

28 November 2017

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Community Services and Licensing Committee will be held on **THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER 2017** in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud at **7.00 pm.**



David Hagg
Chief Executive

Please Note: This meeting will be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site (www.stroud.gov.uk). By entering the Council Chamber you are consenting to being filmed. The whole of the meeting will be filmed except where there are confidential or exempt items, which may need to be considered in the absence of the press and //public.

AGENDA

- 1 **APOLOGIES**
To receive apologies for absence.
- 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To receive declarations of interest.
- 3 **MINUTES**
To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2017.
- 4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**
The Chair of the Committee will answer any questions from members of the public, submitted in accordance with the Council's procedures.
DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF QUESTIONS
Noon on MONDAY 4 DECEMBER 2017.
Questions must be submitted in writing to the Chief Executive, Democratic Services, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud, and sent by post or by Email: democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk.
- 5 **WORK PROGRAMME**
To consider the work programme.

6 STROUD DISTRICT TAXI FARES

To consider the recommendations by the Task and Finish Group on a proposal by Stroud Taxi Association to increase taxi fares.

7 MEMBER REPORTS

- a) The Subscription Rooms update
- b) County Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee
- c) Arts and Culture Task and Finish Group
- d) Tourism Task and Finish group
- e) Museum in the Park
- f) Police and Crime Panel
- g) Performance Monitoring

8 CAPITAL PROJECT MONITORING

- a) Stratford Park Lido
- b) Community Buildings Investment

9 MEMBER QUESTIONS

See Item 4.

**Members of Community Services and Licensing Committee
2017/18**

Councillor Steve Robinson (Chair)
Councillor Jonathan Edmunds (Vice-Chair)
Councillor George Butcher
Councillor Gordon Craig
Councillor John Jones
Councillor Darren Loftus

Councillor John Marjoram
Councillor Karen McKeown
Councillor Gill Oxley
Councillor Nigel Prenter
Councillor Sue Reed
Councillor Penny Wride

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

7 September 2017

7.00 pm – 9.12 pm

Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Stroud

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Minutes

Membership

Councillor Steve Robinson (Chair)	P	Councillor Karen McKeown	P
Councillor Jonathan Edmunds (Vice-Chair)	P	Councillor Gill Oxley	P
Councillor George Butcher	P	Councillor Nigel Prenter	P
Councillor Gordon Craig	A	Councillor Sue Reed	P
Councillor John Jones	P	Councillor Penny Wride	P
Councillor John Marjoram	A	1 Vacancy	

P = Present A = Absent

Other Councillors Present

Councillors Simon Pickering and Nigel Cooper

Officers Present

Strategic Head of Customer Services	Senior Youth Officer (Hear by Right)
Community & Facilities Manager	Democratic Services Officer
Accountant	
Revenue and Benefit Manager	

Others Present

Rebecca Hunt – Chair of SDYC
 Lauren Davies – SDYC rep for Stroud High School
 Paul Gibson – Councillor Rodborough Parish Council

Before the meeting started the Chair announced the death of Councillor Liz Peters. Members and officers stood for a 1 minute silence. Members remembered her character and all the work she had done both for the Council and in the community during her time as a District Councillor.

CSLC.012

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors John Marjoram and Gordon Craig.

CSLC.013

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

CSLC.014 **MINUTES – 27 JUNE 2017**

The Chair requested that amendments be made to minute no. CSLC.007 - the following paragraph should read:

The Chair read out a statement regarding two reports on protecting vulnerable children in Gloucestershire, one from Ofsted, critical of the County Council Children's Services (*not Safeguarding Board*) and one from the HMIC (*not HMIP*) critical of Gloucestershire Constabulary.

The Chair also updated committee that the following Information sheets had been published and circulated:

- Safeguarding Training at Stroud District Council
- Higher than average rates for under-18 self harm and alcohol related hospital admissions in the Stroud District

RESOLVED **That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 June 2017 are confirmed and signed as a correct record.**

CSLC.015 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

None received.

