

Council

Thursday, 24 January 2019

Responses to Motions

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Motions

a) Council Climate Change Motion

Councillor Cathy Martyn will move:

Councillor Donachie will second:

This Council recognises that:

1. Climate change is a reality and a world-wide effort is essential to cut greenhouse gas emissions in order to avoid a catastrophic temperature rise of more than 2 degrees.
2. The UK has a world-first Climate Change Act with a legally-binding target of an 80 per cent emissions cut by 2050, and shorter-term national carbon budgets ensuring year-on-year emissions cuts.
3. Local authorities have a big say in how we heat and power our homes and how we get around, and are vital to building low carbon communities and meeting our national climate commitments.
4. It makes good economic sense to continue to take action now to drastically cut greenhouse gas emissions. If we delay acting on emissions, it will only mean more radical intervention in the future at greater cost, and larger impacts on society.

Notes that:

1. The Government has made a commitment to be the first generation to leave the environment in a better state than we inherited it and we welcome the Environment (Principles and Governance) Bill, the first in over twenty years, which will be an essential step towards this goal. The Government has pledged to support increased biodiversity and thriving plants and wildlife and to continue to clean up our air and our water, creating a healthier environment.
2. This Administration will continue to commit to cutting down unnecessary resource use and waste, reducing our impact on the world and shaping a more efficient, sustainable and competitive economy. Nothing is more important than demonstrating our responsibilities to the next generation. Tackling climate change is an essential to those responsibilities. We must rise to the challenge
3. Taking action now can also help to achieve long-term, sustainable economic growth from a low-carbon economy. Benefits of the development of green industries in the town include the potential for create well-paid, high-skilled employment locally, regionally and nationally

Requests that the Leader of the Council:

1. Calls on the Government to provide additional powers and resources to ensure Swindon Borough Council can help deliver on national targets limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C as per the Paris agreement.
2. Reinforces the Council's commitment to Pledge 2.
3. Request the Cabinet to consider adopting a policy where all future Key Decisions are considered for their alignment to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidance.

b) Domestic Abuse Motion

Councillor Mary Martin will move:

Councillor Bob Wright with second:

This Council recognises that:

1. In 2017-18, there were more than 5,000 reported incidents of Domestic Abuse reported to the Police in Swindon, approximately 2,500 of which were recorded as crimes. There have been more than 300 high risk cases reported to Swindon MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Conference) which involved 680 children in those families. The cost to organisations across Swindon is approximately £19M per year.

It is understood that many incidents of Domestic Abuse go unreported and the figure for actual incidents of DA is higher than the reported figure.

2. Anyone can be a victim of Domestic Abuse, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, socio-economic status, sexuality or background.
3. Domestic Abuse can manifest itself in many ways including; emotional, physical, sexual, psychological and financial.

Notes that:

1. The Council is already engaged in awareness and education around Domestic Abuse including the work carried out through the Community Safety Partnership Board to increase the local communities and organisations understanding and awareness of the extent and impact of Domestic Abuse.
2. The Council places a lot of emphasis on prevention and early intervention and is committed to working with partners to seek resolutions to reduce the prevalence of domestic abuse and to provide support for children and young people whose lives are affected by domestic abuse.

Requests that the Cabinet Member for Public Safety:

1. Continues to robustly adopt a zero tolerance approach to any form of domestic violence and abuse, and strongly reaffirms our steadfast commitment to tackle domestic violence and abuse through taking a public health approach with our multi-agency Domestic Abuse Strategy and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, supported by awareness campaigns.
2. Encourages anybody from any background who is suffering from the impact of domestic violence and abuse to come forward and get the help and support they need from the extensive range of partners working collaboratively with Swindon Borough Council including the police, health services, schools and other key partner organisations such as the 24 hour English National Domestic Violence Helpline, Swindon Women's Aid, Citizens Advice Bureau, Victim Support and Galop.
3. Resolves to continue to promote awareness across the Borough to ensure residents, both adults and children, understand what constitutes domestic violence and abuse and who they can go to locally to access support.
4. Welcomes the Final Report and Recommendations of the Domestic Abuse Task Group to the Adult's Health, Social Care and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HHAOSC) in April 2019 and ensures that the recommendations contained in the report receive the weight of consideration due to such an important subject.
5. Ensures that the Swindon and Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership (CSP) leads in continuing to deliver a high level of service to support those who experience Domestic Abuse, with a particular focus on early intervention, vulnerability and health connections.
6. Ensures that the CSP considers how best to promote engagement & work to include wider partnership, the private sector and the Ministry Of Defence (especially the Army).
7. Be asked through the CSP to work collaboratively with Wiltshire across the wider system building on the current successful provision of the Swindon based Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) service within both the primary care General Practitioner setting and the secondary care Great Western Hospital setting.
8. Ensure that the outcomes of the meeting between Swindon CSP, Wiltshire CSP and the Police, which will take place in the near future, be taken to the CSP to ensure that any request for relevant action is discussed and followed up.
9. Ask the Community Safety Partnership to consider asking education providers in Swindon to draw up a local education policy to address equality and respect, together with a means of measuring changes in behaviour & attitude and to consider whether the Community Safety Partnership would want anything added in to such a policy.

