit an appeal which would be dealt with appropriately.

b) Chairs of Committees

- 41.29 Councillor Haigh noted that the Festivals and Events Programme had been deferred twice and she asked the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee when the report would be presented to the Committee.

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41.30 Councillor Coole advised that the report was not on the agenda for the next meeting but he would pursue the issue with Officers.

42. GAMBLING ACT 2005 - REVISED STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES FOLLOWING TEN WEEK CONSULTATION

42.1 **RESOLVED** - That the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles for 2019-2022 be adopted and the Head of Communities be authorised to publish and advertise it.

43. NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice of Motion from the Conservative Group

43.1 Councillor James, seconded by Councillor Toleman, proposed the following motion:

“This Council:

Notes the proposal by Post Office Limited to relocate up to 40 Post Offices into WH Smith stores in 2019;

Further notes that this could include the main Post Office in Gloucester located in Kings Square;

Recognises the importance of the Post Office building to the setting of Kings Square;

Welcomes the fact that a consultation period will take place before any final decision is made and urges customers, residents and businesses to make their views known;

Expresses its concern that the city’s main Post Office must be accessible and able to provide the wide range of services and facilities currently available;

Resolves to make its own submission to the consultation to be agreed by the three group leaders.”

43.2 The motion was put to the vote and was carried.

43.3 **RESOLVED** – That

This Council:

Notes the proposal by Post Office Limited to relocate up to 40 Post Offices into WH Smith stores in 2019;

Further notes that this could include the main Post Office in Gloucester located in Kings Square;

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Recognises the importance of the Post Office building to the setting of Kings Square;

Welcomes the fact that a consultation period will take place before any final decision is made and urges customers, residents and businesses to make their views known;

Expresses its concern that the city's main Post Office must be accessible and able to provide the wide range of services and facilities currently available;

Resolves to make its own submission to the consultation to be agreed by the three group leaders.

Notice of Motion from the Labour Group

43.4 Councillor Pullen, seconded by Councillor Stephens, proposed the following motion:

“Council recognises and values that green public spaces in the City centre are at a premium and that they greatly enhance the environment and quality of life for both residents and visitors.

Council further agrees that Greyfriars bowling green is a valuable green space close to local residencies and should be enhanced and protected from future development.

Council therefore resolves:

1. To include Greyfriars bowling green as a designated area of public open space as part of the Council's review of its Public Open Space Strategy.
2. That the bowling green be protected from being built upon in any future redevelopment of the area.
3. That a comprehensive plan be drawn up as part of the Local Plan process that provides for a small development of residential/ retail properties including Aviation Gardens that retains the bowling green as its central feature.”

43.5 Councillor James, seconded by Councillor Melvin, proposed the following amendment:

“Council recognises and values that green public spaces in the City **city** centre are ~~at a premium~~ **important** and that they greatly enhance the environment and quality of life for both residents and visitors.

Council further agrees that Greyfriars bowling green ~~is a valuable green space close to local residencies and should be enhanced and protected from future development~~ **should be considered as part of a wider plan for the**

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area that enhances its relationship with its neighbouring buildings including the new Greyfriars development and the Eastgate Indoor Market.

Council therefore resolves:

~~1. • In the context of the City Plan, Tto include Greyfriars bowling green as a designated area of public open space as part of the Council's review of its Public Open Space Strategy ask officers to create a planning/development brief for the Greyfriars area, including the bowling green, the Aviation Gardens and the area between the Greyfriars monument and the Eastgate Shopping Centre, which maintains a significant area of green space which will be accessible to the public.~~

~~2. That the bowling green be protected from being built upon in any future redevelopment of the area.~~

~~3. That a comprehensive plan be drawn up as part of the Local Plan process that provides for a small development of residential/ retail properties including Aviation Gardens that retains the bowling green as its central feature."~~

43.6 The amendment was not accepted.

43.7 The amendment was put to the vote and was carried. It therefore became the substantive motion.

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

43.9 **RESOLVED** – That

Council recognises and values that green public spaces in the city centre are important and that they greatly enhance the environment and quality of life for both residents and visitors.

