



STROUD DISTRICT LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

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

Meeting held on Friday 4th June 2021
Online meeting

Theme for this meeting: Building Back Better

Present:

Carole Stubbs (Chair)	Job Centre Plus, Gloucestershire & West of England District	Kathy O'Leary	Chief Executive, SDC
Russell Warner (Vice Chair)	Chair, Federation of Small Businesses Stroud and Cotswold Branch	Cllr Doina Cornell	Leader, Stroud District Council
Ben Stone	Stroud District Youth Council	Beth Whittaker	Stroud Business Women's Network
Fred Barker	Director, Transition Stroud	Max Comfort	Director, Stroud Commonwealth
Rachael Hughes (on behalf of Helen Edwards)	NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group	Rachael Lythgoe (on behalf of Ben Falconer)	Corporate Communications Officer, SDC
Rachel Brain	Climate Change Officer, SDC	Rich Young	Chief Executive Officer, Gloucestershire Rural Community Council
Sue Bailey	Sue Bailey Consulting	Symon Ackroyd	Mayor of Dursley

Apologies and absent:

Alison Robinson	Chief Officer, GAPTC	Alison Truphet	Executive Director, New Ventures Trust
Anna Herbert	Chief Executive Officer, OPENhouse	Ben Falconer	Communications Manager, SDC
Chris Pockett	Head of Communications, Renishaw	Cllr Catherine Braun	Deputy Leader of Council
Cllr Stephen Davies	Leader of the Opposition SDC & Gloucestershire	David Nairn	Director, Fluid Transfer
David Owen	CE, Gfirst Local Enterprise partnership	David Tate	Director, Silverwood UK
Dr Roma Walker	Stroud League of Friends	Dr Stuart Wilson	Head Teacher - Marling
Eilis Cope	Director, Cope Sales and Marketing Ltd	Emily Gravestock	Head of Applications Strategy, UK Space Agency
Geoffrey Beckerleg	Chamber of Trade and Commerce, Stroud	Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP	MP, The Cotswolds

Helen Edwards	NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group	Kevin Hamblin	Group Chief Executive Principal, South Gloucestershire and Stroud College (SGS)
Mark McShane	Head Teacher, Stroud High School	Martin Hughes	CEO, Lilian Faithfull Care
Mary Hutton	Accountable Officer, NHS Glos Clinical Learning Group	Paul Cruise	Gloucestershire Constabulary, Stroud Inspector
Rob Fountain	CEO, Age UK Gloucestershire	Sarah Scott	Commissioning Director Adults, Gloucestershire County Council
Sarah Telford	CE, Citizens Advice Stroud & Cotswolds	Simon Bernstein	Chief Executive, Longfield
Siobhan Baillie	MP for Stroud	Steve Miles	Senior Youth Officer, SDC
Tim Clapp	Local Risk Manager Stroud and the Cotswolds, Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue	Tom Woods	MD Greiner Bio
Will Mansell	The Grace Network	William Frazer	Group Secretary Gloucestershire, National Farmers' Union

Guests and Support Officers

Tom Ridley	Interim Planning Strategy Manager, SDC	Dave Marshall	Canal Project Manager
Sarah Turner	LSP Co-ordinator, SDC		

1. Welcome, introductions, apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone, a number of apologies had been received and noted.

Carole Stubbs, Employer Advisor at Job Centre Plus, has taken over from Janice Banks as the LSP Chair. Russell Warner, Chair of the Federation of Small Businesses Stroud and Cotswold Branch, has been appointed as the LSP Vice Chair.

2. Local Plan – Tom Ridley – Stroud District Council (presentation circulated)

Tom gave a presentation on Stroud District Council's Local Plan and 'Building Back Better.' If anyone has any questions on the Local Plan contact information is available on the website.

Comments made:

The LSP thanked Tom for his presentation and said it was very helpful.

3. 2030 Strategy – Rachel Brain – Stroud District Council (presentation circulated)

Rachel gave a presentation on Stroud District Council's strategy to become carbon neutral by 2030. There are 13 themes and 7 key priorities with 75 commitments and 25 'stretch' goals in total. SDC have recruited a 2030 Action Officer to develop and roll out the strategy. A core 2030 Group has been established and its membership aims to achieve representation of the district. If anyone on the LSP would like to join there is capacity.

Comments made:

'Thank you. The strategy is forward thinking.'

