



## **Cannock Chase Council**

### **Council Meeting**

**Wednesday 9 October 2024 at 6:00pm**

**In the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Cannock**

#### **Part 1**

Notice is hereby given of the above-mentioned meeting of the Council, which you are summoned to attend for the purpose of transacting the business as set out below:

**1. Apologies**

**2. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members**

To declare any interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

Members should refer to the guidance as included as part of this agenda.

**3. Minutes**

To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 July 2024, minute numbers 17 - 28, page numbers 11 - 27.

**4. Questions Received from the Public Under Council Procedure Rule 4B(c)**

The following question has been submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4B(c) by Sharon Jagger:

“I’ve been involved supporting asylum seekers housed locally by the Home Office. Volunteers have been assisting with issues including access to healthcare and dental carer, access to local ESOL classes, participation in sports activities, access to local college courses, support for those aged under 18 who weren’t recognised as minors by the Home Office, social support through get-together events within the local community, support for interpreting official letters & documents, support with securing local accommodation once their refugee status was confirmed, support with practicing English conversation in local community groups - and, more recently, support with the lengthy application process for mandatory digital ID documentation.

Local community volunteers have been providing a huge amount of ongoing support to these people.

Please can Council explain the ways in which you have utilised the Government funding which was allocated to you to facilitate support for asylum seekers temporarily housed in the Cannock Chase District?”

## **5. Chair's Announcements and Correspondence**

To receive any announcements and correspondence from the Chair of the Council.

## **6. Leader's Announcements and Correspondence**

To receive any announcements and correspondence from the Leader of the Council.

## **7. Form and Composition of the Shadow Cabinet 2024/25**

To receive notification from the Leader of the Opposition of changes to the form and composition of the Shadow Cabinet for 2024/25.

## **8. Recommendations Referred from Cabinet**

Council is requested to consider recommendations from the Cabinet meetings held on 22 August and 26 September 2024 in respect of the following matters:

### **(i) Flaxley Road Play Area - Refurbishment (Cabinet 22/08/24, Minute Number 33)**

"That Council be recommended to approve a new capital budget of £141,770, to be added into the 2024/25 General Fund capital programme, to be financed by an existing S106 receipt and approve permission to spend said funds."

The accompanying report for the above recommendation can be viewed on the [22 August 2024 Cabinet](#) meeting page on the Council's website.

### **(ii) Laburnum Avenue - Art Project (Cabinet 26/09/24, Draft Minute Number 45)**

"That Council be recommended to increase the capital spend on Laburnum Avenue phases 2 and 3 by £7,500 and include the additional spend into the capital programme for 2024/25. This funding would be sourced from Cannock Longford and Bridgtown ward Community Infrastructure Levy funds, in order to deliver the proposed improvements as set out in report appendix 1."

### **(iii) Local Development Scheme 2024 (Cabinet 26/09/24, Draft Minute Number 48)**

"That Council be recommended to approve the revised Local Development Scheme as set out in report appendix 1, covering the period September 2024 to September 2027, and that it be brought into effect on 16 October 2024."

### **(iv) Cannock Chase Local Plan 2018-2040: Regulation 22 Submission (Cabinet 26/09/24, Draft Minute Number 49)**

"That Council be recommended to submit the Cannock District Local Plan Regulation 19 document (report appendix A) together with the policies map (report appendix B) and other prescribed documents and evidence base documents to the Secretary of State for examination in accordance with Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended)."

The accompanying reports for recommendations (ii), (iii), and (iv) can be viewed on the [26 September 2024 Cabinet](#) meeting page on the Council's website.

## **9. Motions Received Under Council Procedure Rule 6**

### **(i) Winter Fuel Payments**

Submitted by Councillor O. Lyons (Item 9.1 - 9.2)

### **(ii) Roads Emergency**

Submitted by Councillor D. Mawle (Item 9.3).

**10. Comments and Questions on Part 1 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees, Sub-Committees and Panels under Rule 9**

To receive any comments or questions submitted under Rule 9 on Part 1 Minutes of meetings of Cabinet, Committees, Sub-Committees or Panels as included in the Minutes Record circulated alongside this agenda.

**11. Exclusion of the Public**

The Chair to move the following motion:

"That the public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2, and 7, of Part 1, Schedule 12A, of the Local Government Act, 1972."

**Part 2**

**12. Comments and Questions on Part 2 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees, Sub-Committees and Panels under Rule 9**

To receive any comments or questions submitted under Rule 9 on Part 2 Minutes of meetings of Cabinet, Committees, Sub-Committees or Panels as included in the Minutes Record circulated alongside this agenda.



**T. Clegg  
Chief Executive**

1 October 2024

## Guidance on Declaring Interests at Meetings

### Declaring Interests at Full Council

The Code of Conduct requires that where you have an interest in any business of the Council, and where you are aware or ought reasonably to be aware of the existence of the interest, and you attend a meeting of the Council at which the business is considered, you must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent.

The following interests must be disclosed where they may be affected by any matter arising at the meeting:

- (a) A **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** is an interest of yourself or your partner (which means spouse or civil partner, a person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom you are living as if you are civil partners) in respect of employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried out for profit or gain; sponsorship; contracts; land; licences; corporate tenancies; or securities, as defined with the Localism Act, 2011.
- (b) A **Registerable Interest** includes any unpaid directorships or any body of which you are a member, or are in a position of general control, and (i) to which you are appointed by the Council, or (ii) which exercises functions of a public nature, or (iii) which is directed to charitable purposes, or (iv) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy.
- (c) A **Non-Registerable Interest** is any other matter affecting your financial interest or well-being, or a financial interest or well-being of a relative or close associate.

Where the matter **directly relates** to the interest, you must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation.

Where the matter **affects** the interest, but does not **directly relate** to it, you can remain in the meeting and take part **unless** the matter affects the financial interest or well-being to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision, and a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest.

### Please make the nature of the interest clear to the meeting

It would be helpful if, prior to the commencement of the meeting, Members informed the Monitoring Officer of any declarations of interest, of which you are aware. This will help in the recording of the declarations in the Minutes of the meeting.

