

Council
Wednesday, 24 July 2019
Supplementary Information Pack

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QUESTIONS

Questions were received under the following categories:

<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u>	
<u>Questions from members of the public</u>	
1.	<p>Question from Hazel Perry</p> <p>To Councillor Allen, Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Recreation</p> <p>It is 100 years since the 1919 Housing Act meant that Town Councils were expected to provide Council Houses for those in need. 100 years on and the housing crisis seems worse than ever.</p> <p>So the first part of my question is: when does Peterborough City Council intend to start building council (or social) houses again?</p> <p>The second part involves the conversion of city centre office blocks into housing such as, Clifton house and Bayard Place (which alone will hold 115 flats) among others, which I believe are exempt from planning regulations. When the Peterborough New Town was created in the 1970s new housing was built around central services so considering we already have this experience in Peterborough, I would like to ask how can the City Council ensure these office blocks of flats are of a decent size for people to live in and what provision is there going to be for extra facilities for city centre residents like schools and access to health care – as a city resident myself, I already have to wait at least 3 weeks to get an appointment with my Doctor and without extra services all these new residents are likely to make the situation even worse.</p>
2.	<p>Question from Lynn Walton</p> <p>To Councillor Allen, Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Recreation</p> <p>Bearing in mind Extinction Rebellion’s call to Peterborough City Council to DEBATE and ACT on Climate Emergency, will councillors be OPPOSING the destruction of Ferry Meadows as a Country Park with loss of green natural open space and Oak Meadow, and threat to Wildlife, as it is purposely turned into a Sporting Activity Hub with 34.25m Climbing Wall and giant car park?</p>
3.	<p>Question from Simon Kail</p> <p>To Councillor Cereste, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene, and Environment</p> <p>Has Peterborough City Council (or its contractors) sent any waste it has collected overseas for processing in the past, if so when, of what type and what quantity, and are there any plans to do so in the future?</p>
4.	<p>Question from Nazreen Bibi</p> <p>To Councillor Ayres, Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education, Skills, and the University</p> <p>On May 30th Peterborough parents took part in the SEND Crisis national campaign, children who have special educational needs and disabilities are denied access to full time education. Increasing number of schools “off roll” children in order to improve their targets. The number of exclusions have increased nationally, statistics in</p>

	<p>Peterborough mirror the national trend. Are there any action plans outlined by the Director of SEND or the local authority which aim to address the concerns raised by parents?</p>
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COUNCIL BUSINESS

Questions on notice to:

- a) The Mayor
- b) To the Leader or Member of the Cabinet
- c) To the Chair of any Committee or Sub-committee

1.	<p>Question from Councillor Sandford</p> <p>To Councillor Allen,</p> <p>It has been predicted in the press that England's victory in the Cricket World Cup final will lead to significantly increased interest in cricket in Peterborough and across the country. Yet if someone living in Peterborough wants to watch live First Class or List A (one day) county cricket, they currently have to travel to Leicester, Northampton, Nottingham or even London. I am told that in the 1960s there used to be First Class cricket played in Peterborough at the Stanley Recreation Ground. So what can the cabinet do to encourage more top class cricket to be played in Peterborough?</p>
2.	<p>Question from Councillor Simons</p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments</p> <p>Thorney has the classification of a large village with around 2000 residents and growing. Can I please ask the responsible cabinet member to look into the possibility of a feasibility study with regard to a cycle/footpath directly to Eye?</p> <p>At present the cycle way only goes as far as willow hall lane from Thorney and Thorney Road from Eye. The route down Willow Hall Lane is a long circular route into Fengate taking you away from Eye.</p> <p>Thorney Parish Council have been lobbying for a number of years for this direct route. As the only route is via the very busy A47, we look forward to bringing this well overdue link into the green wheel.</p>
3.	<p>Question from Councillor Sandford</p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments</p> <p>Could the relevant cabinet member tell me how many street lights are on permanently 24 hours a day in Peterborough and how much is this costing the Council financially and how much is it damaging the environment in terms of unnecessary carbon emissions?</p> <p>I know of some lights on the Rhubarb Bridge that have been burning constantly for over two years. Also I have noticed that all over Paston, Bretton and Ravensthorpe (and possibly other areas) there are old style lights under archways in housing estates that have not been replaced by LED lights but have been left on permanently for many months.</p> <p>What is being done to remedy this unfortunate situation?</p>
4.	<p>Question from Councillor Warren</p> <p>To Councillor Allen, Cabinet Member for House, Culture, and Recreation</p>

