

WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 26 February 2015

AGENDA ITEM

Questions from Members

1. Question from Councillor A Turner to the Cabinet Member for Environment

Since the introduction of the ANPR car park system in Princes Risborough the Town Centre has seen a marked drop in footfall. Retailers and residents alike have raised concerns about the system and the adverse effect it is having on the viability of the Town Centre, so much so that proposed investment plans for the Town of at least two national chains have now been thrown into doubt. All of the hard won success of town centre regeneration achieved over the last six years is now in jeopardy, due to the intransigence of Wycombe District Council.

As the Cabinet member has declined any further discussion on the matter, how does this Council plan to address this serious situation?

Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Mrs J E Teesdale (Cabinet Member for Environment)

2. Question from Councillor G Hall to the Leader of the Council

With AVDC committing themselves to thoroughly investigating the benefits or disadvantages of creating a single unitary council for their own area, the remainder of Buckinghamshire is left in a very difficult and potentially untenable position as we clearly could not continue to function in our current format should Aylesbury Vale democratically choose to go it alone.

Do you share my concern that WDC's leadership team's inaction and dithering on this crucial issue to date has left our district, our residents, businesses and prospective businesses in a precarious position, creating a vacuum of economic and social uncertainty.

Are you going to take some inevitable bold and proactive moves towards a unitary council this side of the elections or have you a wish to go down in history as the councillors who ruined our future?

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

3. Question from Councillor R Colomb to the Leader of the Council

The future for Local Government finance is bleak with the prospect of reduced Government grants a real possibility regardless of which Party wins control in the May 7th General Election.

Would the Leader outline the strategies he and his Cabinet are pursuing to protect Wycombe District Council's residents from swingeing Council Tax increases in the medium and long term by developing alternative revenue streams to offset the loss of Government Grants?

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

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

Is the Planning department and service fit for purpose and delivering what residents want for our District and Towns?

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

5. Question from Councillor W Bendyshe Brown to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development & Regeneration

What boost to the Wycombe District economy, have you been able to achieve over the last two years, or have plans to achieve in the immediate to near future?

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

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

As the new Next store on Cressex island is near complete and that the new coach station at Handy Cross sports complex is near completion whereby the PR1 bus route will terminate at the new complex, I understand that the service has been guaranteed to run for a further 5 years from that point, is it possible to have a bus shelter with seats constructed in the vicinity of the Next Store on John Hall Way as the residents in Lansdowne Way will sorely miss the waiting room at the PR1 terminus which is at the moment located on Cressex Island. Could we also have a shelter with seats constructed at the lay-by-pull-in for this route on the Cressex Link Road. It would be very nice also to have a similar shelter constructed outside the Westwood aged person dwelling complex on Holmers Farm Way?

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

7. Question from Councillor M Hanif to the Cabinet Member for Community

It was in the local press recently that telephone scammers claiming to be from 'Wycombe Council' have been targeting residents across the district.

Can you please update us on this and what actions and safeguards are in place so to alert and reassure the local residents about this??

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