



COUNCIL

MEETING : Thursday, 27th January 2022

PRESENT : Cllrs. Finnegan (Chair), Tracey (Vice-Chair), Cook, H. Norman, S. Chambers, Hudson, Lewis, Hilton, Pullen, Gravells MBE, Morgan, Wilson, Bhaimia, Williams, D. Brown, Taylor, Field, Organ, Toleman, J. Brown, Melvin, Bowkett, Ackroyd, Castle, A. Chambers, Chambers-Dubus, Conder, Dee, Durdey, Evans, Kubaszczyk, O'Donnell, Padilla, Radley, Zaman and Sawyer

Others in Attendance

Jon McGinty, Managing Director
Stephen Taylor, Monitoring Officer
Ruth Saunders, Director of Communities
Jon Topping, Director of Policy and Resources
Ian Edwards, Head of Place
Philip Walker, Head of Culture
Tanya Davies, Policy and Governance Manager
Simon Byrne, Democratic and Electoral Services Team Leader

APOLOGIES : Cllrs. Patel, Brooker and Hyman

56. MINUTES

56.1 The minutes of the meetings held on 18 November 2021 were approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

57. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

57.1 There were no declarations of interest.

58. CALL OVER

58.1 The Mayor invited Members to indicate whether they wished to reserve agenda items 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 15 for discussion. Members indicated that they wished to reserve items 9,10,13 and 15 for discussion. Agenda Item 14 (Review of Various Appointments) could not be called over as nominations were required.

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58.2 Councillor Cook (Leader of the Council) moved and Councillor H Norman (Deputy Leader of the Council) seconded the local Council Tax Support Scheme 2022/23 be approved.

58.3 **RESOLVED** that:-

- (1) the current Local Council Tax Support Scheme, as the approved scheme for Gloucester City in 2021/22, be adopted for 2022/23
- (2) The scheme approved at 2.1 (1) above be updated to align with any legislation changes in January 2022 and to be implemented from 01 April 2022
- (3) Any urgent amendments to the scheme at 2.1 (1) above, in the event of a national emergency and authorised by the government, be adopted and implemented immediately.

58.4 Councillor Cook (Leader of the Council) moved and Councillor H Norman (Deputy Leader of the Council) seconded that the Appointment of External Auditors – Opt in to Appoint Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) be approved.

58.5 **RESOLVED** that: - The Council opt-in to the PSAA for the appointment of the Council's External Auditors from 2023/24.

58.6 Councillor Cook (Leader of the Council) moved and Councillor H Norman (Deputy Leader of the Council) seconded that the Urgent Decision made by Cabinet in respect of leases at St Oswalds, Eastgate Centre and Kings Walk be noted.

58.7 **RESOLVED** that: - Urgent Decision made by Cabinet in respect of leases at St Oswalds, Eastgate Centre and Kings Walk be **NOTED**.

59. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

59.1 A Gloucester resident submitted the following question:

Would it be possible to carry out an Equality Impact Assessment with regards to the recent change of requiring that questions to any committee or full council be made in writing to allow for reasonable adjustments? For example, BBC Radio allows questions to be asked by email, by post or by phone call, where the question is written down and passed on in writing.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Cook, responded:

A People Impact Assessment (screening stage) was carried out. The changes we have put in place allow submission by post and by email, and we are no longer requiring residents to attend in person in order for their question to be put, as we considered this would be beneficial to many residents, but primarily those with disabilities. While it is not explicit in the wording of the Constitution, we will also accept questions by phone. A new

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web page dedicated to advising residents on how they can get involved in the democratic process went live in November, and on that page we have encouraged residents to get in touch if they need any support to participate in our meetings. The same encouragement is also published on each agenda.

59.2 A Gloucester resident submitted the following question:

Why is the MP group suggesting closing the tennis courts to low-income families who cannot afford fees, putting in a costly booking system prohibiting children and young people who don't have bank accounts from accessing the courts if their parents are unable to facilitate due to work commitments and/or finances and causing parking issues in a quiet residential area with children and young people at risk from excessive parking, when there are excellent facilities at Plock Court Oxstalls, Gloucester business park and Cheltenham tennis club for those that can afford to pay and the friends of the oval have already demonstrated that the area can easily be improved and maintained through grants and fundraising? This is robbing the poor to benefit the rich - why?

Councillor Cook responded:

No decision has yet been made by Gloucester City Council in respect of the introduction of a pay to play system at the Oval. The Council will take into consideration the impact of any changes to the current arrangements, and the requirements attached to Government grants before reaching any decision, including any concessionary arrangements that might be applicable.

