

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 13
9 DECEMBER 2020	PUBLIC REPORT

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

The following notice of motion has been received in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders:

1. Motion from Councillor John Fox

"During the recent lockdown members will have noticed the increase of cycle use within our City and more importantly our Rural areas.

Sadly, since the lockdown has been eased there has been an increase in road traffic accidents nationally and many have happened in the rural areas of our cities.

The Roman towpath from Peakirk to Eye, known as Carr Dyke was originally used to transport materials by barge, linking up the river Welland and Nene, creating the towpaths for the horses that towed the barges along its route.

This length of pathway is still there and is mainly only used for grazing horses and cattle. However, the route is equally used by walkers a lot and would make an ideal cycleway.

This would encourage more people to use a much safer route between the areas, especially bearing in mind the new estate at Manor Farm and proposed new estate on the Newborough Road, of which Carr Dyke passes alongside both estates.

Council resolves to:

Undertake a feasibility study regarding an upgrade of Carr Dyke to be used as a cycle path, linking up Peakirk, Werrington, Gunthorpe & Eye, with the results of this feasibility study to be considered by the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments."

2. Motion from Councillor Ali

"Peterborough City Council notes that Fox hunting, Deer hunting and Hare hunting with Dogs is illegal under the terms of the Hunting Act 2004, except where an exemption applies.

Most registered hunts claim to now be 'trail' hunting, an activity invented after the ban which allows hunts to claim that any chase of a wild mammal is an accident rather than intentional

This Council resolves that it will not permit trail hunting, exempt hunting, hound exercise and hunt meets on its land."

3. Motion from Councillor Howard

"Council Notes:

- Running has become an ever increasingly popular pastime, with Marathon events selling out and growing increasingly the last few years.
- A Marathon would be a welcome boost to the local economy, especially with the new hotels due in our City and the proposed cafe culture, this event would bring new people to our City and would increase tourism and local investment.
- Becoming a University City, hosting a City Marathon would be another major asset to Peterborough's reputation
- Hosting a City Marathon would give us the chance to help support important local charities with preferential fund-raiser entries for nominated charities, with a view to focus on Charities that do so much in our City, making this a true Peterborough event.
- Hosting a City Marathon in line with the Great Eastern Run, already a popular event, would boost the popularity of the event further still by making the Great Eastern a running festival, and would give us a vital start in having infrastructure and logistics in place to add the Marathon option.

Council resolves for Officers to conduct a feasibility study on hosting a City Marathon including the option of enabling The Great Eastern Run to come back even stronger as a full running festival, and report to Cabinet on their findings about the feasibility of holding this event.”

4. Motion from Councillor Bisby

“This council recognises the value of residents having opportunities to live active lifestyles, and our open spaces, footpaths and cycle lanes further support this. Never more so than now has it been important for all of us to look after our health and wellbeing in safe and appropriate ways. To further promote an active lifestyle in Peterborough, there is an opportunity for the Council to organise, support and promote a cycling race and associated events within the city centre, also serving to showcase our vibrant city centre environment. As part of this event, relevant businesses could be invited to participate, including those involved with green energy solutions enabling the promotion of home energy efficiency options to reduce emissions and household costs, cycle and cycling equipment vendors, and electric car retailers.

Council resolves to request the Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Recreation to investigate the possibility of re-establishing a cycle race and associated events in Peterborough City Centre.”

5. Motion from Councillor Yasin

“Domestic abuse is a complex social issue which affects people from all groups, genders and cultures and impacts across all services. However, it is important to note that Domestic Abuse remains a gendered crime. The Office of National Statistics states that in 2019 up to 2 million adults aged 16-59 experienced domestic abuse out of which 1.6 million of victims were female. Almost one in three women will experience domestic abuse in their lifetime and two women a week are killed by a current or former partner.

However, it is important to note that we were not in the midst of a global pandemic when these figures were obtained. Covid-19 has significantly impacted domestic abuse as more than 40,000 calls were made to the National Domestic Abuse Helpline during the initial three months of lockdown and Men's support lines received 8,500 calls.

Furthermore, it is reassuring to see the Domestic Abuse Bill has been finally brought to Parliament. This Council welcomes the Bill as it is urgently needed but will only be effective if it is supported by funding for specialist services.