CSLC.016 **POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER – ANNUAL REPORT**

The Police and Crime Commissioner, Martin Surl attended the meeting to present his annual report which gave an overview of policing within the Stroud area and across Gloucestershire. He attended with his colleagues Richard Bradley, Deputy Chief Executive of the OPCC and Brian Clifford, Inspector.

They updated Committee on the following issues:

- Rod Hanson is the new Chief Constable for Gloucestershire with Gary Thompson, Assistant Chief Constable and Jon Stratford, Deputy Chief Constable.
- The acquisition of Stroud Magistrates Court.
- Police and Crime Plan
- Neighbourhood policing
- Commissioner's fund
- Fire Service
- Rural and Wildlife Crime
- ANPR Cameras

CSLC.017 **SDYC DELEGATE PRESENTATION ON THE UN's COMMISSION OF THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

Rebecca Hunt, Chair of SDYC and Lauren Davies, SDYC rep for Stroud High School attended the meeting and gave a presentation on the above topic. They explained that this body was dedicated to the promotion of gender equality.

CSLC.018 **WORK PROGRAMME**

The following items were discussed:

- Review of taxi fares – reconvening the Task and Finish Group
- Update on problems that Officers and the Licensing Panel have encountered, including an annual review of the outcomes of licensing applications.

CSLC.019 **MEMBER REPORTS**

- (a) The Stroud Subscription Rooms – the deadline for bids, to run the Sub rooms, is 15 September 2017 and an Information Evening will be held for Members following this deadline. A meeting of Strategy and Resources Committee will discuss the future of the Sub Rooms before Christmas.
- (b) Performance Monitoring – a report had been circulated to Members which focussed on Abandoned vehicles, and the museum. A regular update, on the Museum, was requested and will be added to the work programme as a member report by Councillor Marjoram.
- (c) Arts and Culture Task and Finish Group – an initial report had been circulated to Members. Councillor Jonathan Edmunds updated committee on the work carried out so far and recommendations which would be brought to Committee at a future meeting. Paul Gibson, who had been advising the group, attended Committee to update and advise them.
- (d) Police and Crime Panel – Councillor Karen McKeown gave an update.
- (e) County Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – an update would be circulated to Members following the meeting.

CSLC.020 **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2017/18 – REPORT 1**

The Accountant presented the report and outlined the 2017/18 forecast outturn position against the revenue budgets and Capital programme. This was the first report of the financial year, there was a summary of the MTFP and the challenges budget holders face in the financial climate.

- RECOMMENDED** **TO STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**
- a) the Capital Budget for Community Building Investment is reduced from £180,000 to £50,000**
- RESOLVED** **b) to note the outturn forecast for the General Fund Revenue budget and the Capital programme for this Committee.**

CSLC.021 **DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF SCHEME**

The Revenue and Benefits Manager presented the report and explained that support for businesses, facing an increase in business rates, following the 2017 revaluation, would be available through the scheme.

- RESOLVED**
- a) To adopt the Discretionary Rate Relief Scheme for the period 01 April 2017 to 31 March 2021; and
 - b) To authorise the Strategic Head (Customer Services) in consultation with the Committee Chair and Section 151 Officer, to make minor alterations to the scheme referred to in 2.4.

CSLC.022 **CAPITAL PROJECTS MONITORING**

Strategic Head of Customer Services gave an update on the following projects:

- (a) Stroud Town Centre Assets – The transfer of Stroud Cemetery, Bank Gardens and Sims Clock was transferred to Stroud Town Council with a one off capital allocation/payment to Stroud Town Council of £130,000 on 31 March 2017 (This also links in with the decision box on the budget monitoring report to reduce the Capital Budget for the Community Building Investment from £180k to £50k) for the ongoing upkeep.
- (b) Kingshill House – £100,000 capital allocation – discussions are taking place with Kingshill House Trust with a view to them taking over the freehold interest. Refurbishment of the cottage adjacent to Kingshill House is taking place.
- (c) Stratford Park Lido – Investment of £200,000 to make it more useable for customers and extend the opening hours. A public consultation is taking place on 30 September at Stratford Park a capital bid will be put into the Heritage Lottery Fund.