Some items will be mentioned in the papers for full Council but are not actually being considered by Full Council. In such circumstances the Monitoring Officer's advice to Members is that there is no need to declare an interest unless the particular matter is mentioned or discussed. As a general rule, Members only need to declare an interest at full Council in the following circumstances:

- Where a matter is before the Council for a decision and/or
- Where the matter in which the Member has an interest is specifically mentioned or discussed at the Council meeting.

**Cannock Chase Council**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council**

**Held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Cannock**

**On Wednesday 24 July 2024 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Part 1**

**Present**

Councillors:

Thornley, S. (Chair)

Prestwood, F. (Vice-Chair)

|                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|
| Bancroft, J.   | Johnson, J.          |
| Bishop, L.     | Johnson, T. (Leader) |
| Boulton, C.    | Lyons, N.            |
| Bullock, L.    | Lyons, O.            |
| Cartwright, S. | Muckley, A.          |
| Craddock, R.   | Page, H.             |
| Dunnett, M.    | Preece, J.           |
| Elson, J.      | Prestwood, J.        |
| Fisher, P.     | Samuels, G.          |
| Fitzgerald, A. | Sutherland, M.       |
| Freeman, M.    | Thornley, S.J.       |
| Gaye, D.       | Todd, D.             |
| Haden, P.      | Williams, D.         |
| Hill, J.       | Wilson, L.           |
| Hill, J.O.     |                      |

**17. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. Aston, G. Hughes, V. Jones, D. Mawle, and J. Newbury.

**18. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members**

No other Declarations of Interests were made in addition to those already confirmed by Members in the Register of Members' Interests.

**19. Minutes**

**Resolved:**

That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 22 May 2024 be approved as a correct record.

**20 Questions Received from the Public Under Council Procedure Rule 4B(c)**

**(i) The following question submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4B(c) was asked by member of the public, Phil Hewitt:**

“I have been approached by a number of residents in Prospect Village, a village that has a strong community spirit with an active village hall and are concerned about the condition of their local play area.

It is in poor condition.

Would it be possible to know where Prospect Village Park is on the Council’s refurbishment matrix and when this park was last inspected?”

**The Parks, Culture, and Heritage Portfolio Leader, Councillor Preece, provided the following response:**

“I’d like to thank Mr Hewitt for the question.

Williamson Avenue, Prospect Village, is currently ranked 18<sup>th</sup> on the Council’s list of play area refurbishments, as per the play area assessment carried out in 2022 this matrix then formed the basis of the four-year parks programme subsequently agreed at Cabinet on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

Williamson Avenue play area was last externally inspected as part of the annual safety check on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August 2023. The report following the inspection picked up on a few low to very low risk items, which were advised to be monitored. The next round of formal external inspections for all play areas is due to start within the next few weeks as it is an annual cyclical process.

In addition to this, the site is also inspected internally by the Council’s play area technician and is assessed for; wear and tear, damage to the play equipment, surface (wet pour), access gates, fences and barriers, site furniture and signs. It is inspected for litter and cleansed on a weekly basis by the Council’s cleansing team who also report on any vandalism, whilst attending to the cleanliness of the play area.

Ad-hoc inspections are also carried out, when defects are noted during site maintenance visits, or issues are reported to the Council by a resident, member of the public, or parish / district councillor. And I am aware that the District Councillors for that area have been asking questions about this play area as well. At present the Council does not have any outstanding repair reports for the play area in question.

**Phil Hewitt then asked the following supplementary question:**

“I thank the Cabinet member for his very comprehensive answer and taking the time to do that. Can I also say it is great to see democracy in action when members of the public from across the village ask me to ask this question it is great to see we can do that and get such a good comprehensive answer.

My supplementary question is:

Currently it is overgrown and in quite poor condition. Will the Cabinet member please spend an hour of his time and join me to see if there’s something we could do, even on a small cost basis or even a no cost basis, but if I could ask the Cabinet member to join me to look into it, along with maybe a couple of members of the public who raised this?”

**The Parks, Culture, and Heritage Portfolio Leader, Councillor Preece, provided the following response to the supplementary question:**

“I am more than happy to do that. I should point out that part of the reason the matrix was created because we would otherwise have a situation that fifteen separate councillors, now thirteen separate councillors would be all vying to get their parks looked after, so the matrix was a fair way of looking at that, and based on different kinds of things such as equipment and age of the equipment, and also social factor issues, such as obesity and social economic factors in this area and that was agreed by the previous Administration. But yes, I’m more than happy to come with you to see if there’s anything we can do on a short-term basis possibly we’ll have a look.

But I should also point out that a lot of work on the parks is also dependent on where the money is available, for some parks might need work on it, but there is not necessarily CIL money or S106 money or other issues like that. We’ve got that issue with some of the parks on the matrix already. But they are higher than this park in that they haven’t been looked at because there is not necessarily the funding or the 106 monies in there as well. But yes, more than happy to come with you.”

**21. The Chair’s Announcements and Correspondence**

**(i) General Election Result**

The Chair noted that we had come to the end of a very tiring election period, both local and national and that we now had a new Member of Parliament for Cannock Chase, that being Councillor Josh Newbury MP. The Chair was sure that Members would be welcoming him to this chamber very soon.

The Chair then also took the opportunity to express thanks to Amanda Milling for her service to the residents of Cannock Chase and wished her well and success in all her future endeavours.

**(ii) Rawnsley Road Vehicle Accident**

The Chair raised it was saddening to hear of a tragic accident on the Rawnsley Road on Sunday evening and noted the Council’s thoughts were with the families of the deceased and those people seriously injured.

**22. Leader’s Announcements and Correspondence**

**(i) Condolences**

The Leader concurred with the sympathies given by the Chair of the Council to the families of the people who were affected by the sad crash on Rawnsley Road.

The Leader then raised that on Monday night, a man he knew had sadly collapsed and died, and so expressed on behalf of the Council sympathies to the man’s friends and family.

**(ii) Councillor Josh Newbury MP**

The Leader congratulated his friend and colleague, Councillor Josh Newbury, on his recent election as the new MP for Cannock Chase constituency. The Leader noted that Councillor Newbury was an outstanding councillor for Norton Canes ward, had been a mainstay of the Cabinet and would be an excellent MP for all the people of Cannock Chase. Unfortunately, other duties had prevented Councillor Newbury from attending today’s meeting.