Council further agrees that Greyfriars bowling green should be considered as part of a wider plan for the area that enhances its relationship with its neighbouring buildings including the new Greyfriars development and the Eastgate Indoor Market.

Council therefore resolves:

- In the context of the City Plan, to ask officers to create a planning/development brief for the Greyfriars area, including the bowling green, the Aviation Gardens and the area between the Greyfriars monument and the Eastgate Shopping Centre, which maintains a significant area of green space which will be accessible to the public.

Notice of Motion from the Labour Group

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43.10 Councillor Haigh, seconded by Councillor Coole, proposed the following motion:

“This Council notes:

- That analysis of the 2018 Local Election results by the Fawcett Society found that only 34% of councillors in England are women, up 1% since 2017. Of the seats that were up for election in 2018, 38% went to women, up just 3 percentage points on 2014 when these seats were last contested;
- That across England, Labour has improved its representation since seats were last up for grabs, with 45% women compared with 40% in 2014, Liberal Democrat representation up from 34% to 36% whilst the Conservative Party saw a fall from 31% to 29% in the share of its councillors who are female;
- By summer 2017, only 4% of councils in England and Wales have parental leave policies, according to research by the Fawcett Society;
- That the role of a councillor should be open to all, regardless of their background, and that introducing a parental leave policy is a step towards encouraging a wider range of people to become councillors, and is also a step to encourage existing councillors who may want to start a family to remain as councillors;
- That parental leave must apply to parents regardless of their gender, and that it should also cover adoption leave to support those parents who choose to adopt.

This Council resolves:

- that the General Purposes committee be asked to draw up a parental leave policy with due regard to best practice in other Councils and that this policy to give all councillors an entitlement to parental leave after giving birth or adopting;

To ensure that councillors with children and other caring commitments are supported as appropriate.”

43.11 Councillor H. Norman, seconded by Councillor Watkins, proposed the following amendment:

“This Council notes:

- That analysis of the 2018 Local Election results by the Fawcett Society found that only 34% of councillors in England are women, up 1% since 2017. Of the seats that were up for election in 2018, 38% went to women, up just 3 percentage points on 2014 when these seats were last contested;

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- That **Gloucester City Council has 15 female councillors from a total of 39, which is 38.5% and in line with the national average. Additionally the council has 50% female representation on Cabinet, however we believe we can do more to attract females into local politics** ~~across England, Labour has improved its representation since seats were last up for grabs, with 45% women compared with 40% in 2014, Liberal Democrat representation up from 34% to 36% whilst the Conservative Party saw a fall from 31% to 29% in the share of its councillors who are female;~~
- By summer 2017, only 4% of councils in England and Wales have parental leave policies, according to research by the Fawcett Society;
- That the role of a councillor should be open to all, regardless of their background, and that introducing a parental leave policy is a step towards encouraging a wider range of people to become councillors, and is also a step to encourage existing councillors who may want to start a family to remain as councillors;
- That parental leave must apply to parents regardless of their gender, and that it should also cover adoption leave to support those parents who choose to adopt.

This Council resolves:

- that the General Purposes committee be asked to draw up a parental leave policy with due regard to best practice in other Councils **and considering the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel when received and the work being undertaken by the Local Government Association on this issue** and that this policy to give all councillors an entitlement to parental leave after giving birth or adopting;
- To ensure that councillors with children and other caring commitments are supported as appropriate.”