	<p>I have become aware of the upward trend of HMOs in Peterborough, and also of a rise in 'Service Accommodation' where properties are being let out on a short term basis to multiple persons. This transient population is placing great pressure on our already stretched local services, including a strain on provision for parking in urban areas.</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member update me of how HMOs and Service Accommodation is being regulated across Peterborough, and can they advise what further plans are in place to control unacceptable growth of these areas over the coming years?</p>
5.	<p>Question from Councillor Wiggin</p> <p>To Councillor Farooq, Cabinet Member for Digital Services and Transformation</p> <p>Following the decision to move the council's systems from Microsoft to Google in 2016 at a cost of £3m, and with a reported cost of £1.12m transition cost to now move to Microsoft 365 this August, can the relevant cabinet member please confirm that this figure or inform us about the expected cost as it stands now. Can we also be appraised of how long it will be for the savings made by this decision reach a point where the transition costs are matched?</p>
6.	<p>Question from Councillor Shaheed</p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments</p> <p>As all of us who reside in the north of the city are patently aware, work on installing a pedestrian crossing on the A47/A15 (Rhubarb Bridge) roundabout is pressing ahead at a leisurely pace, causing major disruption during peak work travel times.</p> <p>I am somewhat bemused that the decision was taken to incorporate the actual roundabout into the scheme, as opposed to a straight crossing at the parkway junctions and am also concerned that no safety barriers have been installed to separate pedestrians from cars circumnavigating the roundabout, and vice versa.</p> <p>Could the cabinet member responsible please advise me if there is any intention to erect the said barriers?</p>
7.	<p>Question from Councillor Murphy</p> <p>To Councillor Cereste, Cabinet Member for Waste Street Scene and the Environment</p> <p>When will we bring back the free bulky waste collection service in Ravensthorpe and elsewhere in Peterborough and re-introduce some free collections helping to clean up our environment and save money on the cost of clearing fly tips?</p>
8.	<p>Question from Councillor Amjad Iqbal</p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments</p> <p>There have been ongoing concerns about the speed of traffic and the number of accidents occurring on Mayors Walk and Thorpe Park Road. Could the Cabinet Member let me know what plans are in place or are being developed to mitigate these issues, such as introducing traffic calming or a citywide 20 mph limit for areas such as this. Thorpe Park Road and Mayors Walk form the main road sitting in the middle of Ravensthorpe and Central ward, and the problems observed there need to be addressed.</p>
9.	<p>Question from Councillor Wiggin</p> <p>To Councillor Farooq, Cabinet Member for Digital Services and Transformation</p>

	<p>Local residents have reported delays in responses when they have reported problems to the council. Service directors and officers assure me their performance targets are met when reports are received, so it looks like the delay is between the resident sending the report and the issue being logged. Can the relevant cabinet member please provide details as to how the council is performing with regards to service delivery targets for the time taken to log resident reports from receipt of written correspondence during the first 6 months of 2019?</p>
10.	<p>Question from Councillor Amjad Iqbal</p> <p>To Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Finance</p> <p>Why does there continue to be an issue with Shared Service / 'working with partners' savings? This was an issue last year and detailed plans were promised. If there are no detailed saving plans how can a robust budget be built based on such savings?</p>
11.	<p>Question from Councillor Shaz Nawaz</p> <p>To Councillor Cereste, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene, and Environment</p> <p>The council has a citywide environment action plan with clear targets to 2020. How many of those targets have been met to date and will we meet all the targets by 2020?</p>
12.	<p>Question from Councillor Murphy</p> <p>To Councillor Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities</p> <p>Previously I presented a motion to the city council about how and why we need to tackle pavement parking and obstruction in Peterborough.</p> <p>"i. Council notes difficulties, obstruction, inconvenience and cases of damage because of vehicles parked on pavements and verges.</p> <p>ii. Council believes that inconvenience caused to residents and pedestrians and damage being caused to verges can be mitigated by introducing regulations to prohibit parking on pavements and by protecting verges.</p> <p>iii. Council instructs the administration, or the Corporate Director Growth and Regeneration, to prohibit vehicles parking on pavements, to introduce some designated parking sections and to protect verges throughout the authority's area."</p> <p>I understand some action has been taken and there have been media reports concerning verges however I have had residents contact me asking what's actually been done concerning pavement parking in Peterborough, can you tell me which pavements have been protected by traffic regulation orders and how many vehicles have had action taken as a result of council adopting transport regulation orders and taking action to clear vehicles obstructing pavements in the last 12 months?</p>
13.	<p>Question from Councillor Shaz Nawaz</p> <p>To Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Finance</p> <p>Could you please confirm the updated budget deficit for 2020/2021 alongside your initial plan as to how you intend to balance the books.</p>
14.	<p>Question from Councillor Skibsted</p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments</p>