The Leader then thanked Councillor Newbury on behalf of all Councillors for his skill, ability and hard work, noting that his contribution as regeneration and high streets portfolio leader had been exceptional. Not long into the role, Councillor Newbury had had to deal with the announcement of the closure of the Amazon site in Rugeley, working hard as always to minimise the impact of the closure on local people and the local economy.

Following on from the work of the previous Administration, Councillor Newbury had brought the Council to the point of delivery on major projects, including regeneration in the District's town centres and the re-development of the former power station site in Rugeley.

Councillor Newbury had continued the work on the Local Plan, as had many other councillors, and like many councillors would not see it to fruition, but his successor certainly would.

Furthermore, Councillor Newbury's work with the local college, with its focus on training and re-skilling our work population had seen it gain recognition from the previous and present Prime Minister.

The Leader personally thanked Councillor Newbury for his support and advice in the role as deputy leader of the Council, noting it had been a pleasure to work with such a talented and hardworking young man and it would be an honour to work with him as the MP in future.

An honourable mention was then given to Councillor Muckley who had also stood in the recent parliamentary election, with her usual enthusiasm and good nature.

### **(iii) Dame Amanda Milling**

The Leader gave thanks to the former MP for Cannock Chase, Dame Amanda Milling, noting that whilst those on the Leader's side of the chamber were her political opponents, this did not mean her hard work was not appreciated. Via her office she had undertaken a large amount of casework and was instrumental in gaining the Levelling Up Fund monies for the redevelopment of Cannock town centre. Dame Amanda had served the people of Cannock Chase to the best of her ability.

The Leader then noted that he always admired anyone who had the courage to run for public office and that Dame Amanda had always been approachable and willing to work with this Council no matter which political party had been in control, or for that matter, when it had been in no overall control. On behalf of all Councillors, the Leader then wished Dame Amanda the best of fortune for the future.

### **(iv) Administration's Objectives**

The Leader noted that in one form or another, all Councillors had been in election mode for some time. That time was now over and so Members must deliver on behalf of the people they served.

As such, the Administration had four main objectives it wished to achieve:

- Continue to reduce the impact of climate change, reaching the Council's aim to become carbon neutral.
- Deliver on the regeneration of Cannock town centre, and following that, on the redevelopment of the District's other towns and centres.
- Working, hopefully with cohesion and consensus, to deliver a balanced budget for 2025/26.



- Lastly, but not certainly least, deliver on the requirements set out in the external auditor's value for money report which highlighted several essential improvements.

Work on these objectives had been started some time ago but now must be brought to fruition.

The Leader then noted that this work was on top of the everyday tasks undertaken by both councillors and officers to ensure that the people of Cannock Chase got the services they required and deserved.

### **23. Form and Composition of the Cabinet**

Councillor T. Johnson, Leader of the Council, notified Members that on 9 July, Councillor Newbury had resigned from his positions of Deputy Leader of the Council and Regeneration & High Streets Portfolio Leader following his election as the new MP for Cannock Chase on 4 July.

As a result, the following changes had been made to the membership of the Cabinet:

- **Deputy Leader of the Council:** Councillor Preece (alongside his existing role of Parks, Culture, and Heritage Portfolio Leader).
- **Regeneration & High Streets Portfolio Leader:** Councillor Freeman.

### **24. Changes to Membership of Committees 2024/25**

Councillor T. Johnson, Leader of the Labour Group; and Councillor A. Muckley, Leader of the Green Group notified of changes to their respective Groups' membership of committees for the 2024/25 civic which required approval by Council:

#### **Labour Group:**

- Health, Wellbeing, and The Community Scrutiny Committee.
- Responsible Council Scrutiny Committee.
- Standards Committee.
- Constitution Working Group.

#### **Green Group:**

- Licensing and Public Protection Committee.

Two nominations were received in respect of the Chair position for the Health, Wellbeing and Community Scrutiny Committee, requiring a vote to be taken. The following Members were nominated for this position:

- Councillor F. Prestwood (Labour Group)
- Councillor J. Elson (Green Group)

A vote was then taken, and Councillor F. Prestwood was duly elected as Chair of the Health, Wellbeing, and The Community Scrutiny Committee in place of Councillor Dunnett for the remainder of the 2024/25 civic year.

#### **Resolved:**

That the following changes to membership of the Council's committees for the 2024/25 civic year be approved:

***Labour Group:***

**Health, Wellbeing, and The Community Scrutiny Committee**

- Councillor F. Prestwood to replace Councillor Dunnett as Chair of the committee.
- Councillor Dunnett to replace Councillor Freeman as Vice-Chair of the committee.
- Councillor Newbury to replace Councillor Freeman as a member of the committee.

**Responsible Council Scrutiny Committee**

- Councillor Newbury to replace Councillor Freeman as a member of the committee.

**Standards Committee**

- Councillor Boulton to replace Councillor Freeman as Chair of the Committee.
- Councillor Bullock to replace Councillor Boulton as Vice-Chair of the Committee.

**Constitution Working Group**

- Councillor Steve Thornley to replace Councillor Newbury as a member of the Working Group.

***Green Group:***

**Licensing and Public Protection Committee**

- Councillor Elson to replace Councillor Bishop as a member of the committee.
- Councillor Muckley to replace Councillor Elson as the substitute member of the committee.

**25. Changes to Membership of Outside Bodies 2024/25**

Councillor T. Johnson, Leader of the Labour Group, notified of changes to the Labour Group's representatives on outside bodies for the 2024/25 civic year which required approval by Council.

**Resolved:**

That the following changes to the Council's representatives on outside bodies for the 2024/25 civic year be approved:

**Staffordshire County Council Health and Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee (co-opted member)**

- Councillor F. Prestwood to replace Councillor Dunnett as the District Council's co-opted member of the committee.

**Staffordshire County Council Health and Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee (substitute member)**

- Councillor Fisher to replace Councillor Freeman as the District Council's substitute member of the committee.

**West Midlands Combined Authority Board (substitute member)**

- Councillor Preece to replace Councillor Newbury as the District Council's substitute member of the board.