59.3 A Gloucester resident submitted the following question:

In times of rising inflation, utility bills and general cost of living, and considering the area the oval courts are situated, do you really think by implementing a fee and booking system is beneficial to the people within the social and economic banding as those residents in the oval? Or is the proposal for the benefit of those individuals in the photo of the survey, the polar opposite of what you see in the oval?

Councillor Cook responded:

No decision has yet been made by Gloucester City Council in respect of the introduction of a pay to play system at the Oval. The Council will take into consideration the impact of any changes to the current arrangements, and the requirements attached to Government grants before reaching any decision, including any concessionary arrangements that might be applicable.

60. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)

60.1 There were no petitions or deputations.

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61. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor

- 61.1 The Mayor informed Members that she would be attending the 'Put Knives Down' event on Monday 31 January 2022 at 6.30pm and encouraged Members to show their support.

Members of the Cabinet

- 61.2 The Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure, Councillor Lewis announced that the team at Blackfriars had been crowned a winner for the third time with their latest success in the country rounds of the International Wedding Awards 2022 and congratulated all those involved in making the venue such a success.

He also announced that £42k of funding had been awarded by the Arts Council for the Bright Lights festival. Councillor Lewis informed Members that an exhibition by the Royal Photographic Society had opened at the Museum and would last three years with different exhibits display over that period.

- 61.3 The Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources, Councillor Norman, provided the following statement to Council:

On Monday the 20th December 2021, the city council became aware that some of our IT systems had been subject to a cyber incident. As a result, since that date, the council have experienced disruption to some of our systems and services.

The council have been working actively with the National Cyber Security Centre and the National Crime Agency to understand more about the nature of this incident and minimise the impact of it and we have been following their advice on the level of information that we can currently share.

It is therefore disappointing that there has been extensive speculation in the press from councillors about the incident. Which can cause additional concern for residents, businesses, partners, and suppliers when councillors know at present, we are unable to share additional information.

I fully support the need to undertake a full review as to the circumstances around this incident, the council's cyber preparedness, our response, and our recovery. However, I feel it is critical for the council to move into the recovery phase before such an exercise can take place. We also need to be mindful of the impact on any criminal investigation.

I would however like to confirm that the council are still making benefits payments, Omicron covid grants are being processed and paid and supplier invoices are still being processed. New planning applications can be received, residents can comment on these applications and the planning

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team are working hard on manual work arounds for applications already submitted. Throughout this time the council's customer service team have been available to provide support via 396 396 or via the here to help email address and issues are being triaged in line with the severity of the issue. Our website is also regularly updated with any adaptations to specific service areas.

I would like to take this opportunity to place on record the thanks of the administration for the hard work of all officers in helping us combat this incident and in ensuring that they provide residents and stakeholders with the best service possible at this time. I would also like to thank the residents, businesses, and partners for their patience.

- 61.4 The Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Strategy, Councillor S. Chambers informed Members that The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) has awarded the Council £395,000 to develop new software to be used for processing planning applications. Gloucester was one of 8 Councils awarded funding and had been invited to join the existing project team developing new software products, RIPA and BOPS. The aim was to make submitting planning application significantly easier and reduce officer time spent on admin and data processing tasks.

62. MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

- 62.1 In respect of question 1, Councillor Hilton asked if the reason the Cabinet Member could not provide an answer was due to political embarrassment. Councillor Norman that all comments were given on the advice of the agencies assisting the Council to resolve the issues. She stated that she supported once the issues had been resolved.
- 62.2 In response to a supplementary question respect of number 2, Councillor Norman advised that a likely timeline could not be confirmed.
- 62.3 Councillor Pullen stated that the public had a right to know if their data had been compromised and asked the Cabinet Member if she could not say that data may have been released. Councillor Norman reiterated that the advice the Council had received was that no information could be made public.
- 62.4 In respect of question 4, Councillor Pullen asked how much more time was needed to complete the climate change action plan and when would it be produced. Councillor Cook stated that the whilst the climate change manager had been in post just a matter of months, they had been proactive in getting various schemes running. Councillor Cook's priority, he stated, was to take action rather than write papers.
- 62.5 Councillor Chambers-Dubus, regarding question 6, asked once the MP's survey surrounding facilities at the Oval tennis courts, would there be a Council run consultation. Councillor Lewis advised that he knew of no timeline but if it was deemed necessary, this could be looked into.