	In matters of planning for new housing developments, what assurance can you give local residents that their concerns will be adequately addressed before the details of the planned developments are finalised and how will this be carried out in practice?
15.	<p>Question from Councillor Day</p> <p>To Councillor Ayres, Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education, Skills and the University</p> <p>Peterborough's schools are facing unprecedented budget shortfalls. What steps has the Cabinet Member taken to tackle this and what additional steps will she be taking in the future?</p>
16.	<p>Question from Councillor Hogg</p> <p>To Councillor Farooq, Cabinet Member for Digital Services and Transformation</p> <p>In April this year a decision was taken to stop using the My Peterborough app for residents reporting issues to the council in favour of adopting the FixMyStreet Pro solution offered by My Society, this was framed as a cost-saving measure through better functionality.</p> <p>Can the relevant cabinet member, please assure us that there have been no data breaches with the My Peterborough App and that had there been councillors would have been informed?</p>
17.	<p>Question from Councillor Hogg</p> <p>To Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Finance</p> <p>At the full council meeting of 23rd January Cllr Seaton stated that</p> <p>“ ...the Council’s mobile telephone contract which current contract was let in September 2015 for 3 years. So we actually reviewed it in September last year and we would have gone out to tender again but we were aware that Cambridgeshire are also going out to tender so we have joined the two tenders together.</p> <p>I believe it’s the end of this month that those tenders are due to be received so we should be able to get a saving on the joint contract and that will be reviewed over the next month or two.”</p> <p>We are now some months passed that prediction, could Cllr Seaton please update us on the current status of the mobile telephone supply and the tender process.</p>

Questions on notice to:

d) The Combined Authority Representatives

1.	<p>Question from Councillor Shaz Nawaz</p> <p>To Councillor Holdich, Combined Authority Board Representative</p> <p>The Combined Authority has a central government grant of £100 million for providing 2,000 affordable homes in our region – how much of this grant do you expect to receive for our city?</p>
2.	<p>Question from Councillor Wiggin</p> <p>To Councillor Holdich, Combined Authority Board Representative</p> <p>Can the city council's representatives to the Combined Authority advise what representations they made to ensure Peterborough gets a fair share of funding for public transport from the proposals in the Combined Authority transport plan, given most of the proposed public transport schemes seem to be in the Greater Cambridge area with Peterborough given only a little bit for more roads.</p>
3.	<p>Question from Councillor Sandford</p> <p>To Councillor Holdich, Combined Authority Board Representative</p> <p>At the Combined Authority Audit and Governance Committee on Friday it was revealed that the Combined Authority's external auditors Ernst and Young had failed to complete the audit of the Combined Authority accounts by the required date, allegedly due to "resourcing issues". As a result the Combined Authority will have to publish a highly embarrassing note on its website explaining that its accounts have not yet been audited. However, it was also revealed that the terms of the Combined Authority's contract with the auditors (which involves tens of thousands of pounds of taxpayers money being paid to them) contains no facility for the Combined Authority to claim or be paid any compensation, in the event of a failure of the auditors to fulfil their duties.</p> <p>Would the leader raise this matter with the board of the Combined Authority to ensure that this situation is not repeated in future and that authority and the taxpayers are properly compensated if it does.</p>

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COUNCIL MEETING 24 JULY 2019

CONSTITUTION AND ETHICS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – PETITIONS UPDATE SCHEME

Amendment from Councillor Hogg to be moved as follows:

“IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council approve the updated petition scheme, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report, subject to the following amendments:

2.1 The following matters are excluded from this petition scheme:

- Any matter relating to an anticipated, ~~or current, or past~~ planning application or decision, including a development plan document or community infrastructure levy (a new local levy that authorities can choose to introduce to help fund infrastructure in their area.)

