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Street lighting project will save money

A PLAN to turn off some of the streetlights in Nottinghamshire could save more than £1 million a year and cut carbon emissions and light pollution.

Members of the Cabinet were expecting to approve the scheme on Wednesday, September 8.

The project would involve turning some lights off between midnight and 5.30am, dimming some between 10pm and 7am, and switching others off entirely. A risk assessment would be done for every light and the most appropriate option introduced for each town, village, suburb or road.

Many lights would not be altered, including those near hospitals, accident black spots or areas with higher than average crime rates.

If the project is approved, work on the first affected lampposts will probably start by the end of this year and it will take three or four years to complete.

The Council hopes to save 26 percent of the energy currently used. The costs of altering the lights would be £3.22 million.

Cllr Richard Jackson, Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways, said: "We've looked

very carefully at places where this has been done by other authorities. Their experiences show that collisions and crime don't increase, and crime and accident black spots will continue to be lit."

An added benefit of reduced street lighting would be much better views of the sky at night. James Ince, Nottinghamshire officer of the Campaign for Dark Skies, said: "I am pleased with this proposal to reduce unnecessary lighting. It will reduce sky glow and benefit astronomers – and all who wish to view the beauty of the night sky."

Birthday celebrations at Riverside Bar

FIFTY friends and family were on hand to help Flo Hall celebrate her 90th birthday at the Beeston Marina Riverside Bar on July 31, catered for by Sandy and

her crew from the Boathouse Cafe. Flo and her friends agreed that they couldn't have had a more wonderful evening.

Mayor or leader for Broxtowe

A CONSULTATION is under way to find out whether residents of Broxtowe would prefer an elected leader or mayor now that a new law has meant that the council has to ask its residents about alternative ways of managing the council.

Option 1, which is at no extra cost, is similar to the way the council is currently run. Local elections take place every four years to elect 44 councillors and a civic Mayor is appointed annually to carry out ceremonial duties. The whole council selects the Leader who would, under the new rules, then select the cabinet. The Leader would remain in office for four years, unless removed beforehand by a vote of no confidence.

Option 2 would require a Mayor to be elected by local people every four years. The Mayor would select the cabinet, appointing up to nine

councillors. A directly elected Mayor could not be removed from office by councillors. It is possible that the role of Mayor would no longer exist, but the Council could appoint a councillor to carry out ceremonial functions.

Consultation

The consultation will remain open until September 30, and residents are asked to write, email or complete the legal department's online form, to tell them which option they prefer.

For more information, write to Head of Legal and Monitoring Services or tel: (0115) 917 3230.

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