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- 62.6 With regard to question 7, Councillor Conder asked that, given the housing assessment would be county wide, would the Cabinet Member do her best to ensure Kingsholm and Wootton would get the housing it needed. Councillor S. Chambers stated that she would like to see this happen.
- 62.7 In relation to the food dock referred to at question 8, Councillor Sawyer asked how many units had been let thus far and whether these included independent businesses. Councillor Cook advised that he would respond directly to her with exact details.
- 62.8 Councillor Hilton, with regard to question 10 asked if the Council had applied to the government for funding to assist with recovery from the cyber incident. Councillor Norman advised that discussions were ongoing.
- 62.9 With regard to question 11, Councillor Hilton asked what was being done to lift the block the county council had put on city council emails. Councillor Norman advised that she had been in discussions with the county council and that it was not necessary for it to block city council emails.
- 62.10 Councillor Bowkett asked if specific cyber risks were listed in the strategic risk register. Councillor Norman advised that she would respond with more precise detail.
- 62.11 Councillor Norman advised Councillor Bowkett that a timeline could not be given at this stage as to when an investigation might be completed.
- 62.12 In respect of question 17, Councillor Field asked what measures would be in place in the future to ensure wider engagement in consulting with Podsmead residents for regeneration in the area. Councillor S. Chambers stated that she would be happy to meet with him to put further measures in place.
- 62.13 Councillor Cook advised Councillor Field that he would provide a written response regarding the take up of bulk waste collections.
- 62.14 With regard to question 18, Councillor Field asked what we be done to ensure publicity for events in the city. Councillor Lewis advised that, as stated at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, this was a key part of the marketing team's work.
- 62.15 Councillor D. Brown stated that it could sometimes take 20 months for data on air quality to be made publicly available and asked if this information could be released more quickly. Councillor Cook advised that he would ask officers to look at this and find out why it took this length of time.

Questions to Chairs of Committees

- 62.16 Councillor Hilton asked the Chair of the Planning Committee, Councillor Taylor, when the full operating system or a replacement be back to being functional. Councillor Taylor advised that it was progressing and would be meeting with officers to progress its accessibility.

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62.17 Councillor Hilton asked Councillor Taylor what would be done to ensure more planning decisions would be taken by elected Members. Councillor Taylor advised that he was happy with the scheme of delegation and that, simply because some applications received objections did not mean that the application was not sound. He also noted the quasi-judicial nature of the Committee.

63. COUNCIL PLAN 2021-24

63.1 Councillor Cook proposed and Councillor Norman seconded the motion to adopt the Council Plan. Councillor Cook outlined the priorities in the plan and advised that lengthy discussions had taken place at both the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet. He brought to Members' attention the specific actions in the plan and that these would be the means by which success would be measured.

63.2 Councillor Hilton proposed and Councillor Wilson seconded the following amendment:

Add the following Actions/Measures to the Council Plan:

- Identify the current level of air-pollution across the city. Comparing the air pollution of today, during the Covid-19 lockdowns and pre-pandemic. Prepare an action plan to improve air quality across the city and especially in the air-pollution hotspots, to be approved by elected members.
- Install webcasting system, by the end of 2022, in the council chamber so that council and committee meetings can be recorded, posted and viewed online. Bringing Gloucester City Council in line with other councils that already webcast their meetings.
- Complete the housing stock survey by the end of the 2022/23 council year, to provide up to date evidence to allow elected members to revise housing and planning policies to deliver balanced communities.

63.3 Councillor Norman, with regards to webcasting, stated it was the intention to introduce it but given some product limitations it was necessary to be flexible on any time frame.

63.4 Councillor Pullen expressed his support for the amendment

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

63.6 With regard to the Council Plan as presented, Councillor Pullen expressed the view that 67 responses appeared a low number and that the Council needed to consider how it conducted consultations. He thanked officers who had evidently worked very hard in putting the plan together.

63.7 Councillor Hilton noted that the aim to maintain a minimum recycling level of 45% was unambitious and gave examples of areas where the rates were

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significantly higher. Councillor Cook advised that 45% was reasonably good for an urban district and cited the fact that Exeter had a much lower rate.

63.8 **RESOLVED** that:- The Council Plan 2022-24 be approved.