RESOLVED **To note the report.**

CSLC.023 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

There were none.

The meeting closed at 9.12 pm.

Chair

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

**AGENDA
ITEM NO**

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

7 DECEMBER 2017

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WORK PROGRAMME

Date of meeting	Matter to be considered (ie insert report/project title)	Notes (eg lead member & officer)
1.2.18	Work Programme – 2017/18	Chair/Strategic Head Customer Services
	Member Reports a) The Subscription Rooms update b) County Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee c) Arts and Culture Task and Finish Group d) Tourism Task and Finish group e) Museum in the Park f) Performance Monitoring	Councillor Doina Cornell Councillor Doina Cornell Councillor John Marjoram Councillor Gordon Craig Councillor John Marjoram Cllrs K McKeown, J Jones
	Capital Project Monitoring a) Stratford Park Lido b) Community Buildings Investment	Chair/Director of Customer Services
	28.3.18 (Wed)	Work Programme – 2018/19
	Budget Monitoring	Accountancy Manager
	Update on Health and Wellbeing Plan, to include Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator
	Member Reports a) The Subscription Rooms update b) County Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee c) Arts and Culture Task and Finish Group d) Tourism Task and Finish group e) Museum in the Park f) Police and Crime Panel g) Performance Monitoring	Councillor Doina Cornell Councillor Doina Cornell Councillor John Marjoram Councillor Gordon Craig Councillor John Marjoram Councillor Karen McKeown Cllrs K McKeown, J Jones
	Capital Project Monitoring a) Stratford Park Lido b) Community Buildings Investment	Chair/Director of Customer Services

Information sheets

Date sent (& reference no)	Topic	Notes (eg responsible officer)
C-2017/18-001 14.6.17	Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP)	Revenue and Benefits Manager
C-2017/18-002 27.6.17	Community Services & Licensing Committee	Strategic Head Customer Services

C-2017/18-003 13.7.17	Universal Credit (UC)	Revenue and Benefits Manager
C-2017/18-004 30.8.17	Higher than average rates for under-18 self harm and alcohol related hospital admissions in the Stroud District	Health and Wellbeing Development Coordinator
C-2017/18-005 1.9.17	Safeguarding Awareness Training	Community and Facilities Manager
C-2017/18-006 3.11.17	Licensing Hearings Update	Principal Licensing Officer
C-2017/18-007 6.11.17	Stroud Fringe Festival	Head of Community Services

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL
COMMUNITY SERVICES AND LICENSING
COMMITTEE

AGENDA
ITEM NO

6

7 DECEMBER 2017

Report Title	STROUD DISTRICT TAXI FARES
Purpose of Report	To consider recommendations by the Task and Finish Group regarding a proposal by Stroud Taxi Association to increase Stroud District taxi fares.
Decision(s)	The Committee RESOLVES: a) That Stroud District taxi fares are increased in accordance with the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group in Appendix 4. b) If (a) is resolved, or any variation on the recommendation, the procedure and delegation outlined in paragraph 4.2 of this report shall apply.
Consultation and Feedback	The Stroud Taxi Association proposal and the Task and Finish Group recommendations have been circulated to all Stroud district licensed taxi and private hire drivers and to all meter fitters for comment.
Financial Implications and Risk Assessment	There are no direct financial implications for the Council arising from this report. Adele Rudkin Accountant Tel : 01453 754109 Email: adele.rudkin@stroud.gov.uk Risk Assessment There is not a direct right of appeal against the fares set by a Local Authority, however any party that is dissatisfied by the fares could seek a judicial review against the Council.
Legal Implications	Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 makes provision for the local authority to fix in a table of fares, the rates or fares for time, distance and all other charges in connection with the hire of a hackney carriage. As outlined in the report there is a statutory procedure which must be followed if the Council decides to vary the rates / fares of which failure to follow will make the changes unlawful. (Ref:rc14.11.17) Karen Trickey, Head of Legal Services Email: karen.trickey@stroud.gov.uk