c) Land for Development Motion

Mover – Councillor Chris Watts

Seconded – Councillor Jane Milner-Barry

This Council:

- Reaffirms its commitment to protecting allocated “Open Space” and “Strategic Green Corridor” parcels of land as defined and universally agreed upon within the Local Plan 2015.
- Reasserts, builds upon and prioritises the importance of adequate and strategic green and open space as a vital component part to delivering a framework to contribute to health and wellbeing when considering the next revision of the Local Plan.
- Notes Central Swindon South Parish Council’s, known as South Swindon Parish Council, request for the Council to transfer to the Parish Council the parcels of land set out below on 99 year leases to protect them from potential development.

Site description: Lakeside - shelaa id: S0388

Site description: Land north of Coate roundabout - shelaa id: S0256
(Oldlands Walk)

Site description: Land east of 261 Marlborough Road - shelaa id: S0288

- Request that the Leader of the Council brings forward a report to Cabinet outlining how this request, and similar Parish Council lease requests can be agreed through a transparent mechanism to protect open space.

d) Toothill Open Space Motion

Mover – Councillor Steph Exell

This Council:

- Notes the concerns of Toothill residents regarding the allocation of sites within Toothill that were on the Council’s Strategic Housing and Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA).
- Notes that a Cabinet Member Decision Note from the Deputy Leader of the Council had been consulted on proposing to dispose of four sites along Bodiam Drive to the private sector for housing through the Swindon Housing Company.
- Notes that a petition has been started both in paper copy and online that has

obtained 573 signatures calling on the Council to protect the open spaces along Bodiam Drive and across Toothill and not to sell them off for development.

- Welcomes the announcement from the relevant Cabinet Member that sites along Bodiam Drive will be removed from the updated SHELAA, but is concerned that there are still sites in Toothill that are green spaces that have not been removed.
- Is concerned that there has been no announcement from the Deputy Leader of the Council that his proposal to sell-off parcels of land for development have been scrapped.
- Requests the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning to remove all green spaces in Toothill from the SHELAA and requests the Deputy Leader of the Council to formally withdraw the Cabinet Member Decision Note proposing to dispose of four parcels of land along Bodiam Drive for development from the private sector and to give Ward Councillors all sites being considered for development through the Housing Company.

AMENDMENT

Mover – Cllr Russell Holland

Seconder – Cllr Gary Sumner

Delete and insert as appropriate so that the Motion if amended would read:

This Council:

- Notes the concerns of Toothill residents regarding the allocation of sites within Toothill that were on the Council's Strategic Housing and Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA).
- Notes that a Cabinet Member Decision Note from the Deputy Leader of the Council had been consulted on proposing to dispose of four sites along Bodiam Drive to the private sector for housing through the Swindon Housing Company.
- Notes that a petition has been started both in paper copy and online that has obtained 573 signatures calling on the Council to protect the open spaces along Bodiam Drive and across Toothill and not to sell them off for development.
- Welcomes the announcement from the relevant Cabinet Member that sites along Bodiam Drive will be removed from the updated SHELAA.

- Recognises that Swindon has a need for additional housing but respects the rights of Ward Councillors to make representations concerning any proposed development in their Ward.
- Requests that the petition is taken into account in respect of any decision making concerning Bodiam Drive together with any representations from Ward Councillors

e) Great Western Hospital Brighter Futures Motion

Mover – Councillor Jim Robbins

Seconder – Councillor Claire Ellis

This Council:

- Notes the successful fundraising projects held in towns and cities around the country where sculptures are decorated and then installed for visitors to see as part of a trail, and then auctioned off for charity. Such projects include the Elephant Parade in London, the SuperLambBanana in Liverpool and the Wallace and Gromit trail in Bristol.
- Notes the outstanding efforts by the Great Western Hospital (GWH) Foundation Trust Brighter Futures Appeal and the people of Swindon to fundraise £2.7m for the planned Radiotherapy centre at the hospital.
- Further notes that there are a number of excellent artists in the town, such as David Bent, Ken White and all those who contribute to Swindon Open Studios.
- Asks the Leader of the Council present a report to Cabinet considering the options of how the Council can organise Swindon's own trail with sculptures decorated by local artists and use it to raise money for the GWH Brighter Futures appeal."