64. GLOUCESTER CITY COMMISSION TO REVIEW RACE RELATIONS FINAL REPORT

- 64.1 Councillor Cook moved and Councillor Hudson seconded the motion. Councillor Cook outlined the detailed findings of the Commission and praised the work of all involved. He welcomed the significant discussion that had taken place at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding how to take it forward. He advised that he had raised it at Leadership Gloucestershire and would be working with other districts and the county to form a legacy organisation.
- 64.2 Councillor Pullen welcomed the excellent report and noted that it was significant and detailed. He thanked all those involved. Noting that it had originated from a Labour motion, it was good to see that it had been taken forward. He shared his view that the report showed that, in general, there were good race relations in the City but highlighted inequalities in the public sector particularly. As the originator of the Commission, he stated that the Council had a duty to take it forward in the future and that it was right that partner organisations be asked to contribute.
- 64.3 Councillor Wilson, who had sat on the Commission, stated that it had been an honour to be involved. Considerable work had gone into the report and was impressed with the commissioners' dedication. He stated that some of the findings were not surprising and that it was the Council's responsibility as the initiator to ensure a proper legacy was left.
- 64.4 Councillor Lewis informed Members that he had suggested an exhibition at the museum to display the diverse history of Gloucester.
- 64.5 Councillor Gravells stated that it was positive that the City Council was taking ownership and suggested related task and finish groups.
- 64.6 Councillor Padilla shared his view that it was a very timely report and suggested it be highlighted and celebrated, particularly during Race Equality week beginning 7 February.
- 64.7 Councillor Durdey recounted a personal experience of his family being victims of racism and suggested that the report could be the basis of creating a more welcome and inclusive city.
- 64.8 Councillor Field informed Members that a detailed and serious discussion had taken place at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and that the Committee would be keeping it under review.
- 64.9 Councillor Cook confirmed that the City Council would be at the centre of taking the reports recommendations forward.

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64.10 **RESOLVED** that:- the report of the Gloucester City Commission to Review Race Relations be endorsed and that the recommendations agreed by Cabinet be noted.

65. LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2022/23

65.1 **RESOLVED** that

- (1) the current Local Council Tax Support Scheme, as the approved scheme for Gloucester City in 2021/22, be adopted for 2022/23
- (2) The scheme approved at 2.1 (1) above be updated to align with any legislation changes in January 2022 and to be implemented from 01 April 2022
- (3) Any urgent amendments to the scheme at 2.1 (1) above, in the event of a national emergency and authorised by the government, be adopted and implemented immediately.

66. APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR

66.1 **RESOLVED** that:- the Council opt-in to the PSAA for the appointment of the Council's External Auditors from 2023/24.

67. PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS, MAY 2022-APRIL 2024

- 67.1 Councillor Norman proposed and Councillor Cook seconded that the programme of meetings be approved.
- 67.2 Councillor Gravells proposed that the programme be amended so that the Council meeting proposed to take place on 22 September 2022 be moved to 29 September 2022. This was agreed by Council.
- 67.3 **RESOLVED** that:- subject to the above amendment the two-year programme of ordinary meetings of Council and other meetings for the period of May 2022 to April 2024 be approved.

68. REVIEW OF POLITICAL BALANCE ON COMMITTEES AND VARIOUS APPOINTMENTS

- 68.1 Councillor Cook proposed and Councillor Norman seconded the motion.
- 68.2 Councillor Hilton proposed that Councillor Sawyer take the vacant seat on the Planning Committee.
- 68.3 Councillor Hilton proposed that Councillor J. Brown take the vacant seat on the Licensing and Enforcement Committee.
- 68.4 **RESOLVED** that: -

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the proposed changes to membership of Committees as set out in the report be approved;

Councillor Sawyer join the Planning Committee;

Councillor J. Brown join the Licensing and Enforcement Committee;

Councillor Kubaszczyk join the Planning Policy Members' Working Group;

the following appointments to vacant seats resulting from changes to the Cabinet be noted:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 1 vacant seat (Conservative) – Councillor Andrew Gravells

General Purposes Committee – 1 vacant seat (Conservative) – Councillor Andrew Gravells.

69. URGENT DECISIONS REPORTED TO COUNCIL

- 69.1 **RESOLVED** that:- in accordance with the Constitution, Cabinet, with the agreement of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, took an urgent exempt decision on 12 January 2022 concerning the approval of leases at St Oswalds, Eastgate Centre and Kings Walk and that this decision be noted. The decision was urgent and not subject to call in because any delay was likely to seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests.

70. NOTICES OF MOTION

- 70.1 Councillor Chambers-Dubus proposed and Councillor Pullen seconded the following motion:

"This council believes that young people are important and recognises the positive contribution that young people make to the city.

Young people have ideas, views and opinions about things that affect their lives, their communities and their city.

