

15th July 2021



To Members of the Regeneration Working Group

You are invited to a virtual meeting of the Working Group to be held on **Thursday, 22nd July 2021** at **10am** to conduct the following business and make recommendations to the Town Clerk.



Helen Bojaniwska
Town Clerk

The meeting will be held via the Zoom meeting platform.

To attend the meeting please follow this [meeting link](#) or use ID **829 4176 2826** – password **263303**.

For more information about attending Council meeting via Zoom please refer to the [guidance on our website](#).

AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence
2. To receive declarations of interest
3. To consider requests for dispensations
4. To note arrangements for delegation of Committee responsibilities to the Town Clerk
5. To receive questions from the public
6. To note the minutes of the meeting of the Regeneration Committee on 27th May 2021, previously circulated (minutes will be formally approved by the Committee when meetings resume)
7. To receive a budget report to end May 2021
8. To receive the Project Officer's report (for information only)
9. To consider an offer from Stroud Rotary Club to "Spruce Up Stroud"
10. To receive a verbal update on the Street Spaces consultations
11. To receive a verbal progress report on applications to the "Welcome Back" fund
12. To receive a verbal progress report on the Levelling Up fund
13. To receive a verbal update on the creation of a tourism officer post

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (age, race, gender, sexual orientation, faith, marital status and disability); Crime and Disorder (Section 17); Health and Safety; and Human Rights.

BUDGET REPORT REGENERATION COMMITTEE TO MAY 2021

Expenditure	Budget	Spent	Committed	Balance
Equipment Maintenance	630	-	-	630
Christmas lights erect	7,000	-	-	7,000
Town Centre Project/cleanliness	4,500	1,476	10,331	-7,307
NDP projects	50,000	5,153	10,730	34,117
NDP Review	20,000	2,000	-	18,000
Rechargeable to SDC ⁱ	-	3,019	-	-3,019
Regeneration Committee Total	82,130	11,648	21,061	49,421

Income	Budget	Received	Balance
Community Infrastructure Levy	500	3,336	-2,836
Grants	10,000	-	10,000
Use of reserves	59,500	-	59,500
Precept	12,130	6,065	6,065
Recharges to SDC traffic management	-	-10,586	10,586
Total	82,130	-1,185	83,315

NOTES

ⁱ Charges for traffic management London Road

Project Officer's report for Regeneration Committee 22/7/2021

Commonplace consultation platform

The Commonplace platform went live on 26th June. On the same day our consultants, Street Reimagined, undertook a pop-up event from 10am-noon on the Subscription Rooms forecourt. Streets Reimagined, is currently under development and will incorporate consultation elements for the Street Spaces project. Alternative, non-digital approaches will also be made available to enable those unable to access or unfamiliar with on-line consultation to take part. Funding obtained from Locality could be used for the production and delivery of a newsletter about the NDP review and include a hard copy of the same survey on the Commonplace.

Stroud District Council Canal Corridor Strategy

A response was sent to consultants undertaking Stroud District Council's Canal Corridor Strategy. This was their first step in evidence gathering and requested information on the key issues and opportunities from the Town Council's perspective. Consultants are in the process of arranging clinics with stakeholders, including the Town Council.

Signage Project – Phase 1 Welcome and arrival signage

Full size mock ups of the signage have been produced. These were placed in situ at Parliament Street car park to allow comments from committee members, focus group members and members of the public. Manufacture lead in times have proved longer than anticipated meaning a delay in installation until July.

Ally Rood
Project Officer
21st May 2021



Spruce Up Stroud

Audit carried out in June 2021

Introduction

These are some ideas that we would carry out to help “Spruce Up Stroud” after the Covid pandemic. Some of the work proposed though, has been long outstanding and is down to the management of the town centre by the various Councils or on privately owned land.

We have not yet approached the Chamber of Trade and this is something that needs to be done to get their support and publicity.

