

4th March 2019

**To Members of Council**

You are hereby summoned to a meeting of Council to be held on **Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7.30pm** at Thanet House, 58 London Road, Stroud, to conduct the following business.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Bojaniwska', is placed on a light grey grid background.

Helen Bojaniwska  
Town Clerk

**AGENDA**

1. To receive apologies
2. To receive declarations of interest or requests for dispensations
3. To register any gifts or hospitality received by members
4. To approve the minutes of the meeting of 14th January
5. To receive a verbal report from the Mayor
6. To receive questions from members of the public
7. To receive any verbal reports from District and County Councillors
8. To receive the Clerk's report
9. To receive a verbal update on the transfer of the Subscription Rooms
10. To confirm support for an application to the Future High Streets Fund
11. To receive Committee reports, previously circulated, as follows:

Consultations:	4 <sup>th</sup> February
Green Spaces:	21 <sup>st</sup> January
Finance, Community and Policy	28 <sup>th</sup> January

*Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (age, race, gender, sexual orientation, faith, marital status and disability); Crime and Disorder (Section 17); Health and Safety; and Human Rights.*

## **Clerk's Report to Meeting of Council 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

### **Green Spaces wall project**

Wall repairs at Bisley Old Road have been completed and the wall Spider Lane allotments is nearly finished. A second contract for wall repairs at Daisy Bank and Bank Gardens, and stonework repairs to Sims Clock is due to commence this week, with all three sites projected for completion by 19<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Signage project**

An initial consultation on designs for new signage on # February was well attended. There was lots of comments, some positive and some negative, which will now be analysed. A second event will be held in the coming weeks.

### **Health & Safety**

We have recently arranged inspections of our parks by ROSPA and the Green Spaces team are working through their recommendations for safety improvements. Our H&S consultant has also recently visited and will be return in May for a second inspection. No major concerns have been reported.

### **Priorities for March**

- Sub Rooms transfer
- Future High Streets application

Helen Bojaniwska  
4<sup>th</sup> March 2019

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	Future High Streets
<b>FOR MEETING</b>	Council
<b>DATE</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> March 2019
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	Approve support and ongoing commitment of staff resources to the development of an Expression of Interest application to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for the Future High Streets Fund.
<b>REPORT</b>	<p>In December 2018 the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government published a Call for Proposals for a new fund “providing co-funding towards capital projects that bring transformative change”.</p> <p>The objective of the Fund is “to renew and reshape town centres and high streets in a way that improves experience, drives growth and ensures future sustainability”, which is completely consistent with the policies and projects identified in the <i>Shaping the Heart of Stroud</i>, Neighbourhood Development Plan.</p> <p>Council officers have been working in partnership with Stroud District Council, Dransfield Properties Limited (and their professional advisors), the Chamber and gFirst LEP to prepare an Expression of Interest, which must be submitted by Stroud District Council by 22/3/2019.</p> <p>If this first stage application is successful the partnership will need to be formalised and a full business case developed by Spring 2020. Revenue funding will be available to support the second phase.</p> <p>The funding represents a significant opportunity to bring much needed funding into Stroud to tackle the challenges facing our “High Street”, through an injection of capital funding for infrastructure projects, potentially including: highways works, public realm improvements and heritage projects.</p> <p>Competition for funding will be fierce, but it is felt that a good case can be made for Stroud, strengthened by the NDP and a strong public/private/community partnership.</p> <p>More information about the fund can be found at:</p> <p><a href="#">Announcement</a>  <a href="#">Prospectus, application form and supplementary guidance</a></p>
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	The Council has the General Power of Competence which is “the power to do anything that individuals generally may do” as long as they do not break other laws.
<b>FINANCIAL AND STAFFING IMPLICATIONS</b>	<p>The Town Clerk and Project Officer are currently working on the draft Expression of Interest with support from other partners.</p> <p>There is no cost at the moment, but existing budgets, e.g. NDP projects could potentially be used as match funding.</p>

<b>EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS</b>	If successful the funding could potentially contribute to significant accessibility improvements in the town centre.
<b>DECISION</b>	