



STROUD DISTRICT LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

<http://lsp.stroud.gov.uk>

Meeting held on Friday 7 June 2019
Council Chamber, Ebley Mill

Present:

Sue Bailey	Sue Bailey Consulting	Will Mansell	The Grace Network
Janice Banks (Vice Chair)	Gloucestershire Rural Community Council	Helen March	Stroud District Youth Council Chair
Max Comfort	Social Enterprise & WCCG	Kathy O'Leary	Chief Executive, Stroud District Council
Cllr Doina Cornell	Leader, Stroud District Council	David Owen	Chief Executive, GFirst Local Enterprise Partnership
David Drew	MP for Stroud Constituency	Chris Pockett	Renishaw PLC
Helen Edwards	NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group	Barbara Pond	Gloucestershire Rural Community Council
Ben Falconer	Corporate Communications Manager, SDC	Pamela Tawse	Uplands Care Service
Emily Gravestock	UK Space Agency	Dr Roma Walker	Stroud Hospital League of Friends
Les Haines MBE	Voluntary & Community Sector Forum	Russell Warner	Federation of Small Businesses
Richard Kerry	Station Manager, Stroud District Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service		

Apologies and absent:

Geoff Beckerleg	Chamber of Commerce, Stroud	David McAuley	Chief Executive, OPENhouse
Inspector Sarah Blake	Gloucestershire Constabulary	David Nairn	Fluid Transfer
Ellis Cope	Cope Sales & Marketing	Alison Robinson	Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils
Cllr Stephen Davies	County Councillor and District Councillor	Ali Russell	Chief Executive, Longfield (Hospice care for the Cotswolds)
Rob Fountain	Age UK Gloucestershire	Carol Stubbs	Job Centre Plus, Gloucestershire & West of England District
William Frazer	National Farmers Union	Sgt Jackie Weller	Gloucestershire Constabulary
Neil Grecian	Mayor of Dursley	Beth Whittaker (Chair)	Stroud Businesswomen's Network
Kevin Hamblin	South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (SGS)	Margaret Wilcox OBE	Gloucestershire County Council
Mary Hutton	NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group		

Guests & Support Officers:

Barry Wyatt, Director of Development, Stroud District Council	Steve Miles, Senior Youth Officer
Hannah Emery, Stroud District Council	

1. Welcome, introductions, apologies

The Vice Chair welcomed everyone to the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill. A number of apologies had been received and a new member, Richard Kerry the Station Manager of Stroud District Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Services was welcomed to the meeting.

The Vice Chair advised that the theme of the meeting was looking to the future and Stroud District Council priorities with the focus on working together to achieve more.

2. SDC Corporate Delivery Plan and Key Actions for 2019-20

Councillor Doina Cornell, Leader of Stroud District Council and the Council's Chief Executive Kathy O'Leary gave a presentation on the Council's key actions for 2019 – 20.

The 5 key priorities of the Council are:

- Economy – help create a sustainable and vibrant economy that works for all
- Affordable Housing – Provide affordable, energy-efficient homes for our diverse and changing population
- Environment – Help the community minimise its carbon footprint, adapt to climate change and recycle more
- Health & Wellbeing – Promote the health and wellbeing of our communities and work with others to deliver the public health agenda
- Delivery – provide value for money to our taxpayers and high quality services to our customers

Key achievements since the Corporate Delivery Plan was published in 2018 include:

- Economy - Awarded £890,000 development stage Lottery Funding to progress the £23m Stonehouse to Saul link on the Stroudwater Canal
- Affordable Housing - Successfully lobbied to lift the Housing Revenue Account debt cap to allow further investment in housing stock
- Environment - In partnership with Ubico, recognised by DEFRA as highest-performing council for recycling in the South West
- Health & Wellbeing - Drive on mental health awareness and energy efficiency through the Warm and Well scheme
- Delivery – Promoted good employment practice by adopting the Modern Slavery Charter

Key Actions for 2019-20 include:

- Economy
 - Support local wealth creation and business growth through an updated procurement strategy with opportunities to spend locally. Continue to allocate business rate pilot funds to support local businesses as well as supporting Avon Mutual Co-operative bank and investment in electric/hybrid council vehicles and charging points across the district.
 - Progress and deliver redevelopment of Brimscombe Port
 - Submit a bid to National Lottery Heritage Fund to restore the canal link Stonehouse – Saul
- Affordable Housing
 - Adopt the Housing Revenue Account 5-year delivery plan
 - Bring reactive maintenance in house to improve service and efficiency
- Environment
 - develop an action plan with partners to incorporate the commitment to becoming a carbon neutral district by 2030
 - Support community groups to phase out single use plastics and reduce use

- The official launch of Stroud District Action on Plastic Group is at the Council Offices on the 1 July 2019
- Health and wellbeing
 - adopt a new Health and wellbeing plan to guide Council service delivery
 - Implement the first year of the Council's Older People's Housing Strategy and agree a long-term investment and management plan for Stratford Park
 - Review the leisure options provided at Stratford Park and commit to holding a weekly Park Run
- Delivery
 - build more effective partnerships and develop a shared agenda with communities and town and parish councils
 - Develop a clear vision and digital strategy and explore opportunities for income generation

[Corporate Delivery Plan and Key Actions for 2019-20 presentation](#)

[Corporate Delivery Plan and Key Actions for 2019-20](#)

[Stroud District Council Corporate Delivery Plan 2018-2022](#)

Discussion points included:

- Whether any work was being done to direct those using the canal and canal path to visit Stroud Town Centre and whether canal boats will be able to moor close to the Town Centre and a suggested consultation with users of the canal. The Council is currently working on a comprehensive strategy for the canal which will incorporate how it can connect with the Town Centre.
- With regard to local wealth building, it is not always possible to spend money locally and may deter other authorities or organisations from spending within the district.

