

WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 15 December 2014

AGENDA ITEM 7

Questions from Members

1. Question from Councillor B Pollock to the Leader of the Council

Given the problems caused by flooding across Wycombe District last winter, can the Leader let us know what arrangements are in place should a similar such problem occur again over the next few months?

Verbal reply to be given by Councillor R Scott (Leader of the Council)

2. Question from Councillor A Turner to the Deputy Leader of the Council

Earlier this year Wycombe District Council agreed to petition the Government regarding the HS2 project construction traffic using the roads within this District, can you please advise as to who will be presenting the petition to the Select Committee on behalf of the Council and are they fully prepared?

Verbal reply to be given by Councillor H McCarthy (Deputy Leader of the Council)

3. Question from Councillor M Knight to the Cabinet Member for Community

Does Wycombe District Council have any plans to begin exercising its right to make annual charges to home owners for a license to access their property via council owned service roads or footpaths, in locations where historically these licence fees have not been charged and are you aware of any local housing associations planning to introduce such charges?

Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Mrs J Adey (Cabinet Member for Community)

4. Question from Councillor R Metcalfe to the Cabinet Member for Planning & Sustainability

It has been some considerable time since the National Planning Policy Framework was implemented nationally. What steps have WDC taken to update planning policies in line with the NPPF?

In particular, the NPPF makes reference to the social and economic as well as environmental aspects of sustainable development. Does the Cabinet Member agree with me that sustainable, responsible residential building for good social and economic reasons within the AONB is all but prevented by WDC's current planning policies and procedures; yet our policies DO allow the blight of non-residential developments such as stables,

ménages, outbuildings etc often where they will cause harm to the beauty of the AONB - and that this imbalance needs to be addressed, in order to assist with providing homes for families?

Verbal reply to be given by Councillor N Marshall (Cabinet Member for Planning & Sustainability).

5. Question from Councillor R Colomb to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development & Regeneration

Now that WASPS have played their last game at Adams Park would the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Regeneration advise his estimate of the loss to Wycombe District Gross Domestic Product, which has occurred due to the short-sighted decision of the predecessor Cabinet to kill off the visionary Stadium project.

On what facts does he base his estimate and has he used the new modelling tool launched by Sport England in October 2014?

Verbal reply to be given by Councillor T Green (Cabinet Member for Economic Development & Regeneration)

6. Question from Councillor B Pearce to the Leader of the Council

Does the Leader agree with myself and the minister for Local Government; Mr Pickles, that waste bins should be collected and emptied weekly?

Verbal reply to be given by Councillor R Scott (Leader of the Council)

7. Question from Councillor Maz Hussain to the Leader of the Council

Could the leader please outline progress to date on the Major Projects being undertaken by this council?

Verbal reply to be given by Councillor R Scott (Leader of the Council)

8. Question from Councillor T Snaith to the Cabinet Member for Planning & Sustainability

I understand that once Planning Approval has been given enforcement is reactive .

There is no policing of the completed development to ensure that conditions imposed are met or statutory authorities have effectively used contributions to minimise damage from the developments

Given the large number of applications we can expect from releasing the reserved sites how can we be more proactive in ensuring compliance and enforcement of planning conditions?

Verbal reply to be given by Councillor N Marshall (Cabinet Member for Planning & Sustainability)

9. Question from Councillor Ms J Wassell to the Cabinet Member for Community

The Council has had a Community Facilities Strategy in place for some years now. The original scoping document identified that Bowerdean Ward has no community facility or place for meetings.

This remains the case and in the recent update on local facilities it was disappointing to note that no progress has been made by officers despite opportunities being available.

Please can you let me know when officers will be doing work on a Bowerdean resource as it appears that other less disadvantaged areas are being prioritised?

Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Mrs J Adey (Cabinet Member for Community)

10. Question from Councillor D Watson to the Cabinet Member for Community

Could the cabinet member for Community and Housing please advise the current status of the works done and contracts let with regards to the Little Marlow Running Track, what is still to be done and when local residents can look forward to the new facility being fully operational?

Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Mrs J Adey (Cabinet Member for Community)

11. Question from Councillor M Knight to the Cabinet Member for Community

Since the abolition of crisis loans from the DWP in April 2013, what options are available for Wycombe residents on housing benefit or low income to secure the one month's rent in advance required to access rental property in the private sector, given that rent in advance is specifically excluded from the Local Emergency Support scheme which replaced crisis loans?

This question refers specifically to rent in advance, and not the rental deposit which can be covered through the Wycombe Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme?

Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Mrs J Adey (Cabinet Member for Community)

12. Question from Councillor B Pearce to the Cabinet Member for Planning & Sustainability

Does the Cabinet member agree with me, that the building known as the Big Yellow Storage Company on the London Road, which is opposite the junction with Hatters Lane is absolutely appalling. Prince Charles would call this a yellow carbuncle.

How on earth this obtained permission with this ghastly colour?

I know it is in that company's corporate image but it is not very attractive for local residents in the vicinity?

Can you assure me that there are safeguards preventing another monstrosity being built on the reserved sites?

Verbal reply to be given by Councillor N Marshall (Cabinet Member for Planning & Sustainability).

13. Question from Councillor M Knight to the Leader of the Council

Will the Leader of the Council join me in commending the bravery of Simon Wheatley, the Micklefield resident who last week selflessly rescued an elderly neighbour from his burning house on Micklefield Road?

Verbal reply to be given by Councillor R Scott (Leader of the Council)