

**WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Monday 10 October 2016**

**AGENDA ITEM 6**

**Questions from Members**

**1. Question from Councillor R Raja to the Leader of the Council**

The draft local plan, (as it says in the foreword to the document) "sets out the long term vision for the District, identifying where new homes, jobs and infrastructure will be created..." The plan also states that by the year 2033 (which is roughly as many years away as we are from the end of the last century), about 15,000 homes will need to be built, of which the unmet need for a third will be provided by AVDC. Now that the consultation has been completed and in the face of vociferous NIMBY opposition from some areas can the leader tell us whether the draft plan is still on track, and is AVDC still interested in collaborating with WDC about accepting 5,000 homes?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Ms K Wood (Leader of the Council).**

**2. Question from Councillor M Knight to the Leader of the Council**

Recently Bucks County Council voted to support the idea of a unitary authority for Buckinghamshire and their report talks about boosting the role of town and parish councils to ensure adequate representation of local communities.

Do you agree that this leaves the unparished areas of High Wycombe in a vulnerable position and therefore decisive action is required now to ensure that the 14% of the population of the county who live in this area are properly represented at all levels?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Ms K Wood (Leader of the Council).**

**3. Question from Councillor B Pearce to the Cabinet Member for Planning**

I am sure the Cabinet Member would agree with me that Daws Hill Lane must rate as the worst major road in Buckinghamshire and it is an absolute disgrace. Of course there is the large development being constructed at the moment on the old RAF site (a benefit of the peace dividend). But do you agree with me that Taylor Wimpey should contribute considerably to the upkeep and the repair of this road because at the moment it is an utter disgrace?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor D Johncock (Cabinet Member for Planning).**

**4. Question from Councillor N Teesdale to the Cabinet Member for Environment**

For the last twelve years, the residents of Sands, have been exposed to noxious odours produced by an industrial process on the Sands Industrial Estate.

Will the Cabinet Member assure me that a report will be produced to the appropriate Committee outlining the options available to this Council in order to bring an end to this nuisance?

Only then will the residents of Sands be able to once again fully enjoy their homes and gardens.

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

**5. Question from Councillor T Green to the Cabinet Member for Community**

Please would the Cabinet Member tell me the cost of clearing up after the travellers who camped on the public open space at Terriers last month?

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

**6. Question from Councillor Ms J Wassell to the Leader of the Council**

Will there be additional parking and free parking in Wycombe during December for seasonal shopping? I assume that arrangements will be made specifically at the Marsh Retail Park where there was chaos and tailbacks onto the A40 last year.

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Ms K Wood (Leader of the Council).**

**7. Question from Councillor S Graham to the Cabinet Member for Planning**

The Bucks Free Press recently reported that Buckinghamshire could become a 'working age ghost town' in the next generation if action is not taken to boost its job market according to a leading voice in business.

Does the cabinet member for planning and sustainable development share this view, and if not, what steps are being taken to ensure Wycombe remains a vibrant and a living Town?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor D Johncock (Cabinet Member for Planning).**

**8. Question from Councillor B Pearce to the Cabinet Member for Planning**

Before planning consent is approved for large developments consideration could be given to the infrastructure of the road network and sewerage network to the area concerned.

Considering that we are going through a testing time in Wycombe District Council District trying to meet the Government's quota on new housing development. Do you agree with me that it is sometimes very frustrating when the development takes place long before the infrastructure is constructed?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor D Johncock (Cabinet Member for Planning).**

**9. Question from Councillor R Raja to the Leader of the Council**

WDC currently appears to have over £3.5M in a fund (“CIL”) targeted at supporting future infrastructure projects. Would the leader like to tell us how best to make use of these reserves to improve the life of local residents?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Ms K Wood (Leader of the Council).**

**10. Question from Councillor Ms J Wassell to the Cabinet Member for Planning**

A proposal was put forward by the County Council for an East Wycombe Panoramic Walkway passing through Micklefield, Totteridge and Bowerdean to the Railway Station. I instigated this as a way to encourage walking and make footpath improvements. The District Council felt unable to support this scheme at present. What further work is required to enable you to support this scheme?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor D Johncock (Cabinet Member for Planning).**

**11. Question from Councillor M Knight to the Leader of the Council**

Today is World Mental Health day. On 21st September a Commons Select Committee published a report into mental health services which made a number of recommendations including developing an effective strategy to integrate health services and to join up relevant public services to ensure continuity of care for those with mental health problems.

Could you outline how frontline services at Wycombe District Council, such as Housing and Revenues and Benefits, integrate positively with local mental health services?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Ms K Wood (Leader of the Council).**

**12. Question from Councillor R Raja to the Leader of the Council**

Although the council is boosting its overall balance sheet, it is reducing “usable reserves” and boosting “unusable reserves”. Would she agree that this seems wrong at a time of planned investment in housing, especially, when most of the boost in the balance sheet originates from changes in the valuations of existing assets?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Ms K Wood (Leader of the Council).**