3. Towards a Carbon Neutral District by 2030

Barry Wyatt, Director of Development Services provided a presentation on the Council's commitment to becoming a Carbon Neutral district by 2030 (CN2030). It was highlighted that carbon neutral is not the same as zero carbon. Zero carbon is producing no carbon emissions; carbon neutral is balancing the amount of carbon released with an equivalent amount offset.

A climate emergency was announced by the Council's administration on the 16 November 2018, a motion was then agreed at the Council's Environment Committee on the 13 December and at full Council on the 24 January 2019. The motion outlined that the Council would agree an action plan and strategy for achieving CN2030, ensure coverage in all new policies and strategies, investigate funding and work with partners.

A report to set out the actions was adopted at the [Environment Committee](#) on the 6 June 2019. The actions include:

- Ensuring the Local Plan reflects the national policy in respect of energy standards for new homes
- Identifying potential contribution that could be achieved from the further roll-out of renewable technologies and low carbon heat
- Implementing the Council's Capital programme for investment in cycle paths/greenways
- Contributing to work at county level to achieve zero carbon standards for new housing developments
- Engaging an energy agency to provide community retrofit advice and support
- Aim to work with the LSP to take a cross-sector lead in supporting the delivery of CN2030
- Commission work to define the District's baseline carbon emissions
- Work with GFirst/Local Enterprise Partnership to establish sources of funding to support the implementation of the Gloucestershire Sustainable Energy Strategy

It was stressed that this commitment cannot be achieved by the District Council on its own. It is a significant challenge and will not work with a top-down approach for the Council to set the policy on how to contribute to reducing carbon emissions. Instead, the Council's aim is to work with communities and establish new partnerships to find a way to achieve this as a whole district.

The Council is keen to form a partnership board with members of the LSP to support the CN2030 commitment and LSP members were asked if they were interested in joining the board.

Members supported setting up an LSP board to contribute to the CN2030 commitment. A proposal of the set-up and terms of reference of the board would be brought to the LSP at the next meeting on the 6 September 2019.

[Towards a Carbon Neutral District by 2030 presentation](#)
[Progressing Carbon Neutral 2030 Environment Committee Report](#)

Barry Wyatt, Director of Development Services
Barry.wyatt@stroud.gov.uk
01453 754210

Discussion points included:

- Consideration that bulky waste collections could be done differently which will reduce emissions. If a social enterprise were able to take this on, they could provide the bulky waste items to those in need.
- The Council should provide more comprehensive data so those who have ideas can meaningfully interact with the Council.
- UK Space Agency is currently working with other authorities using satellites to identify where electric vehicle charging points can be best placed and to find illegal dumping of waste.
- 11 Parish and Town Councils within Stroud District have also recently declared a climate emergency.
- Stroud District Youth Council can contribute through the 9 local youth forums throughout the district.
- The Council is aiming to recruit an officer to lead on CN2030 who will be the key contact for communities and organisations to put forward their ideas and discuss collaboratively.

4. Partners' updates

The partner updates were focused on reducing carbon emissions.

Max Comfort - Social Enterprise and WCCG

- Encouraged members to read *The Uninhabitable Earth* by David Wallace-Wells for an insight into climate change and what is happening to the planet.
- Stroud Commonwealth owns and develops property for community benefit and has been doing a lot of work around Community Land Trust (CLT) particularly in the north and east of the district. Grants are available for community-led housing and now is a good time to apply. The current housing crisis is a direct result of the commodification of land; CLTs take land out of private ownership into community ownership.

Stroud Hospital League of Friends

- Limited on what the organisation can do to reduce carbon emissions. Within the investment and people portfolio there has been an effort to remove investments in companies with high carbon emissions and invest in companies using renewable energy and sustainability in projects to reduce single-use plastic. At future quarterly meetings they will be discussing what others are doing and the steps they can take to make an impact.

Grace Network

- Stroud District Furniture Bank contribute to the environment in many ways by recycling furniture; they are interested in engaging more with the community regarding climate change.
- Stroud District Furniture Bank are currently looking for a new site as they are 9 months away from being homeless. Looking for empty warehouse or land for sale or help to find a new venue in the north of the district.

www.thegracenetWORK.org.uk

GFirst Local Enterprise Partnership

- SGS Berkeley Green Technical College is to be the new home of Bloodhound Land Speed Record (LSR). The LSR team will focus on completing development of the jet and rocket-powered car.
- Gloucestershire Growth Hub Network has invested £500k in SGS College to manage the forthcoming Stroud Growth Hub, to be housed at SGS Stroud Campus.
- Economic growth and protecting the environment can occur together.
- Focusing on the skills agenda due to challenges around skills provision as an effort to address the skills gap. There is a lack of available talent in Gloucestershire and businesses are struggling to recruit.
- Within Stroud, the junctions on the M5 need upgrading for current and future need, trains from Stroud and Stonehouse station need to be faster with a more regular service into London. These are issues which the LSP and partners can be collectively lobbying for.

