



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Members Briefing Note

Property Review Update – 4th May 2021

Property	Current Position	Target date
Stroud Cemetery Chapel	Approval to agree terms for a transfer of the cemetery chapel to the Stroud Preservation Trust for £1 was given by Strategy & Resources Committee in October 2020 subject to detailed feasibility studies, public consultation, compliance with S123 and a further report back to S&R. Despite Covid, the Trust has appointed consultants to develop a detailed and technical condition survey along with costings for minimal intervention in the chapel and longer term options. Alongside this Trustees will be doing commercial and community potential user research which will give the Trust a clear idea whether or not they are in a position to take on the chapel as a long term project. Officers will report back to S&R later in the year to update on progress.	Autumn 2021
Kingshill House, Dursley	Discussions have continued to take place with Kingshill House Trust regarding a Community Asset Transfer. A capital budget provision of £50,000 in 2017/18 and £50,000 in 2018/19 was made as part of a funding package to help assist the transfer. A tapering reduction in core funding was also agreed as part of the funding package. Covid has had a significant impact on Kingshill House and there have been changes on the board of Trustees. The council will need to see a robust business case and be confident that the board is in a position to take on the freehold interest before agreeing final terms and reporting back S&R for approval.	Autumn 2021
Woodchester Mansion	Leased to the Woodchester Mansion Trust. Again, Covid has had a significant impact with the closure of the mansion during lockdown but grant funding from Historic England and Historic Houses Foundation grant has enabled the Trust to fund repairs to the east windows and roof. Senior officers recently met with the Trust and agreed to work more closely with it and consider what the council can do to help the Trust to reach a more financially sustainable position for the long term including research on and links into other potential sources of funding and support.	Summer 2021
Public Conveniences	Identified as a review due to start in 2019/20. The first stage was to have initial discussions with the relevant Parish & Town Councils to assess the local importance of each block. These discussions have taken place. Officers were then proposing to install counters in the PC's in late spring/early summer 2020 to get accurate data on the number of people using the facilities before identifying options and making a recommendation to S&R in late 2020. Officers were unable to progress this review because of Covid, it is likely to be deferred until 2022.	Autumn 2022

The Old Town Hall, Stroud	A Grade II* listed building in Stroud Town Centre comprising of small office units, a meeting room and stores. Alternative uses and costs of improvement/refurbishment are still being explored. A One Public Estate (OPE) phase 8 bid was submitted in November 2020. Phase 1 of the project will look at a number of sites and properties including the Old Town Hall where it is hoped to identify and implement energy efficiency measures. The project aims to explore how the rationalisation, co-location and the repurposing of the public estate in Stroud can deliver more sustainable buildings, new homes, jobs and contribute to a net zero carbon future. The outcome of the bid is still awaited.	TBC
Stratford Park, Stroud	This is a service led review. A review of Leisure and Wellbeing in Stroud by industry specialists has been commissioned and the results will be reported back to Community Services and Licensing Committee.	July 2021