In addition to the Stroud Rotary Club carrying out some of the suggestions, there is a limit to how much the Stroud Rotary can carry out. We would seek to run some volunteer days at different times to help out with the tasks. Local Councils would need to do some of the work suggested as it is out of our skill set.

We would approach Ecotricity, the town’s largest employer and ask if their staff would like to volunteer to help. Companies have a Social Responsibility to have policies that promote the well-being of society and the environment while lessening negative impacts on them.

Findings

- a) Clean road signage that can be reached, maximum height for us is using a 6 step ladder. Taller signs will be reported by STC and to GCC/Network Rail etc to clean
- b) Clean SDC signage in car parks if needed
- c) Tidy up flower beds - weeding, strimming etc. Stroud in Bloom could be approached to help
- d) Pick up litter – approach Cubs, Scouts, the Door Youth Project, Young Carers etc
- e) Remove weeds. This needs discussion with STC as to what the Council protocols are for weeds as just hoeing the weeds will reappear on paving slabs
- f) Sweep up area / pavements
- g) Identify graffiti and remove – see if any possibility of public art- approach Stroud College
- h) Paint street furniture and bollards in a standard colour as advised by STC. (STC to provide paint and brushes etc)

- i) Look for areas within the Town Centre where trees may be planted – ie opposite Ecotricity main building. (ownership of land is GCC) I am sure that STC has tried to get GCC to transfer the land to be used as a public space. What is the latest position of GCC? Trees could be planted that may help with holding the wall up that faces the canal. Advice on type of tree suitable would need to be obtained. (Simon Pickering has contacts)
- j) CCTV camera stands are in a need cleaning and paint – SDC
- k) A Boards: Shops and businesses have a proliferation of A boards which are placed on the highway and footpaths. Some are a danger to pedestrians and people with disabilities and people pushing prams and push chairs. There needs to be an agreed policy (GCC used to come around and remove them).
- l) Any other items that STC/SDC would like the Stroud Rotary to look at with a view of helping

Risk Assessment

We would carry out a risk assessment once we know what we are allowed and able to do.
Helen, Stroud Town Clerk said she would liaise with SDC/GCC and Network Rail.

Provision of Tools and Materials

STC have tools like litter pickers, yellow jackets, refuse sacks. We need to find out about buckets, spades, brooms etc. We would need STC to bring and collect the tools to an agreed location in the Town Centre. STC to collect the black sack when filled.

Publicity

We need the support and cooperation of all the local councils, businesses and local media, both print and online.

On certain days we would run a campaign to get Volunteers to come and help on specific projects ie litter collection, weeding, painting of bollards etc.

To highlight the amount of litter that is found on the streets we would photograph some of the rubbish collected and run a campaign with the help of SNJ to try and reduce the amount of litter deposited. Recycling needs to be encouraged with more split recycling bins. These may be able to be sponsored, with names of the sponsors on the bins.

We would also talk and write to those businesses that create the litter to encourage them to change their practices. Business waste ie fast food chains rubbish found will be parcelled up and photographed and sent to the business concerned. We need to encourage businesses to take responsibility for the waste they create by selling in containers that are recyclable.

(This has proved to be beneficial in other parts of Gloucestershire)

Doing litter picking needs to be done on a regular basis.

Photos of some of the Findings

There are a lot of opportunities for Stroud Rotary to help our local Councils, post Covid restrictions, to tidy up mainly the Town Centre and the main approach roads to the STC area

Flower Beds

What is the position re the blocking up of the road by Travis Perkins?



Weeds on paving slabs



Litter picking



Recycling bins

We need more multi type recycling bins in the town. To encourage recycling.

Though they tend to get pasted over with posters advertising events. We need to take action over fly posting.

Also have a official notice boards where local events can be advertised.



Street Furniture and Bollards

(cycle stand now been straightened but not welded)

Painting Street furniture in standard colour

Wood slats very tired – could be spruced up/replaced



Tree planting

Possibility for tree planting **in** the town to be identified which will help with reducing carbon emissions



Property maintenance

Encourage owners to look after their properties



GCC Bollards

Not all the same type of bollard. Why does Stroud have to have this standard of highway maintenance whereas if you go to Cheltenham and Gloucester this doesn't appear to be the case. What is the policy and is it consistent across the County?