## 26. Recommendations Referred from Cabinet

Consideration was given to the following recommendation to Council, made by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 18 July 2024, in respect of:

### **Permission to Spend - Swimming Pool Support Fund (Cabinet 18/07/24, Draft Minute Number 23)**

“That Council be recommended to include £238,275 in the capital programme for the installation of Photo Voltaic Panels at Rugeley leisure centre.”

#### **Resolved:**

That £238,275 be included in the capital programme for the installation of Photo Voltaic Panels at Rugeley leisure centre.

## 27. Motions Received Under Council Procedure Rule 6

- (i) Consideration was given to the following Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 6 by Councillor O. Lyons:

### **Bleed Kits**

“When severe blood loss occurs, such as following a stab or crush injury, a fatality can occur within as little 5 minutes. As a result, traumatic bleeding tragically takes many lives each year, some of which may have been prevented if a specialist bleed control kit had been accessible whilst awaiting the ambulance service.

Bleed kits are more advanced than general first aid kits. Specialist bleed control kits include tourniquets and pressure bandages to stem catastrophic bleeding, coagulation dressings and equipment to help reduce infection.

Locally, the West Midlands Ambulance Service have highlighted the need for bleed kits and our local First Responders have launched an initiative to increase the number of available bleed kits across Cannock Chase.

To help meet this need and to ensure that our local communities are as prepared as possible in the event of such an incident, I propose that this Council:

- (1) Undertake an imminent review of Council managed locations, such as the main parks across the District which are popular destinations for the public, to determine the most suitable and accessible sites in which to locate bleed kits;
- (2) Once suitable sites have been identified, introduce bleed kits; and
- (3) Ensure the bleed kits are checked as required and ongoing maintenance arranged.”

*This motion is original and comprised of the own work of Cllr. O. Lyons.*

This Motion was previously referred from the Council meeting held on 17 2024 to Cabinet for consideration as it was considered to include financial implications.

The Motion was duly considered at the Cabinet meeting held on 12 June 2024.

Councillor O. Lyons, as the original mover of the Motion, presented the Motion to Council again.

Councillor Williams, Community Wellbeing Portfolio Leader, presented the following response to the Motion on behalf of the Cabinet (as the relevant Cabinet member):

"I would like to thank Councillor O. Lyons for introducing this motion to the Council. This is an essential matter that directly impacts the safety and wellbeing of Cannock Chase.

Bleeding incidents can occur unexpectedly, whether due to accidents, medical emergencies, or unfortunate events. In such critical moments, immediate access to proper first aid equipment can be the difference between life and loss. Whilst our emergency services do an outstanding job, their response time may not always align with the urgency of bleeding incidents. Having strategically placed bleed kits can bridge this gap and empower our community members to take swift action. Our commitment to public safety demands that we take proactive steps to ensure our district is equipped to respond effectively. However, we must do this in an effective manner and not duplicate efforts of our brilliant volunteers and community members.

Consequently, I want to congratulate the work throughout Cannock Chase to distribute Bleeding Control Kits across the District from the volunteers, community groups and businesses that are supporting this initiative. Therefore, I would like to draw attention to some groups who are leading the way with this:

- I want to thank Councillor Julie Aston and Councillor Lisa Wilson for personally funding three Bleeding Control Kits for Wimblebury community centre, Hawks Green community centre, and Five Ways Inn.
- I also want to thank Rugeley and District Community First Responders who just this weekend have installed Bleeding Control Kits into wall-mounted boxes at Rugeley Rifle Club, Rugeley Community Church & Centre, the Spar shop at Fernwood shopping centre and the Mossley Tavern. I should also thank the Rusty Barrel, one of my frequent haunts, for the funding of the Bleeding Control Kits at the Spar and Mackenzie John and Steph Wharton at the Mossley Tavern.
- Finally, I'd like to thank Norton Canes Parish Council who have agreed to fund the ongoing maintenance of bleed kits at Norton Canes community centre, the Railway Tavern and One Stop convenience store.

Turning to the specific wording of the motion, suitable sites for the bleed control kits are likely to correspond with defibrillators in situ that are on the Cannock Chase District Council Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Register. That said, we would not want to discourage volunteers from locating bleed kits in locations they identify, if they are able to carry out the appropriate checks and maintenance.

I can confirm that I am currently working closely with our Community Safety team on tackling knife crime. They have been awarded funding from the Violence Reduction Alliance Executive Board, and the Staffordshire Commissioner has agreed that part of this can be spent on bleed control kits. The remaining funding has already been allocated to carry out knife crime awareness sessions in schools across the District,

It is critical that we do anything we can to prevent lives being lost because of knife crime. Moreover, this directly complements our community safety strategy priorities and helps to ensure that our communities are safe and welcoming places for residents and visitors alike.

Over the next two months, the Community Safety team will be confirming the locations of the bleed control kits, getting permission for their installation (principally with AEDs), and ensuring that regular checks and servicing of these kits is organised.

In closing, this matter directly impacts the safety and wellbeing of Cannock Chase. The Community Safety team will meticulously identify locations for bleed control kits, oversee installation, and ensure ongoing maintenance. We have notable examples

of community groups and individuals who have distributed Bleeding Control Kits across Cannock Chase. I reiterate that I want to encourage community groups to continue to procure and install this equipment; however, they must be able to carry out appropriate checks and maintenance. We will deliver this motion to ensure community safety, wellbeing and health.”

The Head of Law & Governance clarified that the response provided by Councillor Williams was in effect an Amendment to the original motion.

As such, the Amendment was duly seconded.

Councillor O. Lyons confirmed she was happy to accept what had been presented by Councillor Williams by way of response and so this became the Substantive Motion.

**Resolved:**

That:

- (A) Suitable sites for the bleed control kits would rightly correspond with defibrillators in situ that were the Cannock Chase Council defibrillators. That said, the Council would not want to discourage volunteers from locating bleed kits in locations they had identified if they were able to carry out appropriate checks and maintenance.
- (B) It be noted the Community Wellbeing Portfolio Leader had been working closely with the Council’s community safety team on tackling knife crime, and that the team had been awarded funding from the Violence Reduction Alliance Board for this purpose, and the Staffordshire Commissioner had agreed that some of the funding could be spent on bleed control kits.
- (C) It be further noted that the remainder of the funding had been allocated to carry out knife crime awareness sessions in schools across the District.
- (D) It be further noted that over the next two months, the community safety team would be confirming the locations of the bleed control kits, getting permission for their installation (principally with defibrillators) and ensuring that regular checks and servicing of the kits was organised and carried out.