Young people have a contribution to make to the life and development of the city and whilst there have been some initiatives in recent years there is currently no process or structure that enables the council to communicate and understand the views that young people have.

It is therefore time to revisit and review this important issue.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Review the processes and methods it uses to engage, involve and consult with young people.
- Request that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee set up a task and finish group to consider how the council engages with young people.
- Actively involve young people in this process.

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- Make a report and recommendations to cabinet about how to engage and communicate with young people in future.”

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

70.3 **RESOLVED** that:-

This council believes that young people are important and recognises the positive contribution that young people make to the city.

Young people have ideas, views and opinions about things that affect their lives, their communities and their city.

Young people have a contribution to make to the life and development of the city and whilst there have been some initiatives in recent years there is currently no process or structure that enables the council to communicate and understand the views that young people have.

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Council therefore resolves to:

- Review the processes and methods it uses to engage, involve and consult with young people.
- Request that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee set up a task and finish group to consider how the council engages with young people.
- Actively involve young people in this process.
- Make a report and recommendations to cabinet about how to engage and communicate with young people in future.

70.4 Councillor Hudson proposed and Councillor A. Chambers seconded the following motion:

“This Council recognises that the illegal use of knives among young people is increasing and that increases the risk to our communities and impacts the future of our City.

This Council supports our colleagues in the police and their efforts to increase neighbourhood policing and offers assistance in any way we can. Local policing and our system working together effectively is the only way to avoid this growing issue becoming a bigger threat to us all. We are committed to working alongside the PCC to develop plans to tackle knife crime and address the issues affecting our young people which leads them to need to carry a knife, or into gang culture. Prevention is our greatest weapon.

This council commits to asking the Stronger Safer Gloucester Partnership to support the creation of a group focusing on the issue of knife crime and working together to tackle it, by learning from incidents, involving residents and young people and looking for solutions which will make a difference. It shall develop and instigate plans to adopt a public health approach to the issue of knife crime, as demonstrated elsewhere in the UK. This will see

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emphasis on collective responsibility for statutory services, focus on whole populations, not just high risk individuals, emphasise on prevention and getting “upstream”, concern for tackling underlying inequalities. It will require a system wide, multidisciplinary approach, including business and partnership with the community.

The results of this work will be reported to Cabinet and to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee if requested.”

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

70.6 **RESOLVED** that:-

This Council recognises that the illegal use of knives among young people is increasing and that increases the risk to our communities and impacts the future of our City.

This Council supports our colleagues in the police and their efforts to increase neighbourhood policing and offers assistance in any way we can. Local policing and our system working together effectively is the only way to avoid this growing issue becoming a bigger threat to us all. We are committed to working alongside the PCC to develop plans to tackle knife crime and address the issues affecting our young people which leads them to need to carry a knife, or into gang culture. Prevention is our greatest weapon.

This council commits to asking the Stronger Safer Gloucester Partnership to support the creation of a group focusing on the issue of knife crime and working together to tackle it, by learning from incidents, involving residents and young people and looking for solutions which will make a difference. It shall develop and instigate plans to adopt a public health approach to the issue of knife crime, as demonstrated elsewhere in the UK. This will see emphasis on collective responsibility for statutory services, focus on whole populations, not just high risk individuals, emphasise on prevention and getting “upstream”, concern for tackling underlying inequalities. It will require a system wide, multidisciplinary approach, including business and partnership with the community.

The results of this work will be reported to Cabinet and to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee if requested.

70.7 Councillor Kubaszczyk proposed and Councillor Williams seconded the following motion:

“Drink Spiking has seen a significant rise within recent months and Gloucestershire Police has had in excess of 100 reports made since July 2021, and in response they have become the first police force to introduce the use of drugs testing machines as part of a newly launched anti-drink spiking campaign, Operation Nightingale.

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Gloucester's Night Time Economy partnership Nightsafe works with the police to adopt a zero tolerance approach to the misuse of drugs and alcohol and encourages all venues to proactively take measure to tackle spiking, but more can be done to ensure a consistent approach to the increasing issue of spiking.

This council:

- thanks the proactive work of the police and all partners of the night time economy who are working towards a zero tolerance approach to spiking.
- commits to asking the Nightsafe Partnership to work with all partner organisations to create a voluntary scheme for licensed venues in Gloucester, to set out measures to mitigate drink spiking, to include support with staff training practices, templates, and guidance on responding to and reporting spiking incidents.

