

Council

Monday 17 July 2023

Motions

Motion Proposer: Councillor Sean Woodcock

Motion Seconder: TBA

Topic: Cost of Living

Motion

"This council notes the ongoing pressure on the budgets of local residents and calls on the Executive to draw up a cost-of-living action plan within 100 days."

Motion Proposer: Councillor Nigel Simpson

Motion Seconder: TBA

Topic: Rail Crossing at Sandy Lane, Yarnton

Motion

"Cherwell District Council has acknowledged the Climate Change Emergency.

A major contributor to excessive CO2 output are unnecessary car journeys. The proposal by Network Rail to shut the vital link between Yarnton and Kidlington by closing the rail crossing at Sandy Lane will result in a significant increase in carbon emissions.

Permanent closure would see drivers forced to use Frieze Way or Langford Lane resulting in an average extra distance travelled of nearly two miles per journey.

Based on current trends this is estimated to result in an extra 4750 miles travelled on weekdays and an additional 3800 at weekends, resulting in 1.5 million unnecessary miles per year.

The cost of such surplus miles in money is hundreds of thousands of pounds to residents and businesses who rely on their cars; and extra pollution in the form of many tonnes of carbon emissions, contrary to the Council's environmental objectives.

This would go directly against the council's ambition to reduce CO2 output generated by transport and very significantly degrade the network of contacts that currently underpins the ancient and vital community nexus around the parishes of Yarnton, Begbroke, Kidlington and Gosford and Water Eaton.

The Council therefore asks the Executive to give careful consideration to keeping this vital link open, especially knowing that Oxford University Developments are proposing to fund and build a new road bridge on their site as part of their overall vision."

Motion Proposer: Councillor Nigel Simpson

Motion Seconder: TBA

Topic: Active Lifestyle

Motion

"Cherwell District Council continues to excel in it's delivery of award winning active lifestyle programs including Move Together, You Move and Fast which are recognised nationally as class leading initiatives. We are all aware of the benefits, both mentally and physically that these projects have provided to numerous residents in Cherwell especially in our most deprived areas. The Council congratulates all team members for their ongoing commitment to deliver such positive impacts to our communities.

Featured below are just some of the positive impacts of the Move Together Program -

- 1500 people with Long Term Conditions on programme
- Cherwell have 37% of referrals across all the districts
- 85% reported that their mobility improved
- 72% reported that their ability to self-care improved
- 64% reported that their pain levels improved or stayed the same
- 69% reported that their levels of anxiety or depression improved

The Council therefore resolves to ask the Executive to consider committing both physical resources and financial backing to not only these current schemes but to always be looking at future initiatives to keep Cherwell residents both active and healthy."

Motion Proposer: Councillor Andrew Crichton

Motion Seconder: Councillor Mark Cherry

Topic: Tenants Charter

Motion

"While our own tenants will soon benefit from a Tenants' Charter, this council recognises its key role in supporting tenants in both the private and social rented sectors. We therefore call on the Executive to strengthen this Tenants' Charter by reiterating the basic rights of tenants across Cherwell, and the responsibilities of all landlords.

And that alongside this, it will run a public awareness campaign of the Charter encouraging tenants to be aware of their rights and of where local sources of advice and support can be found.”

Motion Proposer: Councillor Ian Middleton

Motion Seconder: TBA

Topic: NHS Anniversary

Motion

“The 75th anniversary of the founding of the NHS has recently been celebrated, recognising the outstanding achievement represented by the setting up of a ground-breaking health and welfare system shortly after World War II.

Since then the service has gone through numerous changes and has risen to increasing challenges, not least a global pandemic where all members of the service went above and beyond the call of duty in the face of unprecedented threats to their own lives and those of their patients.

On its 75th birthday the NHS continues to struggle to cope amidst staff shortages, funding crises, crumbling infrastructure and a growing elderly population. All this puts additional strain on a much-loved service that is still the envy of the world in terms of universal free healthcare at the point of use.

This council acknowledges the outstanding achievements of the NHS and applauds and thanks all those who work, and have worked, so diligently within the service, often against the odds, to keep us all healthy and cared for throughout our entire lives. We further affirm our support and thanks for all health workers in the Cherwell District.

We also call on the current and all future governments to ensure that the NHS remains where it has always been for most of our lives : at our side and on our side, fully funded and supported to ensure it will still be here in 2048 to celebrate its 100th anniversary.”

Motion Proposer: Councillor Ian Middleton

Motion Seconder: TBA

Topic: Littering

Motion

“Littering in Cherwell is reaching epidemic proportions, particularly in rural areas, where hedgerows, verges and drainage ditches are becoming clogged with food wrappers, drinks bottles and other detritus, often discarded by passing motorists. Another perennial problem is that of dog mess bags left hanging on trees or simply dropped on the floor which adds plastic waste to the problem of dog fouling in recreational areas.

CDC already encourages local litter-picks and our recycling and waste team do a fantastic job of dealing with major issues like fly-tipping and general household waste. But what is also needed is a concerted campaign to highlight the nuisance of general littering and make it socially unacceptable to simply drop rubbish in towns and villages or on our roads and highways. These places should not be being treated as dustbins, impacting the environment and increasing the demand on our recycling teams to clear up the mess.

We therefore request that officers investigate the possibility of a 'Keep Cherwell Tidy' campaign to bolster initiatives already in place and to ideally report to the executive within 6 months.

Things to consider could include a focussed advertising strategy, increased provision of litter bins and dog mess bins, partnerships with food and beverage retailers to tackle the problem of discarded food and takeaway wrappers and enhanced enforcement measures for littering. We should also work with schools and colleges to foster local and civic pride in our towns, villages and green spaces amongst our young people.”