4. **Canal – Dave Marshall – Stroud District Council** (presentation circulated)

Dave gave a presentation on The Cotswold Canals Partnership linking the Thames and Severn rivers. 6 miles of the canal is to be restored between Thrupp and Stonehouse with £137million investment, including £8.9m from the Heritage Lottery Fund for phase 1B. There has been massive support from communities, volunteering and total political support.

It was noted that Dave is retiring from SDC at the end of June.

Rachael Lythgoe promoted the Cotswold Canals Connected social media accounts which can be followed and posts shared on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Comments made:

'Thank you very much – it's so interesting and there is real enjoyment.'

The LSP congratulated Dave Marshall on many successful years at SDC and thanked him for his work and effort on the canal project.

5. **Future meetings format**

The format of future meetings was discussed and three options were proposed: Teams, face-to-face, or a mixture (two each per year).

It was noted that Teams meetings are easier as there is no travel time and due to current social distancing requirements SDC's Council Chamber capacity is only 26 people.

The LSP were asked to give a show of hands for the preferred meeting format, with 4 members voting for Teams meetings and 1 member voting for face-to-face meetings.

It was agreed that the September LSP meeting would be a Teams meeting and the December meeting format will be confirmed at a later date.

6. **Partners Updates**

Stroud District Council: Elections were successfully held during Covid and a new administration has been elected that is a combination of Labour, Liberal Democrats and Green. The new administration will work in a Committee system rather than in Cabinets. Half of the new councillors are new so may require additional support and assistance. This is a shorter electoral term until 2024 and the Councillors plan to engage with the community as much as possible.

SDC Communications: [SoGlos](#) is an events and business platform that is promoting the return of High Streets and visitors. SDC have sponsored hot spots and two promotional films on their website. The [Discover Stroud District website](#) has been updated and SDC will be putting information on lamp posts and in empty shop windows over summer and Christmas.

Stroud Businesswomen's Network: Planning their first face-to-face meeting following 21 June at the Sub Rooms to look at business meetings. Emily Gravestock from the UK Space Agency gave a very inspiring talk.

Paganhill Community Group have received funding from SDC for a part-time manager to support the numerous volunteers at the Food Hub.

Federation of Small Businesses Stroud and Cotswold Branch: Some small businesses are booming. There is a problem with candidate skills matching current job vacancies following Covid and Brexit e.g. hospitality, IT, cyber, building sectors.

Russell raised a query about the Western Gateway about Stroud's involvement, Kathy O'Leary commented that Cheltenham Borough Council is representing Gloucestershire districts at the Gateway and Doina will liaise with this representative and keep the LSP informed.

Stroud Commonwealth: Stroud Commonwealth are still running the Exchange. The tenants deserted during Covid but they are very loyal and coming back. Going to expand in October.

Mayor of Dursley: The Dursley Social Enterprise Hub are recruiting for an Enterprise Hub Manager to inspire and support the development of small business in Cam and Dursley. This role will report into the Grace Network CEO.

GRCC: Rich Young is the new GRCC Chief Executive who has taken over from Janice. GRCC have appointed two new staff to drive GlosHub, a community-led housing initiative funded by Homes for England. They are an infrastructure organisation therefore want to strategically partner with the public sector.

Transition Stroud: Currently enabling 17 community climate action groups to promote behavioural change in areas such as energy, transport, trees, etc. Convening meetings of a district-wide online forum for representatives from local climate action groups to share information and learning and discuss potential initiatives. Working on an electric car club project. Linking with the 2030 Strategy core group.

Sue Bailey Consulting: There is a mismatch between current job vacancies and skills – driving jobs, hospitality, care sector. There is a real issue to recruit currently, and as furlough tails off some redundancies are anticipated in the district. The Kickstart scheme is going well and FSB are promoting this.

JobCentre Plus: There has been a bigger drive for Kickstart Scheme jobs and youth employment. This initiative is a 6 month paid job with a local employer, funded by the government, for 16-24 year olds. A good example is Ecotricity who have set up one permanent full time job through this scheme. However, there are also older people looking for work.

7. Any other business

It was suggested that a representative from [The Door](#), a charity aimed at unlocking potential and providing opportunities for young people, could be invited to speak at a future LSP meeting.

Next Meeting

Date: **Friday 10 September 2021**

Venue: Online Meeting

2021 Meeting dates

3 December