Council resolves to:

- **Call upon the government to fully fund the Bill. This is vital piece of legislation which could change the lives of the estimated 2 million people a year who are subjected to forms of Domestic Abuse. Whilst the Bill is welcomed as an initial step, the safety of Domestic Abuse must be made an economic priority.**
- **Call upon both Peterborough MPs to lobby for funding to ensure we are in the best position to support our residents and to respond to the increasing demand in Domestic Abuse services in light of the current pandemic.**
- **Ensure that we promote awareness and raise the profile of Domestic Abuse across the Council and all partner organisations.**
- **Ensure elected members have training available to them so that members are able to offer support and guidance to residents if/when needed, this will include both basic e-learning and bespoke training.**
- **Recognise the work currently being done around Domestic Abuse services and congratulates the team for all their efforts.**
- **Encourage ALL employers within the Council's area to implement a Domestic Abuse policy in the workplace to ensure support is available for ALL employees in the event of a Domestic Abuse and/or Violence situation."**

6. Motion from Councillor Hemraj

"The residents of Peterborough know that it is likely that some people in the large proportion of the Peterborough population and nationally will have COVID-19 yet have no symptoms.

The impact of Covid-19 in Peterborough is manifested by the increasing number of cases since mid-September into the second lockdown. Locally, the North West Anglia Foundation trust has lost 286 patients to Covid-19. Sadly, this number is rising.

With this rise sees a renewed pressure on the NHS locally as the hospital is trying to address the backlog of cancer patients and urgent appointments, coupled with the annual winter pressures which will no doubt have additional challenges this year.

It has also been recognised by government to mass test NHS employees twice weekly.

The Council recognises:

- That it was reported in the first half of November that over 146 children were self-isolating at home due to Covid-19, which demonstrates one of the risks that the population is exposed to, as children as well as adults can be a source of infection in households. The stark reality appears to be that in such circumstances, we are not effectively able to control all disease propagation. Although disease rates appear to have levelled off in the last week, they are still high compared to the summer. This means that rapid steps must be taken to ensure we contain the spread of the virus and take the pressure off the local hospital. We can be hopeful of a less challenging winter than normally seen, to the detriment of valuable lives lost.
- The more the transmission rate is reduced, the quicker we will be able to get closer to a more normal way of life and do the things we all enjoy, such as meeting family and friends.
- All of the above and agrees that implementation of the following measures would lead to a swift and safe recovery of our city, enabling a faster return economically too.

This Council resolves to:

- **Ask the Director of Public Health to investigate the risk posed by the number of self-isolating children within the city, and whether mass testing of all teaching staff and children with their families would be an appropriate intervention. If so whether this would be feasible using the resources already available within the Local Authority. The urgency and need for this has been suggested by Education Trade Unions.**

- **To revisit the potential and need for the city to become a pilot project for mass testing as originally proposed by the Labour Group at the Joint Scrutiny Committee meeting in April 2020 in view of the rising cases. To work with Director of Public Health Dr Liz Robin to assess whether this would be an appropriate intervention for the city, and the feasibility of this being carried out within current resources. If not, to consider a modification in approach by utilising current mobile testing facilities to actively test populations within the "hot spot" areas in the city, through mobile outreach operations rather than stationary operations.**
- **To call upon the city's two MPs to make representations on behalf of the local authority if this is required, to support the need for more funding towards further testing resource or for further testing capacity to be made available."**

7. Motion from Councillor Fower

"Council notes the effort shown by Postal Workers in Peterborough during the pandemic.

Council records its appreciation for the commitment shown by these key workers.

Council notes Peterborough Posties, along with working throughout the pandemic, have seen workload increase by 34% in some areas, worked during record heat waves, through several significant storms, including Saturday 3 October, the wettest day for UK-wide rainfall since records began in 1891.

Council most importantly notes that without our local posties, a range of essential items, such as Covid Testing kits, Legal Documents, NHS information, medication and even letters from MPs would not have reached their destination.