Report Author	Rachel Andrew Principal Licensing Officer Tel: 01453 754401 Email: rachel.andrew@stroud.gov.uk On behalf of the Chair of the Task and Finish Group
Options	Alternative resolutions to the proposed decision are: (a) not make any changes to the current fares Or (b) make alternative changes to current fares to those recommended by the Task and Finish Group in Appendix 4.
Appendices	Appendix 1 - Notes from Task and Finish Group meeting Appendix 2 - Fare comparison table Appendix 3 - Schedule of consultation comments Appendix 4 - Stroud Taxi Association Proposal and Task and Finish Group Recommendation

1 Background

- 1.1 Stroud District Council sets the maximum fare that can be charged by Stroud District licensed taxis.
- 1.2 Stroud District fares are split into 3 rates which in summary are:
 - **Rate 1** - Day 07:00 to 18:00
 - **Rate 2** - Evening 18:00 to 01.00 and 07:00 to 01:00 Sundays and Bank Holidays
 - **Rate 3** - Night 01:00 to 07:00 and Xmas and New Year
- 1.3 Each rate is broken down into the following elements:
 - **Starting rate** – the amount the meter will show when the journey starts.
 - **Yardage** – the distance in yards after which the meter adds an additional 30p to the fare when the vehicle is moving.
 - **Waiting time** – the time in seconds after which the meter adds an additional 30p to the fare if the vehicle is driving slowly or is stationary.
- 1.4 In 2016 a request was made by Stroud Taxi Association to increase Stroud District taxi fares. In December 2016 the Committee resolved not to increase the fares but said it would be content to consider another request in 12 months time.

2 Stroud Taxi Association Proposal 2017

- 2.1 In August 2017 the Licensing Section received a revised proposal for a fare increase from Stroud Taxi Association. The proposal is shown in detail in Appendix 4.

3 Task and Finish Group

- 3.1 A Task and Finish Group made up of four Members of the Community Services and Licensing Committee have considered the Stroud Taxi Association proposal with a view to making a recommendation to this committee.
- 3.2 The Group met three times and at the second meeting they invited representatives of Stroud Taxi Association to attend and put their case forward.
- 3.3 Appendix 1 is the notes from the Task and Finish Group meeting. The notes include the considerations of the Group when making their recommendations.
- 3.4 Appendix 2 is a comparison table that shows Stroud District current, proposed and recommended rates in comparison with the rest of Gloucestershire.
- 3.5 A newsletter has been sent to all Stroud District taxi and private hire licence holders with details of the Stroud Taxi Association proposal and the Task and Finish Group recommendations. The newsletter invited licence holders to make comment. Appendix 3 is a schedule of responses which was circulated to the Task and Finish Group. The Group considered the responses but have decided to not make any amendments to their recommendations.

4 Recommendation

- 4.1 The recommendation of the Task and Finish Group is that Committee resolves to approve the proposal made by Stroud Taxi Association but with some amendments as put forward by the Group. The full recommendation is detailed in Appendix 4.
- 4.2 In accordance with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, if a Local Authority agrees to vary taxi fares, it must first give public notice as prescribed by the Act. If Committee resolves to vary Stroud District taxi fares, it is recommended that the Committee also resolves to agree to the procedure for giving notice of a consultation period as detailed below:
- a. The revised fares are published in a local newspaper and there is a notice at the Council Offices specifying a period of at least 14 days during which the public can make an objection;
 - b. If no objections are received within the consultation period; or any objections are withdrawn, the revised fares be effective from 1 February

2018; or, if it is later, the expiration of the period for consultation or withdrawal of the last objection (whichever is last);

c. If any objections are received during the consultation period and not withdrawn, the Head of Health and Wellbeing will be authorised (in consultation with the Community Services and Licensing Committee Chair and Vice Chair and the Principal Licensing Officer) to:

- (i) determine, following consideration of the objection(s) whether to approve the fare table with or without modifications; and
- (ii) set a date no later than 2 months of the expiration of the consultation period, being the date when the determined fares shall have effect.



