

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

23 January 2020

7.00 pm – 8.51 pm

Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Stroud

3

Minutes

Membership

Councillor Mattie Ross (Chair)	P	Councillor Gill Oxley	P
Councillor Jonathan Edmunds (Vice-Chair)	P	Councillor Nigel Prenter	P
Councillor Gordon Craig	P	Councillor Sue Reed	P
Councillor John Jones	P	Councillor Steve Robinson	P
Councillor Norman Kay	P	Councillor Brian Tipper	P
Councillor Darren Loftus	A	Councillor Ken Tucker	P

P = Present A = Absent

Other Member(s) in Attendance

Councillor Pickering

Officers in Attendance

Head of Community Services	Revenue and Benefits Manager
Principal Licensing Officer	Director of Public Health
Democratic Services & Elections Officer	

Others in Attendance

Strategic Director of Resources & S51 Officer
 Senior Community Services Officer
 Senior Youth Officer

The Chair on behalf of the Committee congratulated and presented an award to Youth Council who had won a National award.

CSLC.034

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Loftus.

The Chair of Committee advised that Councillors Cornell and Lydon were unable to attend the meeting.

CSLC.035

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

CSLC.036 **MINUTES – 28 NOVEMBER 2019**

RESOLVED **That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 November 2019 are confirmed and signed as a correct record.**

CSLC.037 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were none.

CSLC.038 **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL UPDATE**

Members received an annual update from the Director of Public Health who also answered member's questions. The Director of Public Health is required to produce an annual report on the health and wellbeing of the County population which was timely for the production of their Local Industrial Strategy and providing the opportunity to influence the most significant document in providing health and wellbeing.

Key points raised were health inequalities and social mobility. Statistics showed that in Stroud a man who lives in the least deprived area will live 6.7 years longer than in the most deprived and for women it is 4.5 years, however generally Gloucestershire is a healthy County.

The Director of Public Health suggested that another way to deliver economic growth is to drive social mobility and the annual report it outlines 3 domains that can be considered towards this. Stroud came out at the top in the County regarding social mobility which means Stroud's social economic and family background is not a barrier for achieving economic prosperity for residents. As a result of Stroud's statistic, t work will be done to assess why Stroud is so significantly different.

RESOLVED **To note the presentation.**

CSLC.039 **PROPOSAL TO CHANGE STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL'S STREET TRADING POLICY**

The Principal Licensing Officer presented the report to Committee explaining last year the Council's legal team gave advice that some exemptions and waivers in Stroud District Council's current street trading policy are longer legitimate and should be removed. The Principal Licensing Officer continued and advised that last year it was proposed to revise the policy and replace the waiver for markets with a market street trading consent and replace the exemption for charitable and community events with a 'light touch' approach consent.

In 2019 there was a consultation on this proposal and some Town and Parish Councils expressed concern about the impact on local events. To resolve this and reduce the impact on charitable and community events, it is now proposed to change the Council's resolution. The resolution designates the streets and areas in Stroud District where street trading is prohibited unless the trader holds street trading consent issued by the Council. The proposed new resolution is to designate all of the district apart from land owned by Councils (with the exception of highways) or a registered charity.

Questions were asked regarding use of playing fields and village greens for events. The Principal Licensing Officer advised that in these instances it would be treated on an individual basis because it depends on who the land belongs to and if consent is needed.

RESOLVED

- a. To approve an intention to adopt a new street trading resolution as set out in Appendix C.
- b. To resolve to authorise Licensing Officers to public formal notice of the Council's intention to adopt the resolution and to undertake a 28-day formal consultation.
- c. To resolve to approve for formal consultation the draft amended street trading policy as set out in Appendix D.

CSLC.040**NATIONAL REGISTER OF TAXI AND PRIVATE REVOCATIONS AND REFUSALS**

The Principal Licensing Officer outlined the report to Committee and explained that the Local Government Association (LGA) have commissioned a new register which allows those Local Authorities who have signed up to input details of taxi and private hire driver licences that have been refused or revoked. They can also search the register when processing new or renewal applications. Use of the register has a number of data protection implications which Local Authorities must comply with to be able to use the register, to which the LGA have issued extensive guidance.

RESOLVED

- a. To adopt use of the National Register of Taxi and Private Hire Revocations and Refusals (NR3) from 1 April 2020.
- b. To adopt a Policy on how the Council will share, receive and use information on the Register as set out in Appendix A.
- c. To adopt additional wording for Stroud District Council's Taxi and Private Hire Policy as set out in Appendix B.