- (ii) Consideration was given to the following Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 6 by Councillor Williams:

**Supporting Our Armed Forces Community**

The council notes that:

- The obligations it owes to the Armed Forces community within Cannock Chase as enshrined in the Armed Forces Covenant; that the Armed Forces community should not face disadvantage in the provision of services and that special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given the most.
- Our nation celebrates our Armed Forces and shows our support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces Community (serving personnel, service families, veterans, and cadets) by holding an Armed Forces Day on the last Saturday each June. Celebrations begin on the Monday of that week with the unique role of the Reserve Forces who are celebrated on Reserves Day which is usually in the middle of Armed Forces Week.
- Cannock Chase has rich military history and served as a training ground for soldiers during the World Wars. The First World War saw the establishment of the

Brocton and Rugeley camps, while the Second World War marked the opening of RAF Hednesford. Today, the Army Cadets continue this legacy at their training centre on the old Rugeley camp site.

- Four percent of constituents living within Cannock Chase are veterans with thirty-four percent of those constituents registered disabled.

This Council firmly believes that:

- We pay homage to the generations of service personnel who have come before us. Their sacrifices, made in the pursuit of our freedom and security, have shaped the world we live in today. These brave individuals, from various backgrounds and walks of life, stepped forward when their nation called upon them. They served with honour and distinction, often in the face of great adversity. As we remember their sacrifices, we reaffirm our commitment to supporting our current service personnel, forces families and veterans, ensuring they receive the recognition and support they deserve. Their service is a continuation of this proud tradition, and we owe it to them, and to those who came before, to honour this commitment.
- The Armed Forces community contributes significantly to our society, not only in terms of security but also in terms of skills, values, and diversity. Supporting them is a way of acknowledging and valuing this contribution.
- Veterans are an asset to society and deserve the best possible care and support in recognition of the service they have given and the sacrifices they have made; considers that those veterans and their families who have experienced pain and loss because of their or a loved ones' service in the Armed Forces are rightly compensated.
- Providing support to the Armed Forces Community is a matter of fairness and respect. They have served our country and protected our freedoms, and it is only right that we, as a society, ensure they are supported in return.
- Supporting the Armed Forces Community can also have broader societal benefits. For example, it can help promote social cohesion, community spirit, and a sense of shared responsibility.
- Finally, supporting the armed forces community sends a strong message about the kind of society we want to be - one that values service, sacrifice, and mutual support. It sets a positive example for future generations about the importance of contributing to society and supporting those who do.

The council welcomes that:

- Cannock Chase District Council, along with all other local authorities in Great Britain, has proudly signed the Armed Forces Covenant.
- Cannock Chase District Council has recognised its support for the Armed Forces and has received the Ministry of Defence's (MOD) Employee Recognition Scheme (ERS) Silver Award in 2021.
- The Cabinet has recently agreed to refer policy proposals regarding Veterans benefits to full Council.
- Following pressure from lived experience groups campaign groups, the government finally scrapped visa fees for Commonwealth Veterans.

The Council expresses concern that:

- Our council has fallen behind in our advocacy for the Armed Forces Community with other local councils who have recently been awarded Ministry of Defence's ERS Gold Award status. ERS Gold Status is the highest award from the MOD and demonstrates an organisation's increased commitment to the Armed Forces Community and excellent advocacy.
- Our service personnel, with their unwavering commitment and professionalism, have become the backbone of our public sector resilience. They are routinely called upon to maintain essential services amidst industrial action, often stepping into roles far removed from their military duties. This is a testament to their adaptability and dedication, but it also underscores the sacrifices they make on a daily basis. However, without a right to strike, it is the moral duty of their leaders to uphold the Armed Forces Covenant and the responsibility of elected bodies is to uphold their part of this obligation and insist that our service personnel and their families receive the support they deserve.
- A decade of pay cuts in real terms, coupled with the escalating cost-of-living crisis and delays in the Armed Forces pay award, are directly affecting our Service Personnel and their families. Amidst these challenges, it is charities and regimental associations that continue to step in, providing essential cost of living grants and vouchers to our veterans and their families. This situation underscores the urgent need for systemic change to better support those who have served our nation.
- In the aftermath of the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan, the UK has become a sanctuary for many Afghan refugees. However, a significant number of these individuals are grappling with homelessness as they await confirmation of their status. Furthermore, there are still eligible Afghan refugees, including those who have supported the UK and NATO allies in Afghanistan, who remain stranded in their homeland. This situation underscores the urgent need for comprehensive solutions to address these challenges.
- While the government has commendably waived visa fees for Commonwealth Veterans, it has regrettably declined to extend this exemption to their spouses and children. This, coupled with the recent surge in visa fees, has resulted in families bearing the brunt of thousands of pounds in immigration costs amidst an ongoing cost-of-living crisis.

In light of the above, this council resolves:

- To continue the role of Armed Forces Champion as there is a clear need for this role which acts as a bridge between the Council and our Armed Forces Community on issues which this Council has responsibility for and to act as an advocate for the Armed Forces Community to residents, community groups, local business, and partner organisations. This role will continue indefinitely with the role being appointed biennial at the Annual General Meeting. The Armed Forces Champion to have the support of a personal assistant to arrange affairs with external stakeholders. The Armed Forces Champion will report to the Cabinet on a biannual basis.
- To set up a short-term working group chaired by the Armed Forces Champion consisting of internal and external stakeholders to improve how the Council advocates and supports the Armed Forces Community. This working group will include the Leader of the Council and Leader of the Opposition, relevant senior officers, local veteran groups and charities, West Midlands Reserve Forces and

Cadet Association, local Armed Forces Units and Cadet Units. However, the terms of reference will be developed by the working group when formed.