Community Services and Licensing Committee

Task and Finish Group Taxi Fares - Third Meeting – 2nd November 2017

1 **Present:**

- Councillor Steve Robinson – Chair of Community Services and Licensing Committee
- Councillor John Jones
- Councillor George Butcher
- Councillor Gordon Craig
- Rachel Andrew - Principal Licensing Officer
- Hannah Eaton – Licensing Officer

2 **Purpose of Meetings:**

For the Councillors on the Task and Finish Group to consider the proposal put forward by Stroud Taxi Association for a fare increase, together with comments from representatives of Stroud Taxi Association that attended the last meeting, and to make a recommendation to Community Services and Licensing Committee.

3 **Task and Finish Group observations**

- 3.1 Stroud Taxi fares have not had an increase since 2011.
- 3.2 Stroud Taxi Association submitted a previous request for a fare increase in 2016. Since that time there have been other taxi fare increases in the County namely Cheltenham and Gloucester.
- 3.3 The comparison table shows that Stroud's current rates are on average now slightly lower than some other Gloucestershire Authorities. However it is noted that each authority has rates coming into force at different times so it is difficult to compare accurately. In particular the other authorities only have a rate 3 for bank holidays, Christmas and New Year whereas in Stroud rate 3 is a night time rate.
- 3.4 The price of petrol has increased slightly since 2016 although it is not as high as it was in 2011 when the current fees were set.
- 3.5 The trade explained that other costs have gone up since 2011 such as insurance, vehicle maintenance costs and general cost of living.
- 3.6 The trade said that fuel in Stroud area is more expensive than Cheltenham and Gloucester.

- 3.7 The trade have put forward a similar proposal to the one they submitted in 2016 (which was refused). However this time they have not asked for any increase in waiting time and have reduced the increase requested for rate 3.
- 3.8 The Task and Finish group felt there was some scope for an increase for Stroud Rates. The Bank of England website suggests that between 2011 and 2016 inflation has gone up by on average 2.3 % per year*. So, by 2018 when any new fare could come into force, inflation is most likely to have gone up by 16.1%. On average the proposal put forward by the trade leads to a 10% increase. The group felt this was a reasonable percentage. The exception is the trade proposal for the yardage for rate 2 which would give a 21% increase. At the meeting the trade put forward an alternative which would give a 12% increase.
- 3.9 The trade's proposal with the amendment to rate 2 will put Stroud in a comparable position with those other Gloucestershire authorities that charge the highest fares in the County.
- 3.10 The trade have requested that rate 3 should come into effect one hour earlier at midnight rather than 01.00. The trade gave the reason being that the night time economy in Stroud has changed over the years and now there is limited work from 01.00 onwards. The Task and Finish group supported this proposal provided that, as a compromise, rate 1 also comes in to effect an hour earlier at 06.00 instead of 07.00. This will benefit early morning workers and persons with early morning appointments. The trade said most people using taxis between 06.00 and 07.00 were commuters going to the train station who were paying on account. The trade asked that the start time for rate 1 should remain at 07.00. However the Task and Finish group still felt that the start time for rate 1 should be brought forward to 06.00 if rate 3 comes in an hour earlier.
- 3.11 In recognition that pushchairs are essential for parents with children in the same way that a wheelchair is essential for people who have difficulty walking, the Task and Finish Group felt the same rule should apply to both and there should be no extra charge for pushchairs.
- 3.12 The trade are happy to remove the £3 extra charge for paying by cheque as customers rarely pay by cheque.
- 3.13 The trade proposed adding a £3 charge for payment by credit or debit card. They explained that they have to pay a monthly cost of around £27 to hire a card machine or they are charged a cost for each transaction for both credit and debit payments. Further investigation, however, indicates that new laws are coming in from January 2018 that will ban surcharges for credit and debit cards. For this reason Group recommend that this proposal is rejected.

