

FULL COUNCIL – 11 SEPTEMBER 2023 – QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 22

Question 1

From Cllr J Davies to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economy, Cllr Tipp

Pennington, like many villages across our district, needs to keep its shops. They're a vital part of any thriving community. In recent years, our shopping parades (especially South Street) have come under increasing pressure with developers using new permitted development rights to change shops into houses and flats.

Would the District Council consider making an Article 4 direction for both Pennington Square (encompassing South Street parade) and Fox Pond shops to remove permitted development rights?

Question 2

From Cllr Millar to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economy, Cllr Tipp

The new allotment space for the new developments at Augustus Park uses treated water rather than having a borehole that taps into the abundance of water running beneath Fordingbridge. Given the cost of treating water, should Council now institute a policy that all future allotments agreed within any planning development are built with a water strategy that minimises the use of treated water.

Question 3

From Cllr M Wade to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Corporate, Cllr Heron

In these times of belt tightening and a cost-of-living crisis, how can the Leader of the Council justify spending a proposed £100k on a consultant's report for the forward use for Appletree Court? Does he realise how profligate and navel gazing this looks to our beleaguered residents?

Question 4

From Cllr Clark to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Corporate, Cllr Heron

To what extent has this council investigated the use of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) within its estate? Have the use of such concrete been discovered and what programme of remedial action has been planned?

Question 5

From Cllr A Wade to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economy, Cllr Tipp

This is a follow-up to a question submitted to the Council meeting held on 10 July 23, regarding the Planning Committee's decision to grant permission to re-develop the site of the former Fawley Power Station.

The application 19/10581 is still "Awaiting decision", subject to a completed Section 106 agreement. The Council's Case Officer addressed the Planning Committee at their December 2022 meeting with an "Update".

The completed S106 was expected in January this year, and the Service Manager - Development Management, has emailed the Committee with another message stating the delay lays with the applicant.

Are the Council Officers trying to get the applicant to agree to unreasonable demands set by this Council and can the Portfolio Holder carefully and clearly state what the issues are?"

Question 6

From Cllr Brand to the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, Cllr Poole

Following a report that shows Lyndhurst and Minstead has the most unsolved burglaries in the Country at 84. Isn't that appalling?

Local businesses have lost faith in the local Police due to consistent thefts from their shops. This is not unique to Lyndhurst, however.

So, is it about time we prioritised theft from businesses and residential properties as part of our Community Safety plan for the New Forest?