9.3 A copy of the response to ~~all paper~~ petitions will be published on the council website.”

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COUNCIL MEETING 24 JULY 2019

**CONSTITUTION AND ETHICS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – AMENDMENTS TO COUNCIL
STANDING ORDERS**

Amendment from Councillor Hogg to be moved as follows:

“IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council:

1. Agree to amend the Constitution at Part 4 Section 1 Standing Orders to:
 - a. reflect the revised Council motion and amendment deadlines:
 - Draft Motions - ~~10.00am~~12 noon, 9 clear working days before the meeting.
 - Final Motions - ~~10.00am~~12 noon, 7 clear working days before the meeting.
 - Draft Amendments - 12 noon, 3 clear working days before the meeting.
 - Final Amendments - 12 noon, the day before the meeting.
 - b. including a section on ‘Scope of Questions’ in relation to questions from Members, as set out in paragraph 4.2.2 of the report.
2. Agree to amend the Constitution at Part 4 Section 1 Standing Orders to allow for motions and amendments to be debated together, as set out in paragraph 4.3.4 of the report, subject to seconder of motion and seconder of amendment switching order as per 4.3.4.
3. Agree that training be given if (1) and (2) agreed.”

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COUNCIL MEETING 24 JULY 2019

MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR FOX

Amendment from Councillor Sanford to be moved as follows:

“This council notes the decision of the Hearings Panel of the Constitution & Ethics Committee that Cllr Fower has breached the council’s code of conduct.

Cllr Fower has yet to take up the recommendation that he apologise for the comments made about me or attend Data Protection training to ensure he does not misuse the data of residents in the future.

The Council would like to express its disappointment with Cllr Fower for his failure to do so and with his political group leader for not ensuring that this has happened.

The Committee on Standards in Public Life has scrutinised existing arrangements in local government and made a number of recommendations, many of which will require legislative change before they can be put in place.

Council refers further consideration of this matter to the Constitution and Ethics Committee and asks them to review the recommendations made by the Committee on Standards in Public Life and, if it is deemed appropriate, to make representations to Government.

~~I understand that the Government aims to issue a formal response to the Committee's recommendations in September.~~

~~The Council now has an opportunity to write to the Local Government Minister to endorse the Committee's recommendations, in particular regarding introducing stronger sanctions for breaches of the code of conduct, and I would urge the Leader and the Chairman of the Constitution & Ethics Committee to do this.”~~

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COUNCIL MEETING 24 JULY 2019

MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR HOLDICH

Amendment from Councillor Wiggin to be moved as follows:

“Council notes:

That the impacts of climate breakdown are already causing serious damage around the world.

that the ‘Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C’, published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in October 2018, (a) describes the enormous harm that a 2°C average rise in global temperatures is likely to cause compared with a 1.5°C rise, and (b) confirms that limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society and the private sector.

That all governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to act, and local governments that recognise this should not wait for their national governments to change their policies;

That strong policies to cut emissions also have associated health, wellbeing and economic benefits;

and that, recognising this, a growing number of UK local authorities have already passed 'Climate Emergency' motions.

Council therefore commits to:

Declare a ‘Climate Emergency’ that requires urgent action.

Make the Council’s activities net-zero carbon by 2030

Achieve 100% clean energy across the Council’s full range of functions by 2030

Ensure that all strategic decisions, budgets and approaches to planning decisions are in line with a shift to zero carbon by 2030.

Support and work with all other relevant agencies towards making the entire area zero carbon within the same timescale;

Ensure that political and chief officer leadership teams embed this work in all areas and take responsibility for reducing, as rapidly as possible, the carbon emissions resulting from the Council’s activities, ensuring that any recommendations are fully costed and that the Executive and Scrutiny functions review council activities taking account of production and consumption emissions and produce an action plan within ~~42 months~~ by 31 March 2020, together with budget actions and a measured baseline;

Request that Council Scrutiny Panels consider the impact of climate change and the environment when reviewing Council policies and strategies;

Work with, influence and inspire partners across the district, county and region to help deliver this goal through all relevant strategies, plans and shared resources by developing a series of meetings, events and partner workshops;

Request that the Council and partners take steps to proactively include young people in the process, ensuring that they have a voice in shaping the future;

Request that the Executive Portfolio holder with responsibility for Climate Change convenes a Citizens' Assembly in 2019 in order to involve the wider population in this process. This group would help develop their own role, identify how the Council's activities might be made net-zero carbon by 2030, consider the latest climate science and expert advice on solutions and to consider systematically the climate change impact of each area of the Council's activities;

Set up a Climate Change Partnership group, involving Councillors, residents, young citizens, climate science and solutions experts, businesses, Citizens Assembly representatives and other relevant parties. Run competition in primary, secondary and other educational establishments to seek young people's views.

