



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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

Telephone 01453 766321

www.stroud.gov.uk

Email: democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk

COUNCIL

To all Members of Stroud District Council

Wednesday, 12 October 2022

You are hereby summoned to attend Meeting of **STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL** in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud on **THURSDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2022** at **7.00 pm**

Kathy O'Leary
Chief Executive

Please Note: The meeting is being held in the Council Chamber at Stroud District Council and will be streamed live on the Council's [YouTube Channel](#). A recording of the meeting will be published onto the [Council's website](#). The whole of the meeting will be recorded except where there are confidential or exempt items, which may need to be considered in the absence of press and public.

If you wish to attend this meeting, please contact democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk. This is to ensure adequate seating is available in the Council Chamber.

A G E N D A

1. **VICE-CHAIR OF COUNCIL**
To elect a Vice-Chair of Council for the Civic Year 2022/23.
2. **APOLOGIES**
To receive apologies for absence.
3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**
To receive declarations of interest.
4. **MINUTES (Pages 7 - 22)**
To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2022.
5. **LONG SERVICE AWARDS FOR YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS**
To present an award to Members of the Youth Council who have achieved over 5 years service.
6. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
To receive announcements from the Chair of Council, Leader of Council or Chief Executive.

Council
Thursday, 20 October 2022

Agenda Published: Wednesday, 12 October 2022

The cost of printing this doc pack: Approx. £135
The carbon cost of producing this doc pack: Approx. tonnes
The cost of posting this doc pack: Approx. £1.21

7. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The Chair of the Committee will answer questions from members of the public submitted in accordance with the Council's procedures.

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF QUESTIONS
Noon on Friday, 14 October 2022**

Questions must be submitted to the Chief Executive, Democratic Services,
Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud and can be sent by email to
Democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk

8. **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND POSITIONS (Pages 23 - 34)**

To update the allocation of seats in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and appoint changes to membership of committees and appointments with effect from 20 October 2022.

9. **MEMBER QUESTIONS**

See Agenda Item 4 deadlines for submissions.

10. **RESPONSE TO THE COST-OF-LIVING CRISIS (Pages 35 - 46)**

To detail current and proposed work to support those who are being impacted by the emerging cost of living crisis in Stroud District.

10a. **COST OF LIVING EMERGENCY MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR ALDAM AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR BENNETT**

This Council notes:

- The basic cost of living continues to rise, and despite the recently announced cap on household energy prices, there remains around an £800 gap on average between the rise in the cost of living and the support packages for families on means tested benefits. [Joseph Rowntree Foundation]
- The high rate of inflation in the UK, predicted by the Bank of England to rise to 11 per cent this winter. [forbes.com]
- These factors are causing a Cost of Living Emergency and resulting in a significant fall in people's incomes, as pay growth and benefit uprating fails to keep pace with the increase in the cost of essential items.
- Food poverty is already a reality for at least 4.7 million adults in the UK [https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/articles/food_poverty], and the Cost of Living Emergency will greatly exacerbate this problem.
- Those on the lowest incomes will be hardest hit by inflation and the increase in energy bills, and the support offered to them by Government so far is completely inadequate to bridge the cost of living gap. [https://jpit.uk/enoughtolive]
- The Cost of Living Emergency will also have a damaging impact on local businesses, the self-employed, and valued employers in Stroud District, who will require additional financial support from Government to cover their basic costs.
- Without urgent government intervention there will be a significant increase in the number of households who experience food poverty and fuel poverty in Stroud District this winter, leading to increased health problems; a rise in mental health issues and emergencies; decreased quality of life; and an

exacerbation of associated social and emotional issues.

- The SDC Council officers, Citizens Advice and community hubs are already working hard to alleviate the pressure and desperation. But they should not be bearing the responsibility of what should be statutory support. The National Government needs to outline a plan and communicate it to local authorities as quickly as possible.

This Council believes that:

- No one in the Stroud District should go hungry.
- None of our residents should have to choose between food or warmth, or not be able to have either.

This Council therefore resolves to:

- Declare a 'Cost of Living Emergency.'
- Request the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister, and Stroud District MPs, to call for:
 - Immediate financial support to help people to manage the Cost of Living Emergency, with most support provided to low income households, and
 - A fully funded nationwide commitment to improve the energy efficiency of homes (and consequently reduce energy bills), noting that this initiative is also required to deliver on the Government's own commitment to net zero carbon by 2050.
- Support The Great Homes Upgrade campaign, which is calling on the Government to upgrade 19 million homes by 2030 to make sure that everyone can have a well-insulated home, heated by clean, green energy. [www.greathomesupgrade.org]
- Call on the National Government to produce and make public a clear plan to deal with the crisis and alleviate the burden on our residents and local businesses. Emergency funding needs to be forthcoming and distributed in a way that allows District Councils like ours to be able to process it in the most effective way for our residents.

11. REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

The Constitution Working Group has reviewed a number of elements of the Constitution and commend the attached documents to Council for approval including the Contract Procedure Rules and Scheme of Delegation.

12. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

12a. MOTION REGARDING ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR GREEN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR HAYDN JONES

Council Notes that:

Stroud District Council declared a climate change emergency in November 2018;

On the 24 January 2019, the Council passed a motion to endorse the 'Climate Emergency' announced by the administration on 16 November 2018 and pledged "to do everything within the Council's power to make Stroud District carbon neutral by 2030";

To that end, on 18 July 2019, the Council agreed to move to the use of electric/hybrid vehicles and install a number of charging points across the District. The Head of Community Services, in consultation with the Head of Finance and the Chair of the Environment Committee was authorised to determine the final number of charging points required and their location.

Three years on from this decision, a plan for the provision of EV charging points, funded from the Business Rates Pilot Reserve, has not yet been produced, even though other councils have made good progress on that. These are just a few examples.

- 3rd November 2021 Swindon Borough Council installed 11 double headed EV charging points creating 22 bays in total with locations decided by residents.
- BANES Council will have installed 30 EV charging points by the end of 2022 and will bring their total to 50 EV charging points.
- Mendip District Council, alongside partners EB Charging, are installing 43 EV charging points in 13 council car parks spring/summer 2022
- There are 62 new charging points in total available in Vale of the White Horse District Council, Oxfordshire.
- Monday, 8th August 2022 Work on the installation of 26 electric vehicle charging points in seven locations across West Norfolk has begun.

Council resolves that:

- (i) At least 2 electric charging points be installed in each of our council owned car parks within the next 2 years and that a wider rollout plan be included in the 23/24 budget; and
- (ii) Residents be allowed to use the charging points and have 60 minutes free car parking for that purpose.
- (iii) The Strategic Director of Resources be authorised, in consultation with the Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee and the Chair of the Environment Committee, to determine the appropriate method of funding the installation of the charging points and to enter into any necessary documentation to that end.

13. DISPENSATION UNDER SECTION 85 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (Pages 47 - 48)

To approve the absences of Councillor David Mossman and Councillor Jason Bullingham from Council meetings due to ill health.

14. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW (Pages 49 - 62)

To seek approval of Council to carry out a Community Governance Review for the following Town and Parish Council areas:

Cam	Minchinhampton
Dursley	Nailsworth
Eastington	Standish
Frampton	Stonehouse
Horsley	Woodchester
Hunts Grove	