

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

5 April 2018

7.00 pm – 8.25 pm
Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Stroud

3

Minutes

Membership

Councillor Simon Pickering (Chair)	P	Councillor Skeena Rathor	A
Councillor Paul Denney (Vice-Chair)	P	Councillor Haydn Sutton	P
Councillor Chris Brine	A	Councillor Brian Tipper	P
Councillor Jim Dewey	P	Councillor Jessica Tomblin	P
Councillor Chas Fellows	A	Councillor Ken Tucker	P
Councillor Alison Hayward	P	Councillor Tim Williams	P

P = Present **A = Absent**

Other Member Present

Councillor Cornell

Officers in Attendance

Director of Development Services
Accountant

Head of Community Services
Democratic Services Officer

EC.045

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

EC.046

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

EC.047

MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 February 2018 are approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

EC.048

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were none.

EC.049**WORK PROGRAMME AND AGENDA PLANNING**

The work programme for 2018/19 was updated:

7 June 2018 – Item on Recycling and single use plastics

13 September 2018 – Local Plan preferred strategy

RESOLVED **To note the above.**

EC.050**CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING**

The Director of Development Services updated Committee on the various capital projects.

- a) Cycling and walking plan - projects were being supported and investigated which included Nailsworth/Dudbridge cycle route, cycle access/parking at Stroud and Stonehouse Railway stations, GWT applying for European funding for cycle path along the Nailsworth to Stonehouse corridor, greenway through Cam/Dursley.
- b) Wallbridge Gateway Site – Ecotricity are no longer able to invest in the landscaping scheme at Wallbridge, procurement of a landscape architect will now take place based on the budget available.
- c) Canal regeneration – the Heritage Lottery Fund announcement regarding the funding for the next project will be delay until after the local elections in other parts of the country.
- d) Multi-service contract – Officers and Members are working with Ubico to resolve issues and good progress is being made.
- e) Market town centres initiative fund – £200,000 has been allocated to support the work within town centres, and match funding needs to be available from the town councils for work to take place. An expression of interest email is due to be sent.

RESOLVED **To note the above.**

EC.051**MEMBER REPORTS**

- a) Stroud Concordat - Councillor Pickering gave an update on the cycling group being set up with the District Council, Town/Parishes and Gloucestershire County Council with the possibility of updating cycle routes from Stroud to Rodborough, Chalford to Stroud.
- b) Planning Review Panel – The Director of Development Services gave a brief update. Discussion had taken place regarding the response to a consultation by the DfT regarding the capacity of motorway junctions and the relationship with the district's future growth.
- c) Waste and Recycling Task and Finish Group – Councillor Pickering gave an update regarding the performance of waste to landfill and highlighted that the district was possibly the best performing in the country.
- d) Performance Monitoring – Councillor Sutton highlighted the report which had been circulated to Members and reiterated that Members could access information on the Excelsis system. Concern was expressed regarding the recruitment and retention of Development Control staff.

- e) Environmental Strategy – the Strategy is for the period 2007-27 and has 4 headings – state of economy, climate change, natural environment and sustainable communities. It will be discussed at Committee in June 2018.

EC.052 **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2017/18 P3**

The Accountant outlined the above report and answered members' questions. This was the second report which looked at third quarter figures, it presented members with a summarised view and variations.

Members questioned the waste overspend and how long it would take to balance it out. Officers are working hard with Ubico to address these issues.

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

EC.053 **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (EMS) OPTIONS**

The Director of Development Services introduced this item. The Council had been an EMAS accredited authority since 1999. Brexit means that it is not possible to continue with this scheme. Two options are possible, have our own scheme or apply ISO 14001 approach to EMS. Following discussion relating to the advantages of applying for this standard it was felt that the Council should base its EMS on ISO 14001.

RESOLVES **To Apply the EMS to ISO 14001:2015 standard.**

EC.054 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

There were none.

The meeting ended at 8.25 pm.

Chair