

## CONSERVATIVE AMENDMENT

### ITEM 14(1) NOTICE OF MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR A. CHAMBERS

~~“Our city needs to be a safe haven for wildlife and ecology. I would like to propose that special ‘swift bricks and bee bricks’ to be incorporated in new developments across Gloucester City Council to help halt the decline of the distinctive birds and bees.~~

Approved by the RSPB, the bird boxes are designed to look like bricks, but feature a small hole where swifts can enter and build their nests.

Swifts are urban birds which make their nests in rooftops or in old buildings, after flying over 6,000 miles from Africa in the spring. However, modern building methods, along with the demolition of old buildings, have reduced the swifts’ access to rooftops, resulting in a serious decline in numbers. ~~Twenty years ago there were 150,000 pairs in Britain – now there are fewer than 90,000.~~ **Swifts were added to the UK Red list of Birds of Conservation Concern in 2021.**

Although known as swift bricks, they can be used by a variety of other birds including sparrows, starlings, blue tits and great tits. This new initiative has the potential to halt the decline of swifts in the city, while also provide safe nesting places for many other types of small birds.

~~Other councils have adopted this around England and RSPB conservation officer Jack Thompson said: “This important planning condition for swifts will help provide more opportunities for nesting swifts and urban birds, supporting important sites, and build on the fantastic work being done to save our swifts.”~~

~~Bee bricks should also be installed for new build developments and should be incorporated in the external walls of new developments – one for each property.~~

- **This Council is currently working with Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust to prepare a simple design guide to assist developers in delivering Biodiversity Net Gain in development sites.**
- **This Council agrees to investigate the introduction of a planning condition that: **the inclusion of swift and bee bricks in this design guide, which could then be incorporated into appropriate developments.****
- ~~Will see swift boxes and bee bricks incorporated in the vast majority of new developments in the city.~~
- ~~Requires swift bricks and bee bricks to be incorporated in all new developments that are five metres high and above in Gloucester City.~~
- ~~Requires a minimum of two swift bricks per dwelling and one bee brick per dwelling.~~
- ~~Requires commercial developments to have a minimum of three boxes, or one per 50sqm of floor spaces. Ideally, swift and bee bricks should be placed under the eaves in groups of at least three.~~
- ~~Should be attached to all planning permissions granted after 1 April 2024 for the City of Gloucester.~~

Members are asked to approve this motion and help our City to work closely with the RSPB who have come up with a simple scheme that will increase biodiversity, and encourage wildlife to thrive in our city. ~~So please, don’t vote politically, vote for our nature, our birds and our bees to safe guarding our wildlife for generations to come.”~~

## CONSERVATIVE AMENDMENT

### ITEM 14(2) NOTICE OF MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR A. CHAMBERS

**“This Council recognises that the motion passed in November 2021 promoted a public health approach to dealing with knife crime which was unanimously accepted. This work continues in Gloucester and we thank officers and partners who have worked tirelessly to support communities in our city.**

**Unfortunately, however,** Many young lives have been lost in our city as a result of KNIFE crime. I ask all members to vote in favour for our city leader and city managing director to write to the MP of Gloucester requesting them to put forward an argument to Parliament to change the law relating to knife crime and carrying knives. This would be a request for the requirement for a minimum prison sentence of 1 year imprisonment for carrying an illegal knife **to the Justice Secretary to ask him to review his approach to sentencing to provide a greater deterrence to those who refuse to engage with support or repeatedly carry knives.**

Currently the punishment for carrying a knife (as a first time offender) carries no minimum sentence and a maximum 1 year sentence. ~~In order to counteract the rise of knife crime in our City, the law needs to be looked at and changed.~~

I therefore ask all members to use their votes to request this change to make our city and community safer for all. Using your vote could help save a young life in our city!”