~~Over the following 12 months,~~ The Group will consider strategies and actions being developed by the Council and other partner organisations and develop a strategy in line with a target of net zero emissions by 2030. It will also recommend ways to maximise local benefits of these actions in other sectors such as employment, health, agriculture, transport and the economy chaired by Cllr Cereste. When progress has been made consult the wider public at various stages.

To give councillors and members of the public updates on progress on a regular basis

Ensure that all reports in preparation for the 2020/21 budget cycle and investment strategy will take into account the actions the council will take to address this emergency. Seek councils support for budget approval to assist with the co-ordination of this project

Call on the UK Government to provide the powers, resources and help with funding to make this possible, and ask local MPs to do likewise;

Consider other actions that could be implemented, including (but not restricted to): renewable energy generation and storage, providing electric vehicle infrastructure and encouraging alternatives to private car use, increasing the efficiency of buildings, in particular to address fuel poverty; proactively using local planning powers to accelerate the delivery of net-zero carbon new developments and communities, increased tree planting, coordinating a series of information and training events to raise awareness and share good practice; look to replacing all council vehicles with electric or hybrids including the mayors car as soon practical."

COUNCIL MEETING 24 JULY 2019

MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR HOLDICH

Amendment from Councillor Murphy to be moved as follows:

“Council notes:

That the impacts of climate breakdown are already causing serious damage around the world.

that the ‘Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C’, published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in October 2018, (a) describes the enormous harm that a 2°C average rise in global temperatures is likely to cause compared with a 1.5°C rise, and (b) confirms that limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society and the private sector.

That all governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to act, and local governments that recognise this should not wait for their national governments to change their policies;

That strong policies to cut emissions also have associated health, wellbeing and economic benefits;

and that, recognising this, a growing number of UK local authorities have already passed ‘Climate Emergency’ motions.

Council therefore commits to:

Declare a ‘Climate Emergency’ that requires urgent action.

Make the Council’s activities net-zero carbon by 2030

Achieve 100% clean energy across the Council’s full range of functions by 2030

Ensure that all strategic decisions, budgets and approaches to planning decisions are in line with a shift to zero carbon by 2030.

Support and work with all other relevant agencies towards making the entire area zero carbon within the same timescale;

Ensure that political and chief officer leadership teams embed this work in all areas and take responsibility for reducing, as rapidly as possible, the carbon emissions resulting from the Council’s activities, ensuring that any recommendations are fully costed and that the Executive and Scrutiny functions review council activities taking account of production and consumption emissions and produce an action plan within 12 months, together with budget actions and a measured baseline;

Request that Council Scrutiny Panels consider the impact of climate change and the environment when reviewing Council policies and strategies;

Work with, influence and inspire partners across ~~the district, county~~ Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, and the region to help deliver this goal through all relevant strategies, plans and shared resources by developing a series of meetings, events and partner workshops;

Request that the Council and partners take steps to proactively include young people in the process, ensuring that they have a voice in shaping the future;

Request that the Executive Portfolio holder with responsibility for Climate Change convenes a Citizens' Assembly in 2019 in order to involve the wider population in this process. This group would help develop their own role, identify how the Council's activities might be made net-zero carbon by 2030, consider the latest climate science and expert advice on solutions and to consider systematically the climate change impact of each area of the Council's activities;

Set up a Climate Change Partnership group, involving Councillors, residents, young citizens, climate science and solutions experts, businesses, Citizens Assembly representatives and other relevant parties. Run competition in primary, secondary and other educational establishments to seek young people's views.

Over the following 12 months, the Group will consider strategies and actions being developed by the Council and other partner organisations and develop a strategy in line with a target of net zero emissions by 2030. It will also recommend ways to maximise local benefits of these actions in other sectors such as employment, health, agriculture, transport and the economy chaired by Cllr Cereste. When progress has been made consult the wider public at various stages.