CCTV Camera

Bases need painting



Repairs by Utilities and Businesses

Paving slabs removed and not reinstated in same materials, just tarmac.

Surfaces also wearing out. What is the policy for reinstatement?



Clutter

Bollards not removed after Market days

Panio – Does it work and if so, it could be decorated? Who owns it?



A Boards

A Boards on footpaths and far too many



Business trading from footpath

Is the safety of pedestrians monitored?



Vacant Land

Who owns this land and what can be done to improve this area?



ROTARY CLUB PROJECTS NOTES ON RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATIONS AND SUGGESTED PRIORITIES

items highlighted yellow suggested priorities/quick wins

ITEM	Highways	SDC	STC	Others/notes
a) Clean road signage that can be reached, maximum height for us is using a 6 step ladder. Taller signs will be reported by STC and to GCC/Network Rail etc to clean	Road signs and lamp posts - many of them have stickers on them which could do with soaking off.		Parks	GWR are responsible for the station area.
b) Clean SDC signage in car parks if needed		Almost certainly needed.		The Welcome signs are due to be replaced very soon, but all of the other signs could potentially be cleaned up. Note that Five Valleys car park is now privately owned
c) Tidy up flower beds - weeding, strimming etc. Stroud in Bloom could be approached to help	The beds on Doctor Newtons way could do with weeding.		We look after most of the beds and planters. We may be able to offer opportunities for weeding.	Stroud In Bloom look after some of our planters and have some of their own
d) Pick up litter – approach Cubs, Scouts, the Door Youth Project, Young Carers etc		SDC Neighbourhood Wardens provide bags and litter pickers for community litter picks		

ITEM	Highways	SDC	STC	Others/notes
e) Remove weeds. This needs discussion with STC as to what the Council protocols are for weeds as just hoeing the weeds will reappear on paving slabs		SDC are responsible for street cleaning and weeding. I doubt if they would allow you to use weed killer, but might welcome some hoeing.	On our sites we only ever use weedkiller as a last resort	
) Sweep up area / pavements		SDC are responsible for street cleaning and weeding		
g) Identify graffiti and remove – see if any possibility of public art- approach Stroud College		SDC remove graffiti on publicly owned buildings and assets		Much of the graffiti is on privately owned buildings. We encourage owners to remove it, but have no powers to insist or to fund the removal.
h) Paint street furniture and bollards in a standard colour as advised by STC. (STC to provide paint and brushes etc)	Most of the street furniture belongs to Highways or SDC.		There may be some in our parks that could be painted	The Youth Forum are also planning to work on some benches - need to check which ones to avoid duplication
i) Look for areas within the Town Centre where trees may be planted – ie opposite Ecotricity main building. (ownership of land is GCC) I am sure that STC has tried to get GCC to transfer the land to be used as a public space. What is the latest position of GCC? Trees could be planted that may help with holding the		This site now belongs to SDC. A landscaping project is planned but SDC are not progressing it at the moment.		

ITEM	Highways	SDC	STC	Others/notes
wall up that faces the canal. Advice on type of tree suitable would need to be obtained. (Simon Pickering has contacts)				
j) CCTV camera stands are in a need cleaning and paint – SDC		Yes SDC - but some of them may be too tall for you to reach from a 6-foot ladder		
k) A Boards: Shops and businesses have a proliferation of A boards which are placed on the highway and footpaths. Some are a danger to pedestrians and people with disabilities and people pushing prams and push chairs. There needs to be an agreed policy (GCC used to come around and remove them).	There is no policy, but they can be moved if they cause an obstruction.			
l) Any other items that STC/SDC would like the Stroud Rotary to look at with a view of helping				The History Trail boards could do with renovating - suggest you talk to Stroud Historical Society