UK Space Agency

- The UK Space Agency is currently working on the 50th anniversary of the moon landing and encouraging people to share their memories and how it has inspired them.
- Working with NHS England to explore what satellites can do for the health service.

Les Haines

- Nailsworth Youth and Community Enterprise is based in Nailsworth Subscription Rooms which was built in 1852. The building is difficult to manage and expensive to run so they have been working on insulation in the roof and sound proofing in and out of the building and are considering PV panels in the new roof.
- A way to reduce emissions would be to allow work vans to visit the recycling centre at Horsley without having to pay a fee as it results in private vehicles making multiple trips to the tip instead.

www.nailsworthsubrooms.org.uk/nyce

Stroud District Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service

- Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service have recently recruited a new Chief Fire Officer.
- Recently undergone a HMIC fire inspection visit and awaiting outcome.
- Currently viewing the smaller fleet vehicles and considering electric vehicles.
- Encouraged consideration for water rescue capability within the canal development as increased use increases risk. Access for emergency vehicles and life rings need to be considered.

Renishaw

- 95% of Renishaw products are exported so it is difficult for the company to reduce emissions in this aspect, but they are very environmentally active and are engaging with Stroud District Council on the CN2030 project and District Councillor Catherine Braun on the reduction of Single Use Plastic project.
- Most of the Renishaw buildings have Solar PV and they are considering hydro and wind power for appropriate sites.
- With regard to Single Use Plastic, they have introduced small and major initiatives. This requires a cultural change which takes time in large organisations. All plastic cups have been removed from their sites and there are no individual waste bins. When it comes to transporting and exporting equipment they have to find a balance between plastic packaging and ensuring that the equipment is protected.
- 23% of staff use a car share scheme.
- Two profit warnings have been issued in the last 3 months.
- Currently have 40 UK job vacancies and 130 work experience placements starting in July, these are not only commercial placements but also in HR and marketing.
- The Schools Outreach programme is growing and they have recruited 68-70 graduates.
- Renishaw site development at New Mills is due for completion in October 2019.

Ben Falconer – SDC Corporate Communications Manager

- Encouraging Council support with communications. Communication works better from the ground up rather than the Council issuing advice or direction.
- SDC's current outlets are through SDC News, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and work has been done to develop these.

Stroud District Youth Council

- Passionate about climate change and currently setting up a project team to develop initiatives.
- Recently participated in the School Climate Strike.
- Transport remains an issue, currently working with Child Youth Friendly Glos in identifying transport possibilities and improvements through consultation. Transport has an impact on everyday wellbeing as the big issue is access to sexual health and mental health clinics.

Federation of Small Businesses

- With regard to climate change, some small businesses are trying, some are looking for help and some are leading the way. Businesses take opportunities as they arise.
- Businesses are finding the procurement process very difficult and some of the boxes to tick are challenging and not relevant which deters small businesses from using the procurement path.

Sue Bailey

- Encouraging small businesses to make changes to be carbon neutral is going to be very difficult and communications must be catered to different sized businesses.
- Active Gloucestershire are encouraging sustainability and climate change and are working on a whole-system approach.

www.activegloucestershire.org

Uplands Care Service

- Recently visited Iceland to look at their midwifery and hospitals. Icelandic hospitals have a Carbon Neutral policy unlike hospitals in the UK where there appears to be a lot of avoidable waste and packaging.
- Uplands Care Service is a small local charity providing day care for older people who often have dementia and other problems. The future aim is to have centre open for 7 days a week with a hydrotherapy pool.
- There is more integration of health and social care and communication has improved resulting in more positive outcomes.
- We have been working on a project with Bristol University about communicating with people with dementia, and hope to become involved in another project with Southampton University involving Compassion in Care.

David Drew – MP for Stroud Constituency

- Recent casework has been heavily focused on tenants being forced out of private renting at short notice and alternative housing is not available.
- There is inconsistency in the Universal Credit policies which leaves people with no money for months and the implementation is causing problems and hardship.

Gloucestershire Rural Community Council

- Currently working with a number of organisations and experts to facilitate support to host a community led housing hub and applying for national funding.
- Working on a housing needs survey.
- Planning application for affordable housing needs to have a higher level of sustainability and higher standards of insulations.
- Working with DEFRA to bring forward funding to refurbish post war village halls. 17 community halls are interested in accessing the funding.

Please send any requests for future agenda items to Hannah Emery, hannah.emery@stroud.gov.uk

Future meeting dates

2019

Friday 6th September
Friday 6th December

Council Chamber, Ebley Mill
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All meetings are 9.00am for a 9.15am start, with due finish 11.30am