



FULL COUNCIL, Wednesday 16 September

## MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

- 1) **To the Cabinet Member for Culture and Community Engagement, Councillor Wallace**

**From Councillor Cllr Jody Ganly**

Would the Cabinet Member confirm the full breakdown of costs in obtaining Green Flag status for our parks each year.

- 2) **To the Cabinet member for the Environment, Councillor Benham**

**From Cllr Barry Mugglestone**

Would the Cabinet Member confirm for each of the last five financial years, the number and financial cost of court cases (including successful claims against the council) the council has been involved with in relation to road and pavement defect claims.

- 3) **To the Cabinet Member for the Environment, Councillor Benham**

**From Cllr Stephanie Nunn**

Would the Cabinet Member confirm the current number of road and pavement reactive repair orders that have been outstanding for more than 28 days.

- 4) **To the Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services, Councillor Dervish,**

**From Cllr Reg Whitney**

Would the Cabinet Member confirm for the last five financial years, the total surplus/deficit between income and expenditure for the Planning Department.

**Council July 2015**

**5) To the Leader of the Council, Councillor Ramsey**

**From Cllr Ray Morgon**

Would the Cabinet Member confirm:

- a) How many awards the council has put itself forward for over the past two years,
- b) The cost in doing so,
- c) What direct benefit would residents see for applying for such awards.

**6) To the Leader of the Council, Councillor Ramsey**

**From Cllr John Wood**

1. Would the Cabinet Member confirm:

- a) What specific work has been carried out under the Community Payback Scheme during this current financial year,
- b) What monies have been allocated by this council (if any) to this area of work,
- c) How does the council monitor and evaluate the results of the completed work.

**7) To the Cabinet Member for Culture, Councillor Wallace**

**From Cllr Jeffrey Tucker**

Chafford School, Rainham includes a swimming pool and after becoming an Academy and following a land tribunal this formerly council owned pool became a school owned pool. The Council contract to run the pool ends in 2016 and the school say they don't have the money to maintain the pool.

Following negotiations Chafford submitted plans to expand the school and close the pool but the approved plans include a site for a new pool when the funding becomes available.

As there are already swimming pools in Hornchurch and Romford (Central Park) and due to the lack of progress for an additional Romford pool (Romford Leisure Centre) will the Administration now take action to ensure there is a swimming pool at Chafford that serves Rainham and the growing population in the south of the borough?

**Council July 2015**

**8) To the Cabinet Member for oneSource, Cllr Ron Ower**

**From Cllr Keith Roberts**

During a period of austerity it's difficult but vital to maintain staff morale! Following a review of parking policy all council employees now pay for parking at the Town Hall and this becomes a de facto pay cut that is proportionally higher for lower paid staff. Pay cuts are bad for morale and particularly so when the money raised is spent to install new, unnecessary and expensive barriers in the rear Town Hall car park, requiring the removal of many trees.

What was the cost of installing the barriers and associated changes and are there plans for further CCTV additions to the scheme?

**9) To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr Damien White**

**From Cllr David Durant**

In a Recorder article the Council Leader announced that the proposed commonwealth name changes for the Hillrise Estate have been abandoned due to a lack of public support! It also reported that the Cabinet Member for Housing said the new community centre would be named after Her Majesty and he was sure residents would agree! Cllr Damian White, what progress has been made in securing residents, Council and Her Majesty's agreement for this new proposal?

**10) To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Damian White**

**From Cllr Patricia Rumble**

Before Liberty Housing enter into a leasing contract with a private landlord what checks are carried out to the properties, regarding condition, quality and safety?

**11) To the Cabinet Member for Financial Management, Cllr Clarence Barrett**

**From Cllr Philip Hyde**

Given the recent significant decline in the Stock Market, our pension deficit will have grown from its already precarious position. If this situation does not improve by year end, will the council be required to make further additional contributions in this or the next fiscal year. If so, has a provision been made?

**Council July 2015**

**12)To the Cabinet Member for oneSource, Cllr Ron Ower**

**From Cllr Julie Wilkes**

Would the Cabinet Member confirm:

- a) What ICT strategy this council currently has in place,
- b) What monies has been allocated to IT improvements this financial year,
- c) What projects have been agreed,
- d) How were these priority projects selected.

**13)To the Leader of the Council, Cllr Roger Ramsey**

**From Cllr Michael Deon Burton**

Persimmon Homes gave a presentation at Rainham Library regarding their plans for Dovers Corner. There was a good attendance and some group discussion tables made suggestions of what was needed to make the development a success. The Council Leader attended the presentation and addressed the meeting saying this was a great opportunity to help shape the development of a Garden Suburb in the south of the borough.

Persimmons promised to hold a further feedback meeting before submitting any planning application, but have submitted an application without holding the promised meeting and prior to the completion of the Local Plan.

Cllr Ramsey, do you regret that Persimmons Homes have acted this way and agree a Local Plan is needed for the area rather than piecemeal development?

**14)To the Cabinet Member for Environment, Cllr Robert Benham**

**From Cllr John Glanville**

Given the ever increasing tariffs imposed upon landfill by the European landfill directive how has the council decided upon the new figure of £150 as an on the spot fine for fly tipping?