43.12 Councillor Haigh accepted the amendment. It therefore became the substantive motion.

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

43.14 **RESOLVED** – That

This Council notes:

- That analysis of the 2018 Local Election results by the Fawcett Society found that only 34% of councillors in England are women, up 1% since 2017. Of the seats that were up for election in 2018, 38% went to women, up just 3 percentage points on 2014 when these seats were last contested;

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- That Gloucester City Council has 15 female councillors from a total of 39, which is 38.5% and in line with the national average. Additionally the council has 50% female representation on Cabinet, however we believe we can do more to attract females into local politics;
- By summer 2017, only 4% of councils in England and Wales have parental leave policies, according to research by the Fawcett Society;
- That the role of a councillor should be open to all, regardless of their background, and that introducing a parental leave policy is a step towards encouraging a wider range of people to become councillors, and is also a step to encourage existing councillors who may want to start a family to remain as councillors;
- That parental leave must apply to parents regardless of their gender, and that it should also cover adoption leave to support those parents who choose to adopt.

This Council resolves:

- that the General Purposes committee be asked to draw up a parental leave policy with due regard to best practice in other Councils and considering the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel when received and the work being undertaken by the Local Government Association on this issue and that this policy to give all councillors an entitlement to parental leave after giving birth or adopting;
- To ensure that councillors with children and other caring commitments are supported as appropriate.

Notice of Motion from the Labour Group

43.15 Councillor Pullen, seconded by Councillor Stephens, proposed the following motion:

“This Council notes that many council budgets are now at Breaking Point. Austerity has caused huge damage to communities up and down the UK, with devastating effects on key public services that protect the most defenceless in society – children at risk, disabled adults and vulnerable older people – and the services we all rely on, like clean streets, libraries, and children’s centres;

- Government cuts mean councils have lost 60p out of every £1 that the last Labour Government was spending on local government in 2010;
- Councils had to spend an extra £800m last year to meet the demand on vital services to protect children
- With an aging population and growing demand adult social care faces a gap of £3.5 billion – with only 14% of council workers now confident that vulnerable residents are safe and cared for

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- Government cuts have seen over 500 children’s centres and 475 libraries close, potholes are left unfilled, and 80% of council workers now say have no confidence in the future of local services
- Northamptonshire has already gone bust, and more councils are predicted to collapse without immediate emergency funding
- Councils now face a further funding gap of £7.8 billion by 2025 just to keep services ‘standing still’ and meeting additional demand. Even Lord Gary Porter, the Conservative Chair of the Local Government Association, has said ‘Councils can no longer be expected to run our vital local services on a shoestring’

This Council condemns Chief Secretary to the Treasury Liz Truss for stating on BBC Newsnight on 1st October 2018 that the government is “not making cuts to local authorities”, when all independent assessments of government spending show that this is entirely false; and that this Council further notes that Prime Minister Theresa May has also claimed that “austerity is over” despite planning a further £1.3bn of cuts to council budgets over the next year;

This Council agrees with the aims of the ‘Breaking Point’ petition signed by labour councillors across the country, in calling for the Prime Minister and Chancellor to truly end austerity in local government by:

- Reversing next years planned £1.3bn cut to council budgets;
- Immediately investing £2bn in children’s services and £2bn in adult social care to stop these vital emergency services from collapsing;
- Pledging to use the Spending Review to restore council funding to 2010 levels over the next four years

This Council resolves to:

- Support the ‘Breaking Point’ campaign, recognising the devastating impact that austerity has had on our local community
- Ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Prime Minister, and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government setting out the funding pressures faced by our local council, and calling on the Government to truly end austerity in local government.”

43.16 Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Hilton, proposed the following amendment:

“This Council notes that many council budgets are now at ~~Breaking Point~~ **breaking point**. ~~Austerity~~ **This** has caused huge damage to communities ~~up and down the UK in Gloucester~~, with devastating effects on key public services that protect the most defenceless in society – children at risk, disabled adults and vulnerable older people – and the services we all rely on, like clean streets, libraries, and children’s centres;

