



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices • Ebley Mill • Ebley Wharf • Stroud • GL5 4UB

Tel: (01453) 754 351/754 321

www.stroud.gov.uk

Email: democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

3 September 2020

7.00 pm – 8.16 pm

Remote Meeting

Minutes

3

Membership

Councillor Simon Pickering (Chair)	P	Councillor Haydn Jones	P
Councillor George James (Vice-Chair)	A	Councillor Norman Kay	A
Councillor Chris Brine	P	Councillor Skeena Rathor	A
Councillor Paul Denney	P	Councillor Haydn Sutton	P
Councillor Trevor Hall	P	Councillor Jessica Tomblin	P
Councillor Nick Hurst	P	Councillor Tim Williams	A

P = Present A = Absent

Officers in Attendance

Strategic Director of Place	Head of Community Services
Principal Environmental Health Officer	Democratic Services & Elections Officer

Other Member(s) in Attendance

Councillor Mattie Ross
Councillor Studdert-Kennedy

EC.011 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor James and Councillor Kay. Councillor Kay was unable to access the meeting due to technical issues.

EC.012 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

EC.013 MINUTES

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 June 2020 are approved as a correct record.

EC.014 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were none.

EC.015 **EXTENSION OF PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS RELATED TO CONTROL OF DOGS**

The Principal Environmental Health Officer introduced the above report and summarised the four Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) that were being reviewed. It was advised that the consultation period ran for 8 weeks and the responses in favour of extending the current PSPO's were as follows:

- PSPO 1 – 96%
- PSPO 2 – 99%
- PSPO 3 – 98%
- PSPO 4 – 69%

In response to a question from Councillor Hurst the Principal Environmental Health Officer confirmed that if members of the public were reported and they were provided with the required evidence then Officers could issue a Fixed Penalty Notice, since 2013 twenty-five Fixed Penalty Notices had been issued in respect of dog fouling.

On being put to the vote, the Motion was carried, five for with three abstentions.

RESOLVED **To endorse the proposal for the four existing Public Spaces Protection Orders relating to dog control to be extended for a further period of 3 years from 20th October 2020.**

EC.016 **MEMBER REPORTS**

a) Planning Review Panel

Councillor Denney asked whether Neighbourhood Development Plans would still hold any weight should the Planning White Paper move forward. Councillor Studdert-Kennedy advised that the consultations on the White Paper had not yet finished and so was unable to provide a definitive answer but agreed that Neighbourhood Development Plans shouldn't be disregarded. The Chair, Councillor Pickering, advised that an additional Environment Committee and an all Member Briefing Session would be held in October.

b) Stroud Regeneration Committee

There were no questions on the update provided by the Chair, Councillor Pickering.

c) Performance Monitoring

Councillor Sutton thanked the Strategic Director of Place for his assistance in formulating the report, clarification was also provided on the Warm Homes Fund project.

EC.017 **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Strategic Director of Place confirmed that The 2030 Climate Strategy would be added to the Work Programme for Environment Committee in December 2020. The Chair confirmed that the report regarding recycling options would be added to the Work Programme for the March Committee Meeting.

EC.018 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

There were none.

EC.019 **MOTION REGARDING THE RE-OPENING OF THE RAILWAY STATION AT STONEHOUSE**

Councillor Brine introduced the Motion, which was seconded by Councillor Pickering, and advised it was important to keep up the profile of the Bristol Road Station. Councillor Brine also urged everyone to sign the petition which had been submitted to the County Council. An amendment to the wording of the motion was proposed by Councillor Brine to remove the mention of 'Stroudwater'. Councillor Denney agreed with Councillor Brine that the location 'Stroudwater' could cause confusion. Councillor Pickering suggested to remove the following words "and that the reopened station should be referred to as Stroudwater Station" from the motion. The Chair confirmed with the Committee that they were happy to proceed with this as a friendly amendment.

Councillor Hurst stated that it would be up to Network Rail to decide on any new stations on the Bristol-Birmingham line however he could see the merits of having a station at Stonehouse. He also advised that any new station would encourage development within its vicinity and that there could be issues involved with this.

Councillors Hall and Sutton confirmed their support for the motion and advised that additional pressure needed to be put on Network Rail.

Councillor Jones stated that the whole district needed this additional station in Stonehouse and he would ensure that as many people as possible signed the petition at the County Council.

Councillor Ross thanked the Committee Members for their support and asked everyone to help convince the County Council by signing the petition.

The Chair, Councillor Pickering advised that this would make it clear that the District Council were in support of this station and strongly urged everyone to support the Motion.

RESOLVED **Stroud District Council fully supports the re-opening of the railway station at Stonehouse and notes that a number of measures are in place such as holding the land at Bristol Road Stonehouse as a potential location for a new station on the Bristol-Birmingham line. However, this committee resolves to formally indicate its support for the reopening of the station to allow residents of the Stroud area easier access to the Birmingham line and that the reopened station should be referred to as Stroudwater Station. The Council will actively work**

with all partners such as Department for Transport, Gloucestershire County Council, the local Economic Partnership and local interested parties to try to make this happen and, where appropriate, enabling resources to support this work.

The meeting ended at 8.16 pm.

Chair