To give councillors and members of the public updates on progress on a regular basis

Ensure that all reports in preparation for the 2020/21 budget cycle and investment strategy will take into account the actions the council will take to address this emergency. Seek councils support for budget approval to assist with the co-ordination of this project

Call on the UK Government to provide the powers, resources and help with funding to make this possible, and ask local MPs to do likewise;

Consider other actions that could be implemented, including (but not restricted to): renewable energy generation and storage, providing electric vehicle infrastructure and encouraging alternatives to private car use, increasing the efficiency of buildings, in particular to address fuel poverty; proactively using local planning powers to accelerate the delivery of net carbon new developments and communities, coordinating a series of information and training events to raise awareness and share good practice. Look to replacing all council vehicles with electric or hybrids including the mayors car as soon practical.”

COUNCIL MEETING 24 JULY 2019

MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR JOSEPH

Alteration from Councillor Joseph to be moved as follows:

“As the number of cars on our roads increase, the pressure on parking spaces does likewise. Whether it’s at home, taking the children to school, doing our shopping or picking up a take-away, we want to be able to park our cars and go about our business.

Often this leads to parking on grass verges, which in turn leads to the damage and destruction of those verges. Not only are churned up verges unsightly, but the costs of repeatedly repair verges are huge and unsustainable and the determent to wildlife by ruined habitat inestimable.

Traffic Regulation Orders can be introduced following a request from residents, the emergency services or highways inspectors. The purpose is to protect the public, help alleviate traffic issues as well as to prevent the destruction of the verges.

Figure provided by officer’s state that the cost of repairing a verge of approximately 6sq metres depending on how bad the verge is this would cost between £150 and £400 this does not include traffic management if needed and fencing off for establishment.

The additional cost for the matting would be around £270 for the same area. Even at the lowest repair costs the matting would pay for itself in 2 years and with an average life expectancy of 7-20 years the savings could be huge.

Initial figures provided by officers indicate the provision of the grass mats, the excavation and removal of topsoil, provision of base material would be £45 per square metre.

The Council recognises that:

- The preservation of our verges is an important factor aesthetically, environmentally and commercially.
- Public safety and the ability of emergency vehicle to move freely about the City is a priority.
- Offenders will continue to be penalised for parking on verges, but we need to look at how we reduce the costly damage to verges cause by these offenses.
- This is a problem at schools, with parents dropping and collecting their children from school-alternatives need to be examined.
- Some residential roads are too narrow to allow for the free flow of traffic if there are cars parked on both sides and realistic alternatives need to be looked at other than enforcement.
- Replacement of grass with permanent options such as concrete, paving or boulders is not in keeping with our biodiversity policy, green credentials or declaration on emergency climate change.

The Council therefore resolves to;

- ~~Work with Ward Councillors to identify and implement a pilot scheme of replanting verges and incorporating protective matting designed to protect grass from damage from parked cars, and give consideration to using. Perhaps those currently subject to verge parking restrictions could pilot.~~
- Ask officers to provide an appropriate cost/benefit analysis on a city wide and ward priority basis which should demonstrate that a the scheme could will:
 - Provide long term, cost effect protection from damage to the grass and soil underneath.
 - Vastly reduce the costs of repairing verges on a regular basis, therefore, recouping the initial outlay and making annual savings on the costs of repairing the verges going forward.
 - ~~Initial figures provided by officers indicate the provision of the grass mats, the excavation and removal of topsoil, provision of base material would be £45 per sq metre.~~
 - Allow the grass to grow through the netting, visually enhancing the roadsides.
 - Protect the habitat of the fauna and flora native to our verges and in keeping with our commitment to being an environmental capital and our biodiversity policy.
- Request that the Cabinet Member consider working with Ward Councillors to identify a scheme of replanting verges and incorporating protective matting designed to protect grass from damage from parked cars, using those areas currently subject to verge parking restrictions as a pilot.

We have a duty to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of residents, protect the environment, and to do so in the most cost-effective manner. I believe that the initial additional outlay could result in long term savings and a general improvement in the aesthetics in those areas of the city where this is a big issue.”

COUNCIL MEETING 24 JULY 2019

MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR JOSEPH

Alteration from Councillor Sandford to be moved as follows:

“As the number of cars on our roads increase, the pressure on parking spaces does likewise. Whether it’s at home, taking the children to school, doing our shopping or picking up a take-away, we want to be able to park our cars and go about our business.

Often this leads to parking on grass verges, which in turn leads to the damage and destruction of those verges. Not only are churned up verges unsightly, but the costs of repeatedly repair verges are huge and unsustainable and the determent to wildlife by ruined habitat inestimable.

