

STROUD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the

MEETING OF COUNCIL

Monday, 11th March 2019, at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Geoffrey Andrews, Alice Campbell, Kevin Cranston (Chair), Steve Dechan, Rob Green, Camilla Hale, John Marjoram (from item 6), Steven Naumann, Alan Sage, Lucas Schoemaker, and Chas Townley (from item 6)

In attendance: Helen Bojaniwska (Town Clerk), Marianne Sweet (STC Communications), and one member of the public.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Arundel, Davies, Lunnon and Sutton (all personal).

2. Declarations of interest and requests for dispensations

It was noted that a dispensation previously granted to Cllrs Marjoram, Sutton and Townley in respect of the Subscription Rooms remains in force.

3. Gifts and hospitality

None.

4. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 14th January were **approved** by the members present and signed as a correct record by the Chair.

5. Mayor's remarks

The Mayor had attended a presentation at which GWR had gifted to the Council one of the name plaques from the engine named to commemorate the 700th anniversary of Stroud; and a Holocaust Memorial Day. He had also attended the official opening of Gin and Juice in Nelson Street.

Cllrs Marjoram and Townley arrived.

6. Questions from members of the public

No questions were received.

7. District and County Councillors' reports

District Cllr Townley reported that the Housing Committee were due to: approve a new homelessness strategy; consider bringing housing

Action

maintenance contracts in house and consider purchasing a property in Stroud to provide a temporary homeless shelter.

Cllr Marjoram reported that he had attended a meeting organised by the Rotary Club to discuss making Stroud a “hearing town”. The Clerk reported that it had been agreed to purchase equipment to help the project get started, with funding from the ward projects budget.

8. Clerk’s report

The report was noted.

The Clerk additionally reported that a feasibility study on providing tourist information at the Station, in a space provided by GWR will be presented at a future meeting.

9. Subscription Rooms

The Clerk provided a verbal update. It was reported that contracts had not yet been exchanged because there had been some queries about the contract for the business transfer to the Stroud Subscription Rooms Trust, but these had now been resolved and completion is still due to take place on 28th March.

It was noted that there had been some water damage to the ballroom floor which was being investigated. Agreement on how this would be repaired and responsibility for it would need to be established before completion.

Cllr Cranston noted the great progress that had been made in the past year and thanked the Clerk and her Deputy for all their hard work in getting the project so close to completion.

10. Future High Streets Fund

It was **resolved** to support an application by Stroud District Council to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for funding from the Future High Streets Fund and to commit staff resources to the development of an Expression of Interest.

Clerk

11. Committee reports

Reports of the following meetings, having been previously been circulated were received:

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

The meeting closed at 8.01pm

Chair

Date