- For the outcome of the short-term working group to be considered by Cabinet and relevant local policies are amended to reflect such a position.
- To commit to obtaining ERS Gold Status within three years. The Council will develop a strategy to achieving this goal and operationalise this plan.
- To continue to support Armed Forces Week by supporting local Armed Forces Week events and to fly the Armed Forces flag during this time. In addition, the Council will consider extending an invitation to our community and Armed Forces Stakeholders to participate in a memorial service and celebration of our Armed Forces Community during this week so that we can continue to celebrate our Armed Forces Community in a positive way.
- Request the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council to write to Government, urging it to extend additional fundamental financial support to service personnel. This can be achieved by implementing a cap on food and accommodation charges for the forthcoming 12 months. Additionally, they should advocate for an immediate review of the current Armed Forces accommodation charges, food charges, and allowances.
- Request the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council to write to Government articulating concerns about the existing aid provided to Afghan refugees. The letter should appeal for suitable funding to facilitate housing for these refugees. It should also press the Government to expedite plans to ensure the safe arrival of Afghan refugees who have served, including those currently stranded in Iran and Pakistan, to the UK.
- Request the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council to write to both the Minister of State for Immigration and the Minister of State for Veteran Affairs. The letter should express this council's endorsement for granting the right to remain to all spouses and children of Commonwealth veterans concurrently with the serving Commonwealth veterans, and importantly, without any associated fees."

"With reference to the following hyperlinks:

- [Defence Employer Recognition Scheme](#)
- [2021 census: How many veterans are in my constituency? \(parliament.uk\)](#)
- [Armed Forces Day](#)
- [Commonwealth Visa Fees \(britishlegion.org.uk\)](#)
- [Credit their Service \(britishlegion.org.uk\)](#)
- [The Armed Forces Covenant \(britishlegion.org.uk\)](#)
- [Afghan Refugees"](#)

*This motion is original and comprised of the own work of Cllr. Williams.*

This Motion was previously referred from the Council meeting held on 17 2024 to Cabinet for consideration as it was considered to include financial implications.

The Motion was duly considered at the Cabinet meeting held on 12 June 2024.



Councillor Williams, as the original mover of the Motion, presented the Motion to Council again and then presented the following response to the Motion on behalf of the Cabinet (as the Community Wellbeing Cabinet member):

“We all recognise the significance of the ‘Supporting Our Armed Forces Community’, Motion and our Armed Forces Community in Cannock Chase. Our commitment extends beyond pleasant words - we are actively working to implement the provisions within the Motion.

It would be remiss of me to not highlight some of the changes which have occurred very recently within the defence. In particular, we now have a Labour Government who will be a government of service, for those who serve.

We have a new leadership, in particular a new Defence Secretary, John Healey MP, and a new minister leading the Office of Veterans’ Affairs, Alistair Cairns OBE MC MP. Alistair is a recently retired Royal Marines Colonel, who has served in the military for 24 years and was awarded the Military Cross for his service in Afghanistan. He is a West Midlands MP and I hope to invite him to Cannock Chase in time.

I look forward to an Armed Forces Commissioner being appointed who will have the authority to challenge and tackle some of the intransigent issues facing military personnel, veterans and their spouses, like substandard housing and poor support when discharged.

Continuing the theme of the West Midlands, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July the flag was raised in Birmingham as the Invictus Games, a sporting event to celebrate injured, wounded, and sick military personnel and veterans, will be hosted there in 2027. It demonstrates the strong ties of the Armed Forces in the West Midlands. I will be attending, and I encourage other councillors and members of the public to attend if they get the chance.

Recently I attended an event with the Vice-Chair, Councillor Fred Prestwood, and his consort, Councillor Jackie Prestwood at an Armed Forces Day celebration in Stoke-on-Trent. This was an excellent event and an example of good practice. We will bring this learning to the Council when organising events including Remembrance and Armed Forces Day in Cannock Chase.

Turning to the Motion, we have committed to a three-year roadmap to improve how the Council advocates its support to the Armed Forces community. I have begun the process of engaging stakeholders in discussions on how we improve services and policy on this agenda.

Last week, I met with the Royal British Legion to understand how the Poppy Appeal can be improved within the District. Senior officers and I will be meeting with West Midlands Reserve Forces and Cadets Association to see how we can work together on this agenda.

This will unlock some of the working around how we achieve our goals set out in the motion. I then hope to begin the workstream regarding the short-term working group with community stakeholders.

Furthermore, we will also be working more closely with the Cadet Forces and work is underway to organise a visit to the Cannock Chase Cadet Training Centre. They are unseen and under-appreciated, but they make a massive difference to the lives of young people across the country, but especially in Cannock Chase. I will bring further updates to the Cabinet.

As I conclude, remember that behind every uniform, veterans' badge or medal, lies a beating heart: a story of service, determination, sacrifice and love of our nation. Our commitment extends beyond pleasant words and to collectively honour our Armed Forces community, we must translate our words into meaningful action and change. We stand foursquare with the Armed Forces in this Council.

I am determined to make this happen.”

*(Councillor Haden left and returned to the meeting during the presentation of the Motion.)*

The Head of Law & Governance clarified that the response provided by Councillor Williams was in effect an Amendment to the original motion.

As such, the Amendment was duly seconded.

Councillor Williams confirmed he was happy to accept what he had presented by way of response and so this became the Substantive Motion.

**Resolved:**

That:

- (A) It be noted that a three-year roadmap had been committed to in order to improve how the Council advocates its support to the Armed Forces community.
- (B) It be noted the Community Wellbeing Portfolio Leader / Armed Forces Champion had begun the process of engaging stakeholders in discussions on how the Council improved services and policy on this agenda.
- (C) It be further noted that the Community Wellbeing Portfolio Leader / Armed Forces Champion had recently met with the Royal British Legion to understand how the Poppy Appeal could be improved in the District.
- (D) It be further noted that senior officers and the Community Wellbeing Portfolio Leader / Armed Forces Champion would be meeting with the West Midlands Reserve Forces and Cadets Association to see how the Council could work more closely on this agenda. Following this meeting, the Community Wellbeing Portfolio Leader / Armed Forces Champion hoped to begin the workstream with regard to the short-term working group with community stakeholders.
- (E) It be further noted that the Council would be working closely with the Cadet Forces and that work was underway to organise a visit to the Cannock Chase Cadet Training Centre.
- (F) It be further noted that the Community Wellbeing Portfolio Leader / Armed Forces Champion would be bringing further updates to the Cabinet as the work went along.
- (G) The Council stood foursquare with the Armed Forces and the Community Wellbeing Portfolio Leader / Armed Forces Champion was determined to make this work happen.