CSLC.041**THE FUTURE OF LEISURE PROVISION IN STROUD DISTRICT AND THE PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE STRATFORD PARK LEISURE CONTRACT**

The Head of Community Services introduced the report explaining that the Leisure Centre is approaching fifty years old and a decision on whether all or parts of the centre needed to be replaced. Under the Council's Corporate Delivery Plan is an agreement for a long term investment plan for Stratford Park to which will be undertaken by the new Strategic Director of Communities once in post in March 2020 and would undertake a review of all aspects of Stratford Park and the future of the Sports Leisure Management (SLM).

From April 2020 the pay policy will change and adopt the Council's pay policy which in turn will ensure staff are paid the 'real living wage'. The extra cost associated with the increase in pay policies will be covered by the Council's budgets and have been taken into account and included in the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Councillors raised the question as to why the extent and provision of the review didn't include the whole of the district and not just SLM. Officers and the Chair of the Committee confirmed that the review would be conducted in liaison with the Chair of the Community Services and Licensing Committee to have input on how far spread in the district the review would be undertaken.

RESOLVED

- a. Subject to the approval of the Strategy and Resources Committee on previous recommendation of this Committee to ring fence the Culture and Leisure reserve, to approve the use of this reserve to commission studies from leisure industry experts to:

- Advise on the future provision of community leisure centre facilities in the district;
 - Create an overarching vision and plan for the future of the leisure, recreation, cultural, health and wellbeing uses in Stratford Park; and
 - Advise on options for the future of the current Stratford Park Leisure Centre;
- b. To delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Communities and/or Head of Community Services, in consultation with the Chair of Community Services and Licensing, to oversee the preparation of a brief for the above studies and bring it to Committee for approval;
 - c. To allow time for the above studies to be completed and action plans formulated, in accordance with the extension option in the current Stratford Park Leisure Centre contract, to approve an extension to Sports and Leisure Management (SLM) to continue running Stratford Park Leisure Centre for the specified additional period of 3 years up to 31 October 2024; and
 - d. To delegate authority to the Strategic director of Communities and/or Head of Community Services and the Strategic Director of Resources and S151 Officer, in consultation with the Chairs of the Community Services and Licensing Strategy and Resources Committees, to negotiate and agree the terms of the contract extension.

CSLC.042 WORK PROGRAMME

The Chair recommended that Youth Service Annual Update is removed from the next Committee as Councillors had received a workshop with the Youth Service preceding the Community Services and Licensing Committee. There were no objections to this recommendation.

Councillor Edmunds also advised that as part of the Health and Wellbeing update at the next Committee, if Committee could receive an update on Mental Health Champions and to receive some information on the Forest Green Project.

Councillor Kay also advised that a potential future report on the Arts and Culture Strategy could be towards the end of the year.

CSLC.043 MEMBER REPORTS

(a) Gloucestershire Health Overview Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Lydon was unable to attend Committee, therefore Councillor Robinson presented the report. The member report had been circulated prior to Committee. Councillor Robinson raised one of the key points in the report is that a Task and Finish Group will be set up after the next Scrutiny Committee to address the issues regarding waiting times for Cancer Care in the County.

(b) Museum in the Park

The member report had been circulated prior to Committee.

(c) Police and Crime Panel

The Panel had met for a budget meeting and the Chair advised that the Panel had not received the money from the Treasury and expected payment on the 23 January 2020.

Councillor Robinson advised Committee that the Home Secretary has accommodated more resources that are being put into the police force in the hope to increase recruitment. From the 1 April there will only be two methods of recruitment, the first as a 2-year graduate and the second as a 3-year apprenticeship.

(d) Gfirst LEP – Visitor Economy/Tourism Business Group

Councillor Craig advised that the group had not met since prior to Christmas however were due to meet at the beginning of March and a report would be provided to the next Committee meeting.

Councillor Craig however provided an update that Berkeley Vale Tourism Group, as part of the £2,000 received from Stroud District Council for Tourism Information were about to launch a new website (www.berkeleyvaletourism.co.uk) and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/BerkeleyValeTourism) go live within the month. They were also improving sign posts by incorporating a QR code that will advise people of tourist information.

(e) Citizens Advice

Councillor Craig advised that there had not been a meeting since prior to Christmas and were due to meet next week, therefore a report would be provided at the next Committee Meeting.

Councillor Craig was able to advise that January is Double D month which stands for Debt and Divorce and that Stroud District Council was doing a lot of work around rent and the impacts on Council Tax.

(f) Performance Monitoring

Councillor Jones presented the report that had been circulated prior to Committee. Councillor Jones raised that The Pulse still had ongoing issues with Combined Heat and Power (CHP) and that they hope to have the issue resolved next month or there could be possible legal action.

CSLC.044 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

One question was submitted by Councillor John Jones and was answered by the Chair of Committee. (Refer to the Council's [webcast](#) and item 11).

The meeting closed at 8:51 pm.

Chair