*Source:

<http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/education/Pages/resources/inflationtools/calculator/default.aspx>

4 Task and Finish Group's Final Recommendations :

- a) Support proposed change of start time of **rate 3** to start 1 hour earlier at midnight instead of 01.00 on Monday to Sunday
- b) Recommend that the start time of **rate 1** also starts 1 hour earlier at 06.00 instead of 07.00 Monday to Friday (Saturday and Sunday to stay at 07:00 start time)
- c) Support proposed changes to starting rate and yardage for **rate 1** giving **12% increase for starting rate** and **10% increase for a running mile**
- d) Support proposed change to starting rate for **rate 2** giving **8.3% increase for starting rate** and recommend a change to yardage that will give a **12.3% increase for a running mile**
- e) Support the proposed change to yardage for **rate 3** with **0% increase for Starting rate** and **11% increase for a running mile**
- f) Remove the 20p extra for pushchairs
- g) Remove charge of £3.00 for cheque payments
- h) Not support the Trade proposal to add a £3.00 extra charge for credit and debit card payments

5 Comments on Other Points raised by the Stroud Taxi Association

- 5.1 Stroud Taxi Association asked for meetings every 18 months with the Task and Finish Group to discuss relevant issues. The Group agreed to this would be useful.
- 5.2 Stroud Taxi Association representatives raised a query about the policy on taxi badges. The current policy states that drivers will be issued with two badges, one to be worn on the driver and one displayed in the vehicle. The trade suggested that this should be changed to just one badge displayed in the vehicle. The Task and Finish Group felt that it was important for passengers to be able to easily identify that a driver is licensed and feel it is appropriate that the driver also wears a badge on their person. Having 2 badges makes it easy for the public to check a driver is licensed. The Group recommended that no change is made to the driver badge policy at the current time.

Comparison Table - Proposal For Taxi Fare Increase 2017

	District	In Effect From	1 min waiting	Starting Rate	Running Mile	Summary of Times
RATE 1	Stroud Taxi Association Proposal		39p	£2.80	£2.20	Mon – Fri 07.00 – 18.00 Sat 07.00 – 13.00
	Task and Finish Group Alternative					Mon – Fri 06.00 – 18.00 Sat 07.00 – 13.00
	<i>Stroud current</i>	2011	39p	£2.50	£2.00	Mon – Fri 07.00 – 18.00 Sat 07.00 – 13.00
	<i>Cotswold</i>	2008	25p	£2.80	£2.20	Mon – Sat 07.00 – 22.00
	<i>Tewkesbury</i>	2012	35p	£2.60	£2.00	Mon – Sat 07.00 – 23.00
	<i>Gloucester</i>	Dec 2017	33p	£3.00	£1.97	Mon – Sat 07.00 – 21.00
	<i>Forest</i>	2012	29p	£2.14	£2.60	Mon – Sat 07.00 – 23.00
	<i>Cheltenham</i>	Feb 2017	36p	£2.60	£2.10	Mon – Sat 07.00 – 20.00
	<i>South Gloucester</i>	2016	33p	£2.40	£2.08	Mon – Fri 06.00 – 18.00
	RATE 2	Stroud Taxi Association Proposal		51p	£3.25	£2.85
Task and Finish-Group Alternative					£2.64	
<i>Stroud current</i>		2011	51p	£3.00	£2.35	Mon- Fri 18.00 – 01.00 Sat 13.00 – 01.00 Sun 07:00 - 01.00 BH 07:00 - 24:00
<i>Cotswold</i>		2008	25p	£3.30	£2.60	Mon – Sat 22.00 – 07.00 Sun & BH All Day
<i>Tewkesbury</i>		2012	35p	£3.60	£2.40	Mon- Sat 23.00 - 07.00 Sun & BH All Day
<i>Gloucester</i>		Dec 2017	44p	£4.00	£2.55	Mon – Sat 21.00 - 07.00 Sun All Day
<i>Forest</i>		2012	29p	£2.70	£2.80	Mon – Sat 23.00 – 07.00 Sun & BH All Day
<i>Cheltenham</i>		Feb 2017	54p	£3.20	£2.63	Mon - Sat 20.00 – 07.00 Sun & BH All Day
<i>South Gloucester</i>		2016	33p	£3.65	£2.08	Mon –Fri 18.00 - 06.00 Sat & Sun All Day
RATE 3	Stroud Taxi Association Proposal		72p	£4.00	£3.01	Mon – Sun 24.00 – 07.00 Bank Hols 24.00 – 07.00 Xmas & NY All Day
	Task and Finish-Group Alternative					Mon – Fri 24.00 – 06.00 Sat, Sun, Bank Hols 24.00 – 07.00
	<i>Stroud current</i>	2011	72p	£4.00	£2.70	Mon – Sun 01.00 – 07.00 Bank Hols 24.00 – 07.00 Xmas & NY All Day
	<i>Cotswold</i>	2008	25p	£5.60	£4.40	Xmas & NY All Day
	<i>Tewkesbury</i>	2012	-	-	-	-
	<i>Gloucester</i>	Dec 2017	48p	£5.00	£2.96	Bank Hols, Xmas & NY All day
	<i>Forest</i>	-	-	-	-	-
	<i>Cheltenham</i>	Feb 2017	60p	£4.40	£3.69	Xmas & NY All Day
	<i>South Gloucester</i>	2016	32p	£5.50 £7.40	£2.08 £2.08	Bank Hols Xmas and NY All Day