Traffic Regulation Orders can be introduced following a request from residents, the emergency services or highways inspectors. The purpose is to protect the public, help alleviate traffic issues as well as to prevent the destruction of the verges.

Figure provided by officer’s state that the cost of repairing a verge of approximately 6sq metres depending on how bad the verge is this would cost between £150 and £400 this does not include traffic management if needed and fencing off for establishment.

The additional cost for the matting would be around £270 for the same area. Even at the lowest repair costs the matting would pay for itself in 2 years and with an average life expectancy of 7-20 years the savings could be huge.

Initial figures provided by officers indicate the provision of the grass mats, the excavation and removal of topsoil, provision of base material would be £45 per square metre.

The Council recognises that:

- The preservation of our verges is an important factor aesthetically, environmentally and commercially.
- Public safety and the ability of emergency vehicle to move freely about the City is a priority.
- Offenders will continue to be penalised for parking on verges, but we need to look at how we reduce the costly damage to verges cause by these offenses.
- This is a problem at schools, with parents dropping and collecting their children from school-alternatives need to be examined.
- Some residential roads are too narrow to allow for the free flow of traffic if there are cars parked on both sides and realistic alternatives need to be looked at other than enforcement.
- Replacement of grass with permanent options such as concrete, paving or boulders is not in keeping with our biodiversity policy, green credentials or declaration on emergency climate change.

The Council therefore resolves to;

- **Use all reasonable available measures to prevent cars parking on grass verges.**
- ~~Work with Ward Councillors to identify and implement a pilot scheme of replanting verges and incorporating protective matting designed to protect grass from damage from parked cars, and give consideration to using: Perhaps those currently subject to verge parking restrictions could pilot.~~
- Ask officers to provide an appropriate cost/benefit analysis on a city wide and ward priority basis which should demonstrate that a the scheme could will:
 - Provide long term, cost effect protection from damage to the grass and soil underneath.
 - Vastly reduce the costs of repairing verges on a regular basis, therefore, recouping the initial outlay and making annual savings on the costs of repairing the verges going forward.
 - ~~Initial figures provided by officers indicate the provision of the grass mats, the excavation and removal of topsoil, provision of base material would be £45 per sq metre.~~
 - Allow the grass to grow through the netting, visually enhancing the roadsides.
 - Protect the habitat of the fauna and flora native to our verges and in keeping with our commitment to being an environmental capital and our biodiversity policy.
- Request that the Cabinet Member consider working with Ward Councillors to identify a scheme of replanting verges and incorporating protective matting designed to protect grass from damage from parked cars, using those areas currently subject to verge parking restrictions as a pilot.

We have a duty to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of residents, protect the environment, and to do so in the most cost-effective manner. I believe that the initial additional outlay could result in long term savings and a general improvement in the aesthetics in those areas of the city where this is a big issue.”

COUNCIL MEETING 24 JULY 2019

MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR MURPHY

Amendment from Councillor Seaton to be moved as follows:

"Council notes the recent launch of the Council for Fair Tax Declaration from the Fair Tax Mark-~~W~~ which commits cities, towns and districts to pursuing exemplary tax conduct in their affairs, requires greater transparency from suppliers' and calls on the EU and UK governments to review legislation and support greater powers for the exclusion of tax dodgers from public procurement.

Council believes that we should seek to ensure that Peterborough City Council consider the companies ethics and how they pay the tax (as well as value for money and quality of service provided) when undertaking procurement.

Council notes:

- The UK Government has taken steps to tackle the issue of tax avoidance and evasion by issuing Procurement Policy Note 03/14 which applies to all government contracts over £5m.
- New regulations issued in 2015 required public bodies, including councils, to ask procurement qualification questions for tenders over £173,000 for service contracts and £4m for works contracts.

Council ~~resolves to approve the Councils for Fair Tax Declaration~~ and pledges to lead by example and demonstrate good practice. Further Council calls for urgent reform of law to enable municipalities to revise their procurement policies and better penalise poor tax conduct and reward good tax conduct.

Council undertakes to:

- Approve the Councils for Fair Tax Declaration.
- Revise procurement policy to ask bidders for Council contracts to account for their past tax record and to self-certify that they are fully tax-compliant in line with central Government practise, applying to contracts of the size specified above.
- Ask Cabinet to publicise this policy and to report on its implementation annually for the next three years to Audit Committee.
Formally report back to Council after that period to seek renewal or revisal of the policy."

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