- (iii) Consideration was given to the following Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 6 by Councillor Muckley:

**Cannock Chase as a Bee Friendly District**

“Work undertaken by our sister authority, Stafford Borough Council, helped Stafford achieve Bee Friendly Town status in 2024. We extend our congratulations to the team who worked so hard to achieve this.

This Council recognises that:

- Bees and other pollinators play an essential role in the Earth’s ecosystem being vital for our food crops, gardens and countryside. Eighty percent of all UK crops rely on pollinators. The Government has estimated that this intervention is worth around £500 million to the UK food economy alone.
- The number of bees is in decline and some species have become extinct. Pollinator decline is attributed to a variety of factors including disease, climate change, loss of habitat, and the use of insecticides and herbicides.
- The use of herbicides containing glyphosate has been found to pose a health hazard to humans.
- Under the Environment Act 2021 CCDC has a responsibility to do its part to help halt the decline seen nationally in biodiversity by a deadline of 2030. Work to be bee-friendly would assist with that goal.

To enable us to reach our aspirations to be a Bee Friendly District this Council resolves to:

- Cease the use of glyphosate on all land that it manages, with the exception where it is absolutely necessary or to protect Council assets. The decision as to whether it is absolutely necessary should be taken by the appropriate head of service and cabinet member together.
- Undertake a review of current bee-friendly practices of CCDC
- Pledge to take part in No Mow May from now onwards and advertise appropriately, including on-site signage, to ensure the public is on board
- Establish a bees and pollinators action plan for the district to become a Bee Friendly district. Such a plan could include, but is not limited to:
  - The cabinet member for climate change and the environment, and appropriate head of service making contact with the Bee Friendly Trust to discuss how we can work together to make our district more bee-friendly
  - Building on work begun in May 2024 with Staffordshire Wildlife Trust between SWT, CCDC’s leadership team and cabinet
  - Liaising with the team at SBC to discuss sharing resources and ideas to help us on our way and reduce our costs
  - Using planning powers to protect habitats that are important to bees and pollinators
  - Encouraging all new developments to provide for pollinators
  - Stopping the use of all insecticides on local authority land
  - Establishing wildflower meadows on public green spaces and along public highways under the control of CCDC.
  - Planting pollinator-friendly plants, the RHS has a “Perfect for Pollinators” list
  - Planting trees for bees, such as blossom-producing, spring-flowering trees
  - Identifying measures to enable bee-keeping to thrive in our district

- Asking the public not to use insecticides in their garden and to plant bee-friendly plants
- Encouraging schools to help children engage with this agenda
- Working collaboratively with parish and town councils to get more public engagement and identify community champions
- Asking public health bodies and social housing partners to support our efforts.”

*This motion was drafted by Cllr Muckley using resources from the following organisations: The Bee Friendly Trust; Plantlife; Royal Horticultural Society; the Bumblebee Conservation Trust; BBC; Staffordshire Wildlife Trust; DEFRA; National Library of Medicine academic journal; as well as previous motions and bee-friendly actions taken by Hillingdon Council, Oldham Council, Walsall Council, Stafford Borough Council and Birmingham Council.*

Councillor O. Lyons moved the following Amendment to the Motion, which was duly seconded:

“Amend bullet point one of ‘Council resolves’ to read:

“Undertake an impact assessment and review of alternative weed reduction measures ahead of potentially ceasing the use of glyphosate on all land that it manages, with the exception where it is absolutely necessary or to protect Council assets. The decision as to whether it is absolutely necessary should be taken by the appropriate head of service and cabinet member together.

The proposed Amendment was accepted Councillor Muckley and therefore formed part of the Substantive Motion.

Councillor Muckley also confirmed she was happy that references in the Motion to “local authority land” be amended to read “Cannock Chase District Council land”.

Councillor Haden then moved the following further Amendments to the Amended Motion, which were duly seconded:

“That we continue to work with the Cannock Chase Can and build that into the Motion with regard to the ‘Naturally Well’ section (of the Cannock Chase Can app) and then that will also build with regard to our health and wellbeing priorities.”, and

“To recognise ‘World Bee Day’ which is celebrated on May 20<sup>th</sup> each year.”

The proposed Amendments were accepted Councillor Muckley and therefore formed part of the Amended Substantive Motion.

**Resolved:**

That:

- (A) An impact assessment and review be undertaken of alternative weed reduction measures ahead of potentially ceasing the use of glyphosate all land that the Cannock Chase District Council managed, with the exception where it was absolutely necessary or to protect Council assets. The decision as to whether it was absolutely necessary should be taken by the appropriate head of service and cabinet member together.
- (B) A review be undertaken of current bee-friendly practices of the Council.

- (C) The Council pledges to take part in No Mow May from now onwards and advertise appropriately, including on-site signage, to ensure the public was on board.
- (D) The Council continued to work with Cannock Chase Can in respect of the 'Naturally Well' section of the Cannock Chase Can app, which would build with regard to the Council's health and wellbeing priorities.
- (E) The Council would recognise 'World Bee Day' which was celebrated on 20 May each year.
- (F) A bees and pollinators action plan be established for the district to become a Bee Friendly district. Such a plan could include, but not limited to:
  - o The cabinet member for climate change and the environment, and appropriate head of service making contact with the Bee Friendly Trust to discuss how we could work together to make our district more bee-friendly.
  - o Building on work begun in May 2024 with Staffordshire Wildlife Trust (SWT) between SWT and the Council's leadership team and cabinet.
  - o Liaising with the team at Stafford Borough Council to discuss sharing resources and ideas to help us on our way and reduce our costs.
  - o Using planning powers to protect habitats that were important to bees and pollinators.
  - o Encouraging all new developments to provide for pollinators.
  - o Stopping the use of all insecticides on Cannock Chase District Council land.
  - o Establishing wildflower meadows on public green spaces and along public highways under the control of the Council.
  - o Planting pollinator-friendly plants (the Royal Horticultural Society had a "Perfect for Pollinators" list).
  - o Planting trees for bees, such as blossom-producing, spring-flowering trees.
  - o Identifying measures to enable bee-keeping to thrive in our district.
  - o Asking the public not to use insecticides in their garden and to plant bee-friendly plants.
  - o Encouraging schools to help children engage with this agenda.
  - o Working collaboratively with parish and town councils to get more public engagement and identify community champions.
  - o Asking public health bodies and social housing partners to support our efforts.

