
Public Questions as specified in the Council's Procedure Rules of the Constitution

Contents

(A) Question not related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside by Paula Saunderson:	2
(B) Question not related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside by Paula Saunderson:	3



Public Questions as specified in the Council's Procedure Rules of the Constitution

Question (A)	Council Meeting on 02 March 2023
Relevant Officer:	Jon Winstanley

(A) Question related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside by Paula Saunderson:

"In the absence of a visible DAMP (Drainage Asset Management Programme), and with a Capital Budget Allocation of £500,000 for 2023/2024, please may I make a plea that the drainage on the Highway between Woodspeen & Great Shefford receives some prioritisation for Drainage Investment in the coming year, as the state of the road in many places is significantly compromised every time it rains, and is very dangerous when that rain freezes?"

The Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside answered:

Dear Ms Saunderson, thank you for your question.

I believe this road is known locally as the Valley Road and as per the description, it is not the easiest to drain as for much of the route the surrounding land is higher than the carriageway. Ditches and grips, normal drainage features in a rural setting, would be ineffective.

On the limited sections of the Valley Road where there is existing drainage, the Drainage Team are aware this is in need of attention and will be investigating this coming financial year and talking to landowners about maintaining their ditches.

I am pleased to say that Valley Road is on the Council's primary gritting network which will help keep motorists safe on this road during the Winter months.

The Chairman asked: *"Do you have a supplementary question arising directly out of the answer to your original question. A supplementary should be relevant to the original question and not introduce any new material?"*

Paula Saunderson asked the following supplementary question:

No supplementary asked.

Public Questions as specified in the Council's Procedure Rules of the Constitution

Question (B)	Council Meeting on 02 March 2023
Relevant Officer:	Jon Winstanley

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

“Under the Capital Budget I can see funding for Thatcham and Hampstead Norreys FAS (Flood Alleviation Schemes) which are in response to past Flooding History, however I can see nothing in this or the longer term budgets to respond to the flooding history of Newbury Clayhill Ward which is in the Lambourn NNZ Catchment, so please can you outline how the Flood Events of February 2014 (9 years ago) are receiving a response, and how the current RoFSW for circa 200 Properties will be addressed? (RoFSW = Risk of Flooding from Surface Water).”

The Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside answered:

Dear Ms Saunderson, thank you so much for your question.

I believe you are aware the Council has submitted a bid for funding from Defra for a surface water study Clay Hill. We are hopeful this will be approved, however we are only likely to find out at the end of this month, hence it does not appear within the Council's budget papers. The funding will be classed as Revenue as it is feasibility and would not appear in the capital programme. If awarded the funding will be added to the revenue budget.

The proposals from the study will inform future year's capital schemes and will form the basis of future bids.

The Chairman asked: *“Do you have a supplementary question arising directly out of the answer to your original question. A supplementary should be relevant to the original question and not introduce any new material?”*

Paula Saunderson asked the following supplementary question:

“The London Road Industrial estate is within Clay Hill, is there any money for flood risk assessment and surface risk assessment and surface drainage assessment?”

The Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside answered:

I do not have the information at hand. A written response to be provided.

Public Questions as specified in the Council's Procedure Rules of the Constitution

