

Agenda Item 6

Public Questions to be answered at the Council meeting on 06 October 2022.

Members of the Executive to answer the following questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with the [Council's Constitution](#):

(A) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside submitted by Joseph Tolman-Lopez:

"I want to change the parking situation on argyle road. Some context as to why: Argyle road has recently had an influx of new residents as the charity that owns the properties has opened up to private tenants. The parking on Argyle Road is no longer fit for purpose and needs changing imminently. Firstly, the whole road needs to have marked bays and be SW2 residential permits ONLY. There are local residents as well that are disabled and need dedicated disabled bays. Additionally, on 2 separate occasions my vehicle has been damaged by people and then left without a note. This is terrible behaviour, highly illegal and I believe preventable. If we make the whole of argyle road residential then it will remove some likelihood of damage just as there will be less chance of damage. However, also to this. Please can WBC look to add CCTV to the lampposts on the street. Not only is the parking a concern. However as well as this, anti social behaviour is often an issue too due to the location of the road and the 'thru route' to city playground. I want to know what is needed to get this accomplished?"

(B) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside submitted by Paula Saunderson:

"On 20th January 2022, as the Newbury Clayhill Ward Flood Warden, I submitted a request to the Service Director for the Environment and his Principle Engineer to instigate a Surface Water Management Plan for Clayhill Ward, given that Thames Water had a Call For Projects underway which was expiring on the 25th April, so please may I have an update on how that Request was progressed and what was the Outcome?"

(C) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development submitted by Paul Morgan:

"Following the OSMC Task Group Report: London Road Industrial Estate dated 28 July 2020, chaired by Councillor James Cole, can you please advise who from the Council (Officers & Councillors) were given the authority /responsibility to ensure that the full list of recommendations specified in the report was adopted, adhered to, and implemented and what performance measurement and tracking mechanisms, if any, are now in place because of the OSMC report?"

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- (D) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development submitted by John Gotelee:**

“At a time of a million job vacancies and offices being converted into flats does the council have any faith in the proposals to create hundreds of new well paid jobs on the LRIE?”

- (E) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside submitted by Alan Pearce:**

“Please would the Council commission an independent report or give a description of where the extra acre of urban runoff caused by the construction of the new A339 London Road Industrial Estate junction is presently being stored before being released at a green field rate into Thames Water Surface Sewer or is it just released and causing flooding downstream?”

- (F) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside submitted by Craig White:**

“How can the council, planning committee members and the planning consultant all be allowed to secretly manipulate the planning process with undisclosed cash deals with the tenant farmer, which would fall under the councils Bribery and Corruption policy, and when reported, even though the council confirmed receipt you fail to reply or investigate; is this not evidence of systemic corruption within West Berkshire Council which undermines the original Planning approval decision for the solar farm at Grazeley, making this an unlawful decision which must now legally be reversed?”

- (G) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside submitted by Adrian Radford:**

“During the Eastern area planning committee meeting 24th August 2022 that approved the solar farm at Grazeley, it was inadvertently & embarrassingly disclosed by the consultant on behalf of the applicant being West Berkshire Council, that a secret financial compensation settlement equivalent to 1/3 of the Bloomfield Hatch farms gross turnover is being paid to the council tenant farmers, so how can such a substantial financial agreement be surreptitiously omitted from any of the application documents and thereby not be made public and open to scrutiny by this Chamber when it is being funded by council tax payers money?”

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- (H) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside submitted by Simon Pike:**

"In the draft 'Transport for the South East' 'Strategic Investment Plan for the South East', does the Council support the proposed 'Intervention' for 'Newbury/Thatcham bus enhancements' and, if so, what enhancements would it like to see?"

- (I) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside submitted by Paula Saunderson:**

"At The Executive Meeting on 22nd September 2022 in Members Questions, Cllr Vickers was given an Answer to his Question 2 by Cllr Somner after he asked if WBC could apply for Surface Water Programme funding from Thames Water, the Answer being "Yes, from OSMC there are ongoing Conversations, and We Will Look to make sure the right things is being done by the right people with the right amount of money provided", so is this to be a NEWREQUEST from a Non-Ward Councillor, and does this supersede the Request from myself as the Clayhill Ward Flood Warden and member of the Lambourn Valley Flood Forum"

- (J) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside submitted by Alan Pearce:**

"At present all the surface water from the London Road industrial Estate (LRIE) flows into the Thames Surface Water Sewer and is then released unattenuated into the Northbrook stream. This is because the water table is just below the surface due to the river Kennet and only small quantities of urban runoff can be stored on site.

During heavy periods of rain, the urban runoff is attenuated downstream at the enclosed Tesco culvert and my garden is flooded to store the urban runoff until it drains away, my property is located after the Greenham Lock where the water table is approximately 8ft 11" lower so the land can store more water than the LRIE at a ratio of 5:1

Please would the Council say how it is intending to redevelop the LRIE without a master plan outline planning permission that incorporates the necessary third-party land and a holistic drainage system, so each individual site on the LRIE can comply with common drainage law and planning policy?"

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- (K) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development submitted by John Gotelee:**

“Is the LRIE refresh project fully costed (Yes / No). If not why not?”