

- D) Car Parking: Mrs Cordwell reported that Stroud District Council had now carried out one survey and another was planned. A paper for Stroud District Council Cabinet would then be prepared and a further report made to Town Council. The work on this had been delayed due to the officers concerned being called upon to deal with other problems at Stroud District Council.
- E) T.3478B: It was noted that Inspector Alistair Barby was to attend the October meeting of Town Council to discuss the issues raised about meetings concerning community safety.
- F) Energy efficiency: It was noted that no report had yet been received from the survey carried out by JRP Solutions. The Clerk would enquire about this.
- G) It was noted that, as requested at the August meeting, Quattro Design were checking the capacity concerning the contract for the Civic Centre fascia work. A further report would be made.

T.3496 LOSS OF OUTREACH AND OTHER SERVICES TO WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE

- A. Registration Office in Civic Centre. It was noted that this service had now been discontinued with effect from 1st September. The Clerk reported that there had been no consultation by the County and no notification that the service was being withdrawn. The Town Council staff were only aware of the changes because the visiting registrars had noted that this was their final visit. As this had occurred during the period when there was no planned Town Council meeting, after consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, the Clerk had written to the Head of Registration and to the Group Director for the Community Safety Directorate objecting to the withdrawal of these services, pointing out the problems this created for local people and asking why the Town Council had not been consulted about this. Both officers had responded stating that the service had not been withdrawn and both had criticised the Registrars for disclosing this information. However, the Clerk had found that it was not possible to book appointments online at Wotton and the local Funeral Director had also been told that deaths could no longer be registered here after 1st September. It appeared that both senior officers were unaware that the service had actually ceased. The Clerk was instructed to write to Peter Bungard, the Chief Executive, concerning the withdrawal of the service without consultation and about the apparent lack of knowledge on the true situation on the part of senior officers and asking for this to be clarified and the service reinstated.
- B. Stroud District Council officer attendance in One Stop Shop: A request was noted from Shobhan Sen of Stroud District Council to change the attendance of an officer on one morning a week to a fortnightly visit. The Clerk noted that this proposal came as the new Computer based Lettings system was to be introduced in September when the public would have access to use one of the computers in the OSS during the hours it is open. It was apparently anticipated that all those requiring this service would be able to use the technology independently but in the absence of a Stroud Officer it appeared highly likely that our staff will be required to assist anyone having problems. It was noted that, during the recent audit of Stroud District Council operations following the major overspend, one aspect which was praised as a strength was that tenants could access services here. Members considered that Stroud District Council should be improving, not reducing, what was a good service.