

St Peter the Great Parish County Council, Worcester

Strategic Principles 2021

Introduction

This document sets out the Strategic Principles that the St Peter the Great County Parish Council will follow during the Council's period of Office. The document was first devised in 2017, and the continuing relevance of the principles will be considered every year at the Parish Council Annual Meeting and in the first quarter following Council Elections.

The next formal review is in 2022.

Council Objective

To ensure that local residents' views are communicated and represented and that services are effectively delivered. To ensure that the parish, in terms of aesthetics, green spaces and community facilities, providing a pleasant, safe and socially cohesive environment for our residents.

Principles to be followed:

- The Council will, on an annual basis, consider whether it is fulfilling its objectives and if it considers it is not, review whether the continuation of the Parish Council is to the benefit of the community and Parishioners of St Peters.
- The Council will continue to provide a warden style service, whilst recognising that the cost of this service will rise due to financial pressures on the City Council. The Council will not pay more than a maximum of 35% of the annual precept on the service and as such may need to modify what is provided or seek ways of providing the service via other means.
- The Council will seek to maintain and where possible enhance the environment and the aesthetics of the area. The Council will therefore generally not support any planning application that the Council considers does not fit into the general environment of the Parish and/or is not considered as neighbour friendly.
- The Council will continue to support the long-term provision of a village/community hall facility within the Parish but recognises that this needs to include facilities for our local secondary school age youth which are currently lacking. To achieve this the Council will continue to work closely with the Village Hall Association, the City Council and any other appropriate community group to ensure the objective is achieved. To assist in this the Council will look to maintain a healthy level of reserves of a minimum of £100k.
- The Council with the assistance of the Friends of St Peters Park advisory group will develop and maintains a rolling 4-year plan for the Parishes Parks and Green Spaces. The Plan will identify the role and future requirements for each green space and will identify varied green environments required.

- The Council recognises that the current Area 51 play area equipment in Power Park is at the end of its economic life and will work with the City Council on a replacement plan to ensure that a suitable facility is maintained in this location.
- The Council will continue to seek ways to improve the drainage within power park, and improve the sports pitch for the benefit of the local community.
- The Council will closely monitor the activity coming from the South Worcestershire Development Plan and seek to maximise any benefits that could come to the Parish in terms of facilities or funding, as well as identifying, commenting on and trying to minimise any adverse effects on the Parish
- The Council will continually review whether Newslink is the most effective way in terms of communicating and financing of communications with residents in the Parish.
- The Council will look to encourage community and group activities within the Parish across all age ranges. The Council will do this by facilitating arrangements as required and by providing access to Council grants and such other means as it considers suitable.
- The Council will provide an annual parish festival to celebrate and bring together our community.
- The Council recognises the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and that the health and well-being of our residents is a key component of a resilient and thriving community. As a result, it will endeavour to influence and support the policies, initiatives, and information campaigns of the principal local authorities and other local public health bodies that benefit the parish
- The Council will maintain a Council Office facility within the Parish.
- The Council will be financially prudent and will seek to minimise any increase in the level of annual precept

Adopted: Minute 10621
October 2021