

Council

22 March 2021

Motions (2 total)

Motion A	Proposed by: Councillor Horwood	Seconded by: Councillor Boyes
	<p>Motion to support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill</p> <p>Council notes that</p> <p>* This council declared a climate emergency in February 2019, drawing attention to atmospheric CO2 levels which have already risen above 400 parts per million (ppm) and continue to rise; and that without more significant and sustained action, the world is set to exceed the Paris Agreement’s 1.5°C limit between 2030 and 2040; and that the current UK target of net zero by 2050 is therefore too little too late.</p> <p>* This council has already taken a lead on climate change and ecological issues adopting a proactive recycling approach, delivered a local plan with strong environmental policies, promotes sustainable transport options and is now taking fresh initiatives like the Cheltenham Zero Partnership; and that other councils including Cheltenham Parish Councils are also taking pro-active action on climate change.</p> <p>* There is a Bill before Parliament — the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill (published as the “Climate and Ecology Bill”) — according to which the Government must develop an emergency strategy that</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. requires that the UK plays its fair and proper role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with limiting global temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial temperatures 2. ensures that all the UK’s consumption emissions are accounted for 3. includes emissions from aviation and shipping 4. protects and restores biodiverse habitats along overseas supply chains 5. restores and regenerates the UK’s depleted soils, wildlife habitats and species populations to healthy and robust states, maximising their capacity to absorb CO2 and their resistance to climate heating 6. sets up an independent Citizens’ Assembly, representative of the UK’s population, to engage with Parliament and Government and help 	

	<p>develop the emergency strategy.</p> <p>Council therefore resolves to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill * Inform the local media of this decision * Request the cabinet lead for climate change to write to our MPs, asking them to support or thanking them for supporting the Bill; and * Write to the CEE Bill Alliance, the organisers of the campaign for the Bill, expressing its support (campaign@ceebill.uk) 	
Motion B	Proposed by: Councillor Brownsteen	Seconded by: Councillor Harvey
	<p>This council notes with concern the increase in homelessness and rough sleeping nationwide in recent years, and the profound impact that homelessness has on people’s physical and mental wellbeing.</p> <p>Council recognises that two common reasons why members of the public may not give spare change to homeless people are a concern about how that money may be spent, and, due to the recent increase in use of contactless payment cards, often have less or no cash about their person.</p> <p>Council considers the BillyChip®, a Ceramic token which can be purchased in cafes and later redeemed by a homeless person in exchange for a hot or cold drink, to be a simple, innovative and more secure way for members of the public to give financial support to homeless people, which many wish to do.</p> <p>Council recognises further that the BillyChip® is already available in numerous outlets across Bristol, Bath and Oxford, is in the process of identifying and approaching potential venues in Cheltenham, and is the subject of huge popular online support.</p> <p>Council wishes to be part of this.</p> <p>Council offers the BillyChip® its full endorsement and commits to supporting the implementation of the chip here in Cheltenham.</p> <p>To achieve this, council resolves to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - collaborate with the BillyChip CIC on developing its profile in Cheltenham - give the BillyChip CIC free use of its premises for the purposes of public information meetings - provide space on the Cheltenham Borough Council website listing participating venues and other relevant information 	

	- ensure that all appropriate council-operated venues participate in the scheme
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