Stroud Taxi Association Proposal for Fare Increase – 2017

Schedule of comments from trade and meter fitters following consultation on proposals and recommendations

	Consultee	Comment
1	Taxi Driver	I do not agree with Task and Finish Group recommendation for rate 1 to start at 06.00 (currently 07.00). I do a lot of my work during that early time and feel I should get the higher rate
2	Taxi Driver	If you bring back the start of rate 2 to 17.00 (currently 18.00) more taxis would probably go to the rank and work during rush hour
3	Taxi Driver	I think fares should not be increased as people may find it too expensive and use taxis less
4	Taxi Driver	I prefer no change to fares other than a major increase in the soiling charge. The current extra for soiling does not reflect the true losses that can be caused
5	Taxi Driver	Cannot charge surcharge on credit/debit cards from January 2018
6	Meter Fitter	<p>Stroud fares are already higher than the rest of the county.</p> <p>Also surprised about the request to change Rate 3 times. For other areas Rate 3 is for Christmas and Bank Holidays only.</p> <p>Odd starting rate of £3.25 as it means drivers have to find 5ps for change.</p>
7	Meter Fitter	<p>I think its strange trade have asked for starting rate of £3.25 as generally drivers like to keep rounded up to 10p or 20p for ease of giving change</p> <p>There are new laws coming in banning credit card surcharges</p>

NB – A Newsletter, showing the Stroud Taxi Association Proposal and the Task and Finish Group recommendations and asking for comment, has been sent to 205 Stroud district licensed drivers and 6 meter fitters.

Stroud Taxi Association Proposal 2017

Rate 1

- Change starting rate from £2.50 to £2.80 **12% increase**
- Change 264 yards to 240 yards for 30p increments to make a running mile £2.20* (was £2.00*) **10% increase**

Rate 2

- Put forward end time by 1 hour from 01.00 to midnight
- Change starting rate from £3.00 to £3.25 **8.3% increase**
- Change 225 yards to 185 yards for 30p increments to make a running mile £2.85* (was £2.35*) **21% increase**

Rate 3

- Put forward start time by 1 hour from 01.00 to midnight
- Leave starting rate at £4.00 **0% increase**
- Change 195 yards to 175 yards for 30p increments which will make a running mile £3.01*(was £2.70*) **11% increase**

Extras

- Add £3.00 extra charge for credit and debit card payments

Task and Finish Group Recommendation 2017

Rate 1

- Support the trade proposal for starting rate and yardage
- Recommend putting back start time of rate 1 from 07.00 to 06.00

Rate 2

- Support the trade proposed change to end time
- Support trade proposal for starting rate
- Amend the trade proposal to 200 yards to make a running mile £2.64* **12.3% increase**

Rate 3

- Support the trade proposal for starting rate and yardage

Extras

- Remove extra charge for pushchairs to bring in line with wheelchairs
- Remove extra charge of £3.00 for cheques as this is rarely used
- Not support an extra charge for credit and debit cards

