



# STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

12 September 2019

7.00 pm – 9.05 pm

Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Stroud

# 3

### Minutes

#### Membership

Councillor Simon Pickering (Chair)	P	Councillor Haydn Jones	P
Councillor George James (Vice-Chair)	P	Councillor Dave Mossman	A
Councillor Chris Brine	P	Councillor Skeena Rathor	A
Councillor Paul Denney	P	Councillor Haydn Sutton	P
Councillor Jim Dewey	P	Councillor Jessica Tomblin	P
Councillor Trevor Hall	P	Councillor Tim Williams	A

P = Present                      A = Absent

#### Other Member(s) Present

Councillor Debbie Young  
Councillor Nigel Studdert-Kennedy

#### Officers in Attendance

Head of Community Services	Community Services Manager
Director of Development Services	Principal Planning Officer
Accountant	Democratic Services & Elections Officer

#### Also Present

Gareth Edmundson, Managing Director of Ubico Ltd.

The Chair announced a change to the order of the Agenda, the Committee agreed to take Agenda Item 7 after Agenda Item 4.

#### EC.014                      APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mossman and Williams.

#### EC.015                      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

**EC.016**      **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**      **That the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2019 are accepted as a correct record.**

**EC.017**      **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Public questions were submitted. They were answered by Councillor Pickering. (Refer to the Council's webcast and [Agenda Item 4](#)).

**EC.018**      **ADOPT CHALFORD DESIGN STATEMENT AS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT**

The Principal Planning Officer introduced the above report and advised that it was recommended that the statement should be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which would be a material consideration in planning decisions. He commended the hard work of Chalford Design Group who had been working on this since 2016 and had worked closely with Officers.

Councillor Jones asked whether the Chalford Design Statement would need to be taken into consideration on current ongoing planning applications. The Principal Planning Officer confirmed that it would need to be considered as it would be a material consideration.

Councillor Jones stated it was useful for Councillors involved in planning to have a source of local community input on top of the National Planning Policy Framework and the Local Plan. He also advised it would be helpful to have hard copies of the adopted SPD's available to Members at the Development Control Committees.

Councillor Young stated that this had been worked on for a considerable length of time and that it was fantastic to see it completed. She offered her thanks to the large number of people who had been involved and had contributed to the Design Statement.

Councillor Pickering advised that it would be great if we had more design statements. He also advised that the Design Statement did not contain anything regarding integrating renewables, and that moving forward anyone considering creating a Design Statement should consider including this.

On being put to the vote, the Motion was carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED**      **To adopt the Chalford Design Statement as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**

**EC.019**      **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2019/20 Q1**

In presenting the above report, the Accountant drew attention to several paragraphs, and advised that the report focused on the budget holders estimated spend up to the end of the financial year.

Councillor Sutton raised a question regarding the frequency of grass/hedge cutting in the District. The Chair and Head of Community Services advised that the frequency of grass cutting had been decided by the Environment Committee in 2018 and that if

Councillor Sutton would like this changed then the issue would need to be raised by the Committee and then the budget could be revisited.

Councillor Pickering brought the overspend listed in paragraph 8 to the Committee's attention, he stated that although it was an overspend it was a good thing that we had reevaluated job descriptions and were trying to retain staff so a good planning service could be provided.

Councillor Denney stated that it was great that the cycling and walking plan was coming together.

On being put to the vote, the Motion was carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED To note the outturn forecast for the General Fund Revenue budget and the Capital programme for this Committee.**

### **EC.020            UBICO PERFORMANCE UPDATE**

The Managing Director of UBICO paid tribute to Jim Hill a UBICO driver who had passed away in August, he thanked him for all his work with UBICO and sent condolences to his family.

The Managing Director of UBICO gave a presentation which provided an overview of the operations, a wider view of the company and it's focus and the potential themes being looked at for next years business plan.

Members asked questions and received replies on the following topics:

- Evening waste collection
- Commercial waste collection
- Compressed natural gas / hybrid vehicles
- Trade Unions
- Health and Safety
- Weekly recycling
- Garden waste
- The range and type of materials recycled
- The incinerator – has this effected how Stroud District residents recycle?
- Contaminants – ways we can highlight to residents what can and cannot be recycled.

### **EC.021            APPOINTMENT OF PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPRESENTATIVES**

Councillors Brine and Sutton were appointed as Performance Monitors.

### **EC.022            MEMBER REPORTS**

- a) Planning Review Panel - A verbal summary was provided by Councillor Jones, he advised that the cross-party panel had been reviewing the Local Plan and that they had a challenging target of approximately 7,000 houses to meet. He also advised that there may be a requirement to take on more housing from an adjoining authority under the duty to cooperate rules. They were waiting for the results of an ongoing Gloucestershire wide review of housing requirements which

should be released in September or October. The Local Plan final draft consultation will hopefully be brought to the Environment Committee on 24 October 2019.

- b) Stroud Concordat – Councillor Pickering advised that the last meeting only had two items on the agenda, the first item was to receive the minutes and report from the car park working group, they had been looking at whether there was a different way of allocating the short stay and long stay parking. The conclusion that they reached was to increase the opportunities for short stay parking and move some of the long stay parking. If changes were required a report would be taken to the Strategy and Resources Committee for a decision. The second item was a meeting with Ian Mean from Business West and David Owen from GFirst LEP and a discussion around regeneration opportunities in Stroud.
- c) Performance Monitoring Report – The Director of Development Services updated the Committee referring to the report that had been circulated prior to the meeting.

### **EC.023**            **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Director of Development Services advised the Committee of additions to the Work Programme as follows:

- Report on the Glover Review to be added to 5 December 2019 Committee Meeting.
- Cam and Horsley Neighbourhood Development Plans to be added to 6 February 2020 Committee Meeting.
- Local Plan – Regulation 19 – Recommend to Council for submission to be added to the June/July 2020 Committee Meeting.
- CIL spending proposals to be added to September/October 2020 Committee Meeting
- Ash dieback report to be added to 5 December 2019 Committee Meeting.

**RESOLVED**    **To note the work programme.**

### **EC.024**            **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

There were none.

The meeting ended at 9.05 pm.

Chair