**28. Comments and Questions on Part 1 and Part 2 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees, Sub-Committees and Panels under Rule 9**

None received.

The meeting closed at 7:11pm

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**Chair**

## Motion 1 - Winter Fuel Payments

### Submitted by Councillor Olivia Lyons:

“The new Labour Government has announced plans to cut Winter Fuel Payments. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rachel Reeves, has confirmed that pensioner households in England will no longer be entitled to Winter Fuel Payments this Winter (2024/2025) unless they receive Pension Credit.

There is increasing evidence that this policy is dangerous and could force pensioners to choose between ‘heating’ or ‘eating’.

Council should take note of the following comments made by experts in the field:

- Age UK estimate that 2 million pensioners could be forced into fuel poverty.
- Warm This Winter data suggests that a further 2.9m pensioners will now face financial difficulty due to the decision.
- Independent Age said *“the decision to end the Winter Fuel Payment for those not receiving Pension Credit risks driving hundreds of thousands of older people into further financial hardship”*; and
- Jonathan Bean, spokesperson for Fuel Poverty Action states: *“Making heating even more unaffordable for those trying to survive on basic pensions is a cruel and reckless move that will cause widespread suffering, and increased NHS admissions this winter”*.

On 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024, the Conservative Party put forward a motion to block the Government’s plans. Conservative Members of Parliament, alongside all other opposition parties, voted to block the cut and support the continuation of Winter Fuel Payments.

The Labour Government, with a majority of 120, won the vote and are pushing on with their plan to restrict Winter Fuel support for all but the poorest of pensioners. Every Member of Parliament that voted to scrap the Winter Fuel Payments represented the Labour Party, including the new Member of Parliament for Cannock Chase and Cannock Chase District Councillor, Josh Newbury.

According to official Government data published by the DWP, 16,725 local pensioners across Cannock Chase will be impacted as a result of Labour’s proposal to remove Winter Fuel Payments.

The local context should also be noted by this Council (in accordance with Cannock Chase District Council’s own District Profile published only last year, 2023):

- 15.3% of people aged 60 and over live in income deprived households within Cannock Chase; and
- 16.5% of Cannock Chase households were estimated to be in fuel poverty in 2020, above the national average (13.2%).

These figures illustrate that Winter Fuel payments are a lifeline for low-income pensioners across Cannock Chase, many of whom will lose their Winter Fuel Payments due to the fact that their annual income exceeds the threshold to claim Pension Credit (approx. £11,400). Many others are entitled to claim Pension Credit, but are not currently doing so.

With this in mind, I propose that this Council:

(1) Ask the Cabinet at Cannock Chase District Council to consider:

- (a) Launching a local awareness campaign to encourage uptake of Pension Credit;
- (b) Through Council partnerships, promote wider efforts to raise awareness of Pension Credit; and
- (c) Consider implementing a support process to assist local, eligible residents who may require practical help in order to complete the Pension Credit application process.

AND

(2) Ask the Leader of the Council, Tony Johnson, to write to our Member of Parliament, Josh Newbury, to:

- (a) Express great concern over this recent decision;
- (b) Highlight the detrimental impact many local residents of pension age will face as a result; and
- (c) Ask that Josh Newbury MP relay points 2(a) and 2(b) to Rachel Reeves, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

*(The text within this my motion is my own, with the exception of the quotes which are from various charitable organisations, as outlined, and the statistics which have been ascertained from DWP Statistics Online, Cannock Chase District Profile 2023 and Staffordshire Observatory)."*

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## Motion 2 - Roads Emergency

### Submitted by Councillor Darrell Mawle:

The state of our District highways is now at breaking point. Road users risk damage to their vehicles and injury to themselves travelling on our roads and this is unacceptable. It is now time for all of us to hold the County Council and their contractors to account and demand that our roads need to take a higher priority and the work done to them must be of a higher quality. Research by the LGA has calculated that to catch-up with the backlog of existing pothole repairs across England and Wales would need a cash injection of £12 Billion, and take 12 years to complete – by comparison the government has recently announced a £200 Million ‘Pothole Fund’. The annual local authority road maintenance survey reveals that potholes now account for around 70% of all requests reported to Local Authorities for repairs.

The District Council Believes:

- That we have roads in a worryingly poor state of repair across our County.
- Concern about the state of our roads is one of the top priorities and worries amongst our residents, as expressed in the feedback being received weekly by Councillors.
- By declaring a roads emergency, we need to place pressure on the County Council and Government to act on our residents’ concerns (see final paragraph)
- Investing in our road network is not just a benefit to motorists, cyclists, wheelchair users and pedestrians, but a vital component of our local infrastructure, supporting local businesses, public transport and our tourism sector.
- Residents regularly report that repairs are executed, followed by more repairs on the same stretch of the road, whilst other nearby sections of the same road are left untouched.
- That encouraging cycling on our roads is important, and to encourage cyclists to be confident using roads local authorities need to review all roads regularly and bring them up to a standard of safety required for cycling.
- The poor state of repair of the roads are causing damage to vehicles, injuries to cyclists and are causing numerous safety risks from users veering across carriageways to avoid road defects.
- Some roads are close to impassable due to defects, with motorists opting for alternative, longer routes, with the associated environmental and climatic impacts.
- Pothole/road repairs when conducted are of poor quality and require further repairs in a very short period of time.
- Equal priority needs to be given for A-roads, B-roads, unclassified rural and urban roads that the majority of residents live on or along.

Should the motion be passed today our District council will write to the Chief Executive of Staffordshire County Council, Patrick Flaherty and the Secretary of state for Transport, Louise Haigh expressing our above concerns and ask for a response.

*(The original motion presented to the September 2024 Stafford Borough Full Council meeting has had some editing from myself (Cllr Mawle) but the majority of points and comments remain the same.)*

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