* Running mile costs shown in this table are an average calculation. However for an actual journey the cost will be the starting rate plus increments of 30p

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

7 DECEMBER 2017

8

Report Title	CAPITAL PROJECTS MONITORING
Purpose of Report	To provide an update on the capital projects for this committee.
Decision(s)	The Committee RESOLVES to note the report.
Financial Implications and Risk Assessment	<p>Council approved the Capital budget proposals totalling £20.6m at their meeting in February 2017. This committee has oversight and responsibility for the capital projects outlined in the report.</p> <p>Whilst there are no financial implications arising directly from this report, members should ensure that delivery of the projects can be achieved and are progressing. The Capital programme assumed a funding position based on the budget profiles set out in the February 2017 MTFP. If projects are delayed or are not able to achieve the desired outcomes and do not progress, then the capital budget would remain unspent and not reallocated to additional projects without consideration by the council as part of the 2018/19 budget setting process.</p> <p>David Stanley – Accountancy Manager Tel: 01453 754100 Email: david.stanley@stroud.gov.uk</p>
Legal Implications	<p>It is noted that there isn't any substantial differences to this report than the previous update. Consequently, there are no legal implications to report. (Ref: rc21.11.17)</p> <p>K Trickey, Head of Legal Services Email: karen.trickey@stroud.gov.uk</p>
Report Author	<p>Joanne Jordan, Director of Customer Services Tel: 01453 754005 Email: joanne.jordan@stroud.gov.uk</p>
Performance Management Follow Up	Updates will be provided to future meetings of this committee

1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

- 1.1** This report gives an update on the capital projects that are included in the council's capital programme that was agreed at Strategy and Resources committee in January 2017. The capital projects that are being monitored by this committee are shown below:

Project	2017/18 £000's	2018/19 £000's	2019/20 £000's	2017/18 Spend to date
Community Buildings- Kingshill House	50	50	0	£23,095
Stratford Park Lido	20	80	100	£0

2. COMMUNITY BUILDINGS – Kingshill House - £100,000 capital allocation

2.1 Following a report to Strategy and Resources Committee in October 2016 discussions have taken place with Kingshill House Trust with a view to the Trust taking over the freehold interest from Stroud District Council. A capital budget provision of £50,000 in 2017/18 and £50,000 in 2018/19 has been made as part of a funding package to help assist the transfer. Discussions with the Trust are ongoing and the expectations are that the freehold transfer will take place by the end of 2018/19. Works to renovate the derelict cottage are well underway £23,095 has been spent to date and a further £22,396 is committed. Works to refurbish the cottage are due to complete by the end of December and the Trust will be letting it in January.

2.2 Stratford Park Lido (Outdoor Pool) - £200,000 capital allocation

2.3 A provision of £200,000 has been made in the capital programme to review and improve the outdoor swimming pool which is part of the Stratford Park Leisure Centre contract. Grant funding has been obtained to carry out a high level feasibility study to assess options for transforming and sustaining the outdoor pool. The initial grant funding has come from the Heritage Lottery Fund £10,000 and Stroud Town Council £2,248 for the feasibility study.

2.4 Stroud District Council and the project team had appointed Tricolor to carry out an appraisal during the summer of 2017 which included a community consultation.

2.5 The public including young peoples' consultations aimed to draw upon the views and aspirations of local people (Starting Blocks). The final feasibility study report was email to SDC late October 2017 with a shortlist of five options. Do nothing / close the pool / capital project / transfer to a project team / long term lease 30+ years

2.6 In the 2017/18 capital programme £20,000 has been allocated to this project which will assist in funding a condition survey of the facility including surveying the pipework of the pool, associated buildings, pool tank and reviewing accessible facilities at the Lido. Once the condition survey has been completed and agreed of the best way forward, the Council and the Project Team will then develop a business plan to apply for a further Heritage Lottery Fund grant. The next bidding round is in March 2018.

2.7 If the project is successful then it is likely that the earliest any major changes can be implemented will be September 2018 after the summer opening period.

3 CONCLUSION / RECOMMENDATION

3.1 Further updates on these capital projects will be presented at future meetings of this committee.