## LIBERAL DEMOCRAT AMENDMENT

### ITEM 14(3) NOTICE OF MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR A. CHAMBERS

~~“Gloucester City Council showed solidarity to Ukraine by raising a flag over the docks and I was proud to have seconded that motion. Now is the time for the city to do the same with Turkey & Syria.~~

A series of devastating earthquakes have hit southern Turkey (now known as Türkiye) and north-west Syria killing over 50,000 people and injuring many more.

The first deadly earthquake struck while people were inside their homes, asleep in their beds, with no warning signs. More than 54,000 buildings, including hospitals and schools, have been destroyed or damaged. People have been left without shelter in freezing winter conditions.

**This council welcomes the support that the United Kingdom has given towards the disaster relief.**

**We remind individuals in Gloucester that they can help with the aid being provided by charities by giving a donation no matter how small to help in the earthquake recovery.**

**One of the safest ways to donate is to contribute to the Disasters Emergency Committee at [www.dec.org.uk](http://www.dec.org.uk).**

~~I ask that Gloucester City Council raises both the Turkish and Syrian flags for 30 days to show solidarity to both nations during this world disaster and their time of need.~~

~~Please members vote to support this motion to show the people of Turkey and Syria that we the people of Gloucester are in support and do care.”~~

## CONSERVATIVE GROUP AMENDMENT

### ITEM 14(4) NOTICE OF MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR O'DONNELL

~~"We as independent Councillors note with concern the increase in homelessness and rough sleeping nationwide in recent years, and~~ **The Council is concerned that after 4 years of decreasing, rough sleeping has risen nationally this year.**

**We recognise** the profound impact that ~~homelessness~~ **rough sleeping** has on people's physical and mental wellbeing.

We recognise that two common reasons why members of the public may not give spare change to homeless people are a concern about how that money may be spent, and, due to the recent increase in use of contactless payment cards, often have less or no cash about their person.

We consider the BillyChip, a Ceramic token which can be purchased in cafes and later redeemed by a homeless person in exchange for a hot or cold drink and often food to be a simple, innovative and ~~more~~ secure way for members of the public to give financial support to ~~homeless people~~ **rough sleepers**, which ~~many~~ **people** wish to do.

We recognise further that the BillyChip is already available in numerous outlets across Bristol, Bath and Oxford, ~~is in the process of identifying and approaching potential venues in Gloucester, and is the subject of huge popular online support. We already have some venues that do the billy chip scheme, revive cafe, owned by Gloucester city mission, Seymour post office and the Seymour cafe.~~ **There are currently two outlets listed on the BillyChip website in Gloucester; Seymour Post Office and Revive Coffee House, two in Cheltenham and one in Stroud.** ~~We wish to be part of this.~~

~~We would like Council to offer the BillyChip its full endorsement and commits to supporting the implementation of the chip here in Gloucester~~ **recognise that BillyChip is a worthwhile scheme that allows members of the public a different choice in how to support rough sleepers.**

~~To achieve this, Council needs to resolves to:~~

- collaborate with the BillyChip CIC on developing its profile in Gloucester.
- ~~— give the BillyChip CIC free use of its premises for the purposes of public information meetings.~~
- provide space **a link** on the Gloucester City Council website listing participating venues and other relevant information **to the BillyChip website.**
- ~~ensure that all appropriate council-operated~~ **consider if any council-owned venues are appropriate to participate in the scheme."**

## LABOUR GROUP AMENDMENT

### ITEM 14(5) NOTICE OF MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR O'DONNELL

"This Council asks the Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Strategy to consider putting signs up mapping where the homeless shelters are. This will help more people to know where they are in our city as well as the warm spaces available, as many homeless people do not even know these warm spaces existed, hence they were staying in doorways trying to keep warm.

~~A simple sticker at a low cost could be stuck over the various street mapping signs around our city to help guide these vulnerable people to places of sanctuary.~~

**Information and greater awareness of the location of homeless shelters and warm spaces and how to access them should be publicised at appropriate poster sites and venues in the city.**

This Council supports ~~what is a very simple fix to help~~ **providing information to** vulnerable people in our city **to** find the help they need."