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- Government cuts mean councils **will** have lost 60p out of every £1 that ~~the last Labour Government was spending on local government in 2010~~ **between 2010 and 2020;**
- Councils had to spend an extra £800m last year to meet the demand on vital services to protect children
- With an aging population and growing demand adult social care faces a gap of £3.5 billion – with only 14% of council workers now confident that vulnerable residents are safe and cared for
- Government cuts have seen over 500 children’s centres and 475 libraries close, potholes are left unfilled, and 80% of council workers now say have no confidence in the future of local services
- Northamptonshire has already gone bust, and more councils are predicted to collapse without immediate emergency funding
- Councils now face a further funding gap of £7.8 billion by 2025 just to keep services ‘standing still’ and meeting additional demand. Even [Lord Gary Porter](#), the Conservative Chair of the Local Government Association, has said ‘Councils can no longer be expected to run our vital local services on a shoestring’

This Council condemns Chief Secretary to the Treasury Liz Truss for stating on BBC Newsnight on 1st October 2018 that the government is “not making cuts to local authorities”, when all independent assessments of government spending show that this is entirely false; and that this Council further notes that Prime Minister Theresa May has also claimed that “austerity is over” despite planning a further £1.3bn of cuts to council budgets over the next year;

~~This Council agrees with the aims of the ‘Breaking Point’ petition signed by labour councillors across the country, in calling for the Prime Minister and Chancellor to truly end austerity in local government by:~~

- ~~Reversing next years planned £1.3bn cut to council budgets;~~
- ~~Immediately investing £2bn in children’s services and £2bn in adult social care to stop these vital emergency services from collapsing;~~
- ~~Pledging to use the Spending Review to restore council funding to 2010 levels over the next four years~~

This Council resolves to:

- ~~Support the ‘Breaking Point’ campaign, recognising the devastating impact that austerity has had on our local community~~
- ~~Ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Prime Minister, and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government setting out the funding pressures faced by our local council, and calling on the Government to truly end austerity in local government.~~

This council endorses the cross-party work carried out by the Local Government Association and recognises the analysis within the LGA Autumn Budget Submission, showing that in 2019/20 services will face a funding gap of £3.9bn, rising to £7.8bn by 2024/25.

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This council therefore resolves to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, expressing its dismay that the Government failed to address the growing funding gaps with local councils in the Autumn Budget, and requesting that he urgently rectify this mistake in judgement.”

43.17 The amendment was not accepted.

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

43.19 The original motion was put to the vote and was lost.

Notice of Motion from the Liberal Democrat Group

43.20 Councillor Hilton, seconded by Councillor Brazil, proposed the following motion:

“This council expresses its disappointment and opposition to the closure of Hempsted Household Recycling Centre one day a week and to the reduced opening hours on the days the centre grants access to the public.

This council believes that this decision by Gloucestershire County Council cabinet will discourage recycling and encourage flytipping.

This council agrees to write to the cabinet member responsible for the decision, requesting that he opens Hempsted Recycling Centre seven days a week and reconsiders the daily opening hours, especially during British Summer Time.”

43.21 Councillor Cook, seconded by Councillor Morgan, proposed the following amendment:

“~~This council expresses its disappointment and opposition to~~ **notes** the closure of Hempsted Household Recycling Centre one day a week and to the reduced opening hours on the days the centre grants access to the public.

This council ~~believes that~~ **notes concerns raised that** this decision by Gloucestershire County Council cabinet will discourage recycling and encourage flytipping **and that the county council has taken those concerns onboard.**

This council agrees to write to the cabinet member responsible for the decision, requesting that he ~~opens Hempsted Recycling Centre seven days a week and reconsiders the daily opening hours, especially during British Summer Time~~ **carefully monitors the situation, advises this council how any unforeseen consequences that do arise will be redressed, and continue the publicity campaign about these changes.”**

43.22 The amendment was not accepted.

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43.23 The amendment was put to the vote and was carried. It therefore became the substantive motion.

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

43.25 **RESOLVED** – That

“This council notes the closure of Hempsted Household Recycling Centre one day a week and to the reduced opening hours on the days the centre grants access to the public.