Council resolves:

1. **That the leader of the City Council to write a letter of thanks and gratitude to Royal Mail and the CWU Eastern No5 Branch, Papyrus Road, Peterborough PE4 5PE as soon as possible.**
2. **To urge councillors to take a solidarity photo in the next week, to be shared on their social media using the tags @cwunews @RoyalMail and #PboroPostiesMatter."**

8. Motion from Councillor Shaz Nawaz

"This council notes:

1. Motions are an integral part of council business
2. Motions are a useful mechanism for proposing substantive issues for consideration including council action
3. Motions enable the council to adopt a particular course of action, to do some act, or to document a specific approach or attitude
4. Motions are an opportunity for members to debate and discuss important issues
5. Motions are part of our democratic process and serve as a vital instrument to help the council move forward

The council believes:

It is the democratic right of its members to table motions to create a robust and forward-thinking Local Authority.

The council resolves to:

Request the Constitution and Ethics Committee to review the situation in terms of allowing more time for debating motions. In particular, it is to review and consider introducing additional full council meetings to discuss and debate motions specifically."

9. Motion from Councillor Casey

“Arts and Culture are recognised as important elements for the creation of confident communities, towns and cities.

With the demise of Vivacity and its former provisions being taken back in house, it is important that Peterborough reconfirms its dedication to recognising arts, culture, heritage and theatre as central to its identity.

In doing so, the Council’s plans should reinforce the commercial and social value of arts and culture to the city, not only for our residents but with a commitment to the future development of our tourism appeal regionally, nationally and internationally. The Council will need to consider a post Covid world and the dramatically reshaped demands of our High Street, and the leisure and recreation spend.

Importantly the plans need to recognise and embrace the valued contribution of all groups and partners in the sector.

The Council resolves:

To task the Cabinet Member for Culture to work with officers, all partners, and stakeholders, to develop an ambitious Culture Strategy for Peterborough; recognising the outstanding assets in place, and the potential for further development of the arts, heritage and theatre scene in our City.

Additionally, as part of our aspirations, we provide a commitment that a bid for City of Culture status will be refreshed and prioritised as a short to medium term project.”

10. Motion from Councillor Sandford

“Council notes:

Initial work by the Council's Climate Change Member working group has identified that carbon emissions from domestic dwellings are one of the top three sources of emissions in Peterborough.

The Peterborough Local Plan sets planning policies for new development in Peterborough and there is a lot of new housing proposed, so any changes to the policies within the Local Plan could potentially have a large impact on carbon emissions over coming years and decades.

The current Peterborough Local Plan was produced before the Council declared its climate emergency and target for reaching net zero carbon as a city by 2030.

Council resolves to ask our planning policy officers to investigate whether a revision to our local plan, an addition to it or production of a supplementary planning document on climate change would be of significant benefit in helping us reach our climate emergency targets and to report their findings to the Cross Party Working Group on Climate Change and to the Growth and Environment Scrutiny Committee.”

11. Motion from Councillor Hogg

“This Council notes that:

- The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) says the law is failing. It does not prevent or sufficiently reduce the risk of fireworks causing distress, injury, or anxiety to people, as well as death, injury, or distress to animals.

- That further research is needed to properly understand the impact of noise on animals and people. In the meantime, several things can be done to improve the situation for wildlife and people at risk of being affected by firework explosions.
- Applying the same Challenge 25 (whereby anyone who is over 18 but looks under 25 is asked to produce acceptable ID when they want to buy alcohol) legislation to fireworks as there is with alcohol will ensure that less young people will be injured by fireworks.
- Review of the licensing all public firework displays is needed, ensuring displays are better advertised to the public informing of noise levels and how it may affect people and animals.

This Council resolves to:

- **Encourage public firework displays within the Peterborough area to be advertised in advance of the event, with appropriate advertising for the size of the display, allowing residents to take precautions for people in their care and pets. To include a webpage on the council's own website giving details of public firework displays.**
- **Actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people – including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks. To be included on the fireworks webpage.**
- **Encourage local suppliers of fireworks to separate 'quieter' fireworks from the loud ones so people can choose which ones they prefer with animal and people safety in mind. Provide large labels to sticker the products with green for quiet, red for loud.**
- **Encourage local suppliers to apply Challenge 25 policies in the same way alcohol sales are conducted.**
- **To write to the UK Government urging them to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90dB for those sold to the public for private displays."**