

COUNCIL MEETING – 26 OCTOBER 2016

Councillor questions:

1. **By Councillor Frank McKenna of Councillor John Collier, Cabinet Member for District Economy**

Have you or any member of the council had talks with the management of B&Q as to why they are closing their store in Park Farm?

ANSWER:

No council officers have had any direct contact with B&Q to discuss the closure of the store at Park Farm. Attempts were made last year to find a contact through Locate in Kent and a local property agent to no avail.

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

When were the Council made aware of the closure?

SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER:

They did not have any obligation to notify the council of its intentions to close and they were informed as many others by media and staff at the site.

2. **By Councillor Frank McKenna of Councillor Stuart Peall, Cabinet Member for the Environment**

Can you tell me what has been the cost for the year 2015-2016 to remove fly tip rubbish for all of Shepway?

ANSWER:

In terms of contract payments in 15/16 the cost to remove fly tipping in rural areas (zones 3 & 4) was circa £20k. The cost to remove fly tipping within all other areas (zone z, zone 2a and 2b) is included within the contract price for litter and detritus clearance and cannot be separated out.

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION:

Are there any special funds available to clean up fly tipping?

SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER:

It is in the contract to improve the appearance of the district and costs are met through the contract, the Council is investing in £18,000 of CCTV equipment for the Dover Road area but they will be mobile cameras that can be moved to other parts of the district.

3. **By Councillor Mrs Mary Lawes of Councillor David Monk, Leader of the Council**

Does the Leader believe in raising fairness, justice and equality for all, if so, what plans has he got in place to achieve this in District? If not, why not?

ANSWER:

Of course I believe in promoting fairness, justice and equality for all. We do not have any plans to achieve these goals as we already have supporting policies in place and, therefore, on a day to day basis conform to the delivery of these ideals.

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Can you explain why local affordable housing is not being built, open spaces being used and people being decanted from areas.

SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER

Benefit claimants - Timely and accurate processing of claims with individual intervention if needed.

Housing – We are building Council houses and are on target for 200 within three years.

We operate the Local Authority mortgage scheme for 1st time buyers who have difficulty raising the total deposit required by building societies.

4. **By Councillor Mrs Mary Lawes of Councillor David Monk, Leader of the Council**

On the 18 February this year I asked about the cost of leisure centres at Nickolls Quarry & Princes Parade. You stated that there was no difference in costs between building a leisure centre at Nickolls Quarry or Princes Parade.

I asked you for a breakdown of costing carried out by Shepway District Council for these sites. You had agreed to give me copies of these costings eight months ago? When can I expect to receive these costings?

ANSWER:

This is the second time Cllr Lawes has asked this question. I advised her on the 16th March and advise her again on 26th October that, *“The costs of developing a Recreation Centre have not been compared in the way that her question implies.”* I also directed her to all of the appropriate background reports on the subject.

The Council is focussed on preparing a planning application for a new recreation centre and other uses at Princes Parade. It is intended to submit

the planning application following consideration of the detail and nature of the application by Cabinet in December.

All papers relating to the planning application will be published thereafter.

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

It was stated at a previous Council meeting that you would give copies of costings, these have not been received why?

SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER:

There are no comparisons to give.