

Parish Council report from Cllr Vicki Weston

Extracts from the Cabinet Paper presented at the July 9th meeting

To view the full report visit WCC web pages - Committees and then select the Cabinet date.

The end of free kerbside collection of garden waste, which has been provided by the council for over a decade.

The existing sack based collection service will end and will be replaced by an improved service which will include a choice of wheeled bins offered to householders who wish to participate. There will be an annual charge, which includes the supply of the bin and fortnightly kerb side collection. The new service offers the benefit of greater capacity and improved storage of garden waste between collections and will be easier and safer to handle for householders and bin collection staff. It therefore provides a real benefit to those households which wish to subscribe. The additional capacity of the wheeled bins mean that those properties which generate substantial quantities of garden waste will be able to save on visits to recycling centres. The council faces significant pressures on its waste collection budget as a result of changes being made by Hampshire County Council and this new service offer is essential to help the City Council to control its budget on a long term basis.

An annual charge in the first year of the service is set at £39 for those choosing a 140 litre wheeled bin and £59 for those choosing a 240 litre wheeled bin.

Many householders clearly regard it is an integral part of the household waste collection service and there will be some adverse comment on the move to a charged service. However, in view of the financial implications of introducing a charge for collections, about which the council is being transparent, and the improved service which will be offered to those householders who take up the option, the experience of other authorities who have introduced charging is that it is accepted (albeit reluctantly) as a reasonable measure and that it is in the long term benefit of residents. The scheme will start in February 2021

COUNCIL PLAN 2020 – 25 Q4 PROGRESS UPDATE

- Winchester City Council to be carbon neutral by 2024
- The Winchester district to be carbon neutral by 2030
- Reduced levels of waste and increased recycling, exceeding national targets
- An increase in the proportion of journeys taken by walking, cycling and public transport (read the full the cabinet report)

Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

- **Safeguard our district's extensive natural habitats and precious ecosystems by delivering the actions in our Biodiversity Action Plan**

We are continuing to deliver biodiversity gain through current land management projects and work programmes. With regard to the Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP), the Business Justification Case has been approved and a Members briefing took place on 30 June 2020, providing an update on the proposals for the new BAP as well as wider ecological initiatives. Production of the BAP has started, and the draft document will be presented to the Health & Environment Policy Committee on 30 Sep 2020 and Cabinet in December 2020. This plan will be shared with Parish Councils for comment.

Reopening of community buildings and grants update

From the 4th July 2020, community centres and other community facilities will be able to open once again in accordance with government guidelines and the easing of lockdown. Below is guidance collated by Action Hampshire which has been sent to our parish clerks and community venues however, you may wish to direct people towards these resources.

<https://actionhampshire.org/news-blog-events/opening-your-community-building-after-lockdown/>
<https://actionhampshire.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Covid-19-Opening-your-hall-after-lockdown-2020-06-15th.pdf>

If you find that anyone needs any further help or advice on the approach community facilities intend to adopt for opening their centres and would like a second opinion, then please do get in touch. Mark Maitland, Community Officer, can be contacted on mmaitland@winchester.gov.uk or on 01962 848518.

In addition to this news, the Grants Department are continuing to provide organisations with the opportunity to apply for match funding of up to £2000 via Crowdfunder Winchester. There are currently three funds available on the platform, so please do encourage organisations to visit our page to look into the criteria and see which fund best suits their application. Even if they do not feel that they are eligible to apply for match funding from Winchester City Council, we would encourage all organisations with a substantial social media following to add their project to the Crowdfunder platform and raise funds from their crowd. This will also provide them with the opportunity to be matched to other funds on the platform that they are eligible for and invite organisations to apply to those.

If you do require any assistance, the team at Crowdfunder as well as ourselves are on hand to answer any questions and guide organisations through the process. Please contact Vanessa Dubisson with any queries on vanessa@crowdfunder.co.uk.

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/grants/crowdfunding>

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/funds/communities-positive-change-fund>

If you require any further assistance with grants and funding, please do not hesitate to contact us on grants@winchester.gov.uk.

COUNCIL'S CURRENT CONSULTATIONS

To view the Council's current consultations follow this link

<https://winchester.citizenspace.com/>

- [Walking For Health](#)
Restarting Walking For Health [More](#)
Closes 21 July 2020
- [Exercise Referral Scheme Participant Survey](#)
The Sport and Physical Activity Team at Winchester City Council are carrying out a survey on the Exercise Referral Scheme based at River Park Leisure Centre. We are currently in the process of building a new leisure centre and are therefore reviewing the current scheme. [More](#)
Closes 31 August 2020