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

70.9 **RESOLVED** that:-

Drink Spiking has seen a significant rise within recent months and Gloucestershire Police has had in excess of 100 reports made since July 2021, and in response they have become the first police force to introduce the use of drugs testing machines as part of a newly launched anti-drink spiking campaign, Operation Nightingale.

Gloucester's Night Time Economy partnership Nightsafe works with the police to adopt a zero tolerance approach to the misuse of drugs and alcohol and encourages all venues to proactively take measure to tackle spiking, but more can be done to ensure a consistent approach to the increasing issue of spiking.

This council:

- thanks the proactive work of the police and all partners of the night time economy who are working towards a zero tolerance approach to spiking.
- commits to asking the Nightsafe Partnership to work with all partner organisations to create a voluntary scheme for licensed venues in Gloucester, to set out measures to mitigate drink spiking, to include support with staff training practices, templates, and guidance on responding to and reporting spiking incidents.

70.10 Councillor Radley proposed and Councillor Field seconded the following motion:

"This council notes that prior to the pandemic, there was a thriving car boot sale taking place on the council facility at Hempsted Meadows.

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This council notes that the site was leased to the NHS in 2020 in order to carry out Covid testing.

This council thanks the staff and NHS for their work as part of the national effort to fight Covid and keep people safe through testing, tracing and isolating.

This council believes that car boot sales can have a positive impact in our communities, promoting the practices of recycling and reuse, stimulating the economy and providing important social contact for many people.

That car boots allow recycling of goods through sales of second hand products, from clothing and household items to games, books and vinyl records, allowing anyone to equip themselves cheaply for work, school or college, or just to enjoy a low-cost bargain hunt.

This council believes that Gloucester can support a well-managed car boot sale, and that if run under Covid-safe measures there is no reason why a car boot sale could not return.

This council therefore calls on the cabinet member responsible, to start negotiations to bring back the Hempsted car boot sale at the earliest opportunity, once the NHS no longer needs the site, or to find a suitable alternative.”

70.11 Councillor Lewis proposed and Councillor Norman seconded the following amendment:

“This council notes that prior to the pandemic, there was a thriving car boot sale taking place on the council facility at Hempsted Meadows.

This council notes that the site was leased to the NHS in 2020 in order to carry out Covid testing.

This council thanks the staff and NHS for their work as part of the national effort to fight Covid and keep people safe through testing, tracing and isolating.

This council believes that car boot sales can have a positive impact in our communities, promoting the practices of recycling and reuse, stimulating the economy and providing important social contact for many people.

That car boots allow recycling of goods through sales of second hand products, from clothing and household items to games, books and vinyl records, allowing anyone to equip themselves cheaply for work, school or college, or just to enjoy a low-cost bargain hunt.

This council believes that Gloucester can support a well-managed car boot sale, and that if run under Covid-safe measures there is no reason why a car boot sale could not return **to the city**.

This council therefore calls on the cabinet member responsible, to **commence a review as to the possibilities to establish a car boot sale in the City at**

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~~either Hempsted or another appropriate location start negotiations to bring back the Hempsted car boot sale at the earliest opportunity, once the NHS no longer needs the site, or to find a suitable alternative."~~

-
70.12 The motion as amended was put to the vote and was carried.

70.13 **RESOLVED** that:-

This council notes that prior to the pandemic, there was a thriving car boot sale taking place on the council facility at Hempsted Meadows.

This council notes that the site was leased to the NHS in 2020 in order to carry out Covid testing.

This council thanks the staff and NHS for their work as part of the national effort to fight Covid and keep people safe through testing, tracing and isolating.

This council believes that car boot sales can have a positive impact in our communities, promoting the practices of recycling and reuse, stimulating the economy and providing important social contact for many people.

That car boots allow recycling of goods through sales of second hand products, from clothing and household items to games, books and vinyl records, allowing anyone to equip themselves cheaply for work, school or college, or just to enjoy a low-cost bargain hunt.

This council believes that Gloucester can support a well-managed car boot sale, and that if run under Covid-safe measures there is no reason why a car boot sale could not return to the city.

This council therefore calls on the cabinet member responsible, to commence a review as to the possibilities to establish a car boot sale in the City at either Hempsted or another appropriate location.

71. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

71.1 Councillor Cook moved and Councillor Norman seconded the motion to exclude the press and public.

71.2 **RESOLVE that** the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the following item of business on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public are present during consideration of this item there will be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

72. MINUTES

72.1 **RESOLVED** that:- the exempt minutes of the ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 November 2021 be approved.

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Time of commencement: 6.30 pm hours
Time of conclusion: 9.05 pm hours

Chair