

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

- 1.1 The Proper Officer reports that, pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 13, the following motions have been received:-

- 1.2 From Cllrs M G Wilkinson, A H Eves and G J Ioannou:-

Motion on notice to amend the system of recording the results of voting as contained within Part 4 of the Constitution of the Council

“That paragraph 17.3 of the Constitution be replaced with the following:

Unless a recorded vote is demanded under Rule 17.4, the Chairman will take the vote by a show of hands and the numbers of those voting for or against a motion or abstaining from voting will be recorded in the minutes.”

- 1.3 From Cllrs C C Cannell and J E Newport:-

Motion to increase support for RSPCA firework campaigning

‘Well organised, considerate, public fireworks displays, such as the annual displays at King George V's Playing Fields and Belchamps, bring enjoyment to many people in the District.

Unfortunately, however, residents have been contacting their local Councillors due to irresponsible private use of fireworks in residential areas.

There are four categories of fireworks in the UK and the first three categories are available to buy, carry, or use (on private property) by any member of the public aged 18 or over.

Fireworks can be legally used on any day between the hours of 7am and 11pm, with extensions in place on Bonfire Night (12am), New Year's Eve, Diwali and Chinese New Year (all 1am).

This Council notes:

- The unpredictable occurrence of loud noise, that most fireworks produce, can cause fear and anxieties, both to people and animals.
- Used irresponsibly, fireworks can cause damage to property, pose a fire risk, and do significant harm to people and animals.
- The RSPCA run a public awareness campaign, aimed at ensuring people can enjoy fireworks responsibly whilst reducing risk to animals, and residents.
- Rochford District Council support this public awareness campaign on its

website and provides residents with links to the RSPCA's website to find out more about it.

This Council resolves to:

Support the RSPCA's Bang Out of Order campaign by:

- Writing to the UK Government urging them to introduce legislation that reduces the maximum noise level of P2 & P3 fireworks from 120db to 90dB for those sold to the public for private displays
- Taking measures to ensure public firework displays within Rochford District can be advertised in advance, with appropriate references to the size of the display, allowing residents to take precautions for people and animals in their care.'

1.4 From Cllrs J E Newport, C M Stanley and C C Cannell:-

'This Council notes:

- 1) The Council has a working group to understand the implications and recommend initial actions this Council can take to reduce its carbon footprint, ahead of becoming carbon neutral by 2030;
- 2) That the biggest single contributor to climate change is the emission of carbon from fossil fuels;
- 3) That trees have the ability to soak up carbon emissions and therefore tree planting can offset some of the carbon dioxide which is contributing to climate change;
- 4) Forest Research, Britain's principal organisation for forestry and tree related research, says that the average tree canopy cover figure in England is 16%, measured from 283 towns and cities.

The Rochford District has less than 10% tree cover and Friends of the Earth recommends that this should be, at least, doubled

This Council therefore calls on the Managing Director, Strategic Director, and Assistant Director for Place & Environment, to produce a tree planting strategy which:

- 1) Aims to increase considerably the tree cover within the District by identifying council owned land that could be used for tree planting;
- 2) Sets out to create community orchards to help improve the supply of fresh, local produce and boost the health of residents;

- 3) Works with the voluntary sector to deliver tree planting plans;
- 4) Involves schools, colleges and their pupils and students in carrying out tree planting and woodland maintenance;
- 5) Identifies sources of funding available to the council and voluntary organisations to reduce the cost to the taxpayer.'

1.5 From Cllrs M J Steptoe and Mrs C E Roe:-

"That this council fully supports the campaign and calls on the PFCC and the Chef Constable to reopen the public/front desk at Rayleigh Police Station and for beat officers to hold regular bi-weekly meetings for the public to attend at key venues in the District "

1.6 From Cllrs Mrs J E McPherson and Mrs J R Gooding:-

Last year our Government led the way by being the first national government to declare an environment and Climate Emergency. Aiming to be carbon neutral by 2050.

Our own authority has set up a carbon neutral working group specifically to identify how we can reduce our carbon footprint and aim to become carbon neutral.

We now have the emerging 'Environment Bill' which will bring into UK law environmental protections and recovery.

The Environment Bill will put the environment at the centre of policy making. It will make sure that we have a cleaner, greener and more resilient country for the next generation. This will provide new developments that enhance biodiversity and create new green spaces for local communities to enjoy.

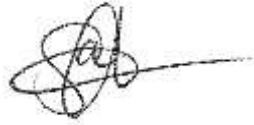
- This Council is currently working on preparing a new Local Plan. I propose that the environment bill is at the centre of this new plan.

- That this council lobbies the Secretary of State to ensure that the National Planning Policy Framework and the Planning Advisory Service adopts the aims of the environment bill within their policy framework.

1.7 From Cllrs Mrs J R Gooding, Mrs C E Roe and M J Steptoe:-

Inconsiderate parking on footways and grass verges is both antisocial and potentially dangerous for pedestrians and motorists alike. Furthermore, grass verges become churned up and look unsightly and incur costs to repair as a result.

Rochford District Council is seeking to identify with partners, including Essex County Council Highways and the South Essex Parking Partnership, to explore ways in which traffic regulations can be put in place, and enforcement resource can be made available, in order to lessen the problem throughout the Rochford District.



Angela Law

Assistant Director, Legal & Democratic

Background Papers:-

[Bang Out of Order: Fireworks Frighten Animals](#)

For further information please contact Michelle Power (Democratic Services Officer) on:-

Phone: 01702 318179

Email: michelle.power@rochford.gov.uk

If you would like this report in large print, Braille or another language please contact 01702 318111.