This council notes concerns raised that this decision by Gloucestershire County Council cabinet will discourage recycling and encourage flytipping and that the county council has taken those concerns onboard.

This council agrees to write to the cabinet member responsible for the decision, requesting that he carefully monitors the situation, advises this council how any unforeseen consequences that do arise will be redressed, and continue the publicity campaign about these changes.”

Notice of Motion from the Liberal Democrat Group

43.26 Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Hilton, proposed the following motion:

“Council welcomes the recent completion and opening of the new Gloucester Transport Hub and congratulates all those involved in making this project such a success.

Council recognizes the importance of good transport links both in facilitating easy access to the city centre and hospital but in also creating a good first impression of our city as a good place to live and do business of which the Transport Hub is the first step in achieving this.

Council resolves, as the scheme promoter for the Railway Station Improvement project, to focus its efforts now in working with Great Western Railways and all stakeholders to ensure this project is also delivered to the same high standards as the Transport Hub.”

43.27 The motion was put to the vote and was carried.

43.28 **RESOLVED** – That

Council welcomes the recent completion and opening of the new Gloucester Transport Hub and congratulates all those involved in making this project such a success.

Council recognizes the importance of good transport links both in facilitating easy access to the city centre and hospital but in also creating a good first

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impression of our city as a good place to live and do business of which the Transport Hub is the first step in achieving this.

Council resolves, as the scheme promoter for the Railway Station Improvement project, to focus its efforts now in working with Great Western Railways and all stakeholders to ensure this project is also delivered to the same high standards as the Transport Hub.

Notice of Motion from the Conservative Group

43.29 Councillor Melvin, seconded by Councillor Patel, proposed the following motion:

“This Council:

- Recognises the difficulty that many residents in inner city wards of Gloucester have parking outside or near their homes;
- Welcomes the County Council’s proposed review of parking across the County, resolves to work with them to ensure its success in Gloucester including making City Council channels available to assist with the consultation, and asks the County Council to review inner city wards of Gloucester early in the process;
- Notes that the conversion of former family homes to houses in multiple occupation, including for students, can exacerbate already difficult parking issues and asks the Planning Policy Working Group to consider how City Plan policies can be used to assist with this problem.”

43.30 The motion was put to the vote and was carried.

43.31 **RESOLVED** – That

This Council:

- Recognises the difficulty that many residents in inner city wards of Gloucester have parking outside or near their homes;
- Welcomes the County Council’s proposed review of parking across the County, resolves to work with them to ensure its success in Gloucester including making City Council channels available to assist with the consultation, and asks the County Council to review inner city wards of Gloucester early in the process;
- Notes that the conversion of former family homes to houses in multiple occupation, including for students, can exacerbate already difficult parking issues and asks the Planning Policy Working Group to consider how City Plan policies can be used to assist with this problem.

44. WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

44.1 Councillor Haigh noted that three of the seven toilet cubicles in the new bus station were out of order and she asked Councillor James why all of the cubicles could not be gender neutral. Councillor James replied that the situation would be kept under review and advised that there had been a

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problem with the coin mechanisms on the cubicles. He undertook to check with Officers that the problem had been resolved.

- 44.2 Councillor Pullen thanked Councillor James for the detailed answer to his written question and asked why it seemed impossible to clean under benches and around litter bins; to repair paving stones rather than concrete or tarmac over the problem; and to clean out and repair drainage gullies. Councillor James advised that repairs should be reported to the County Council especially those following reinstatement of utilities.
- 44.3 Councillor Pullen acknowledged the planned and completed public realm works in the written answer and he asked Councillor James that having spent £30,000 on consultants to produce a public realm strategy for the Gate Streets what were the next steps to deliver the plan. Councillor James noted that the public realm strategy would be delivered in partnership as detailed in his written answer and after Kings Square had been addressed attention would be turned to the Gate Streets especially Eastgate and Westgate Streets.

Time of commencement: 6.30 pm

Time of conclusion: 9.10 pm

Mayor