FULL COUNCIL - 26 FEBRUARY 2024 - QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 22

First Questions

Question 1

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

I'm pleased to see that this Council will be conducting a review of the Local Plan. It is sorely needed. Can the Portfolio Holder promise me that this review will get rid of the stupid policies that allow developers like Churchill free rein to swamp Lymington with luxury retirement flats that locals do not want?

Question 2

From Cllr Caroline Rackham to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economy, Cllr Derek Tipp

Changes to planning law in October last year make it necessary for any decision by local planning authorities to actively 'further' the interests of the National Park, rather than just not doing anything to its detriment.

How does this relate to what this council would like to see happen to the Dibden Bay site?

Question 3

From Cllr Brand to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Sustainability, Cllr Blunden

The residents of Lyndhurst and Minstead did not receive their black and recycling bin bags as planned in November. It has come to light that many residents in Minstead have not received them for the last five years despite ringing in to request them. What is the Waste team doing to ensure that this will not happen again and that it is not happening in other parts of the Forest?

Question 4

From Cllr Millar to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Sustainability, Cllr Blunden

Following the changes made to our waste strategy, residents now need to accommodate a 240 litre wheelie bin as well as the more regular-sized wheelie bin, food caddy and glass bin.

With over 90% of properties now assessed I am yet to find a resident who is aware of an assessment taking place. Can you confirm the criteria against which suitability has been judged, given it appears no assessment of the physical property has been undertaken? And can you confirm the current percentage of properties that have been assessed as unsuitable? For those which are unsuitable, can you confirm that there will be no additional charges levied to the residents affected?

Second Questions

Question 5

From Cllr Caroline Rackham to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Sustainability, Cllr Geoff Blunden

Will the upcoming parking strategy finally allow parking charges to be specific to local community's needs, with different charges depending on the circumstances of each town?

Question 6

From Cllr Jack Davies to the Chairman of the General Purposes and Licensing Committee, Cllr Neil Tungate

Taxi Drivers and Operators have been in touch with me to discuss the new "age of vehicle" proposals included in the draft taxi licensing policy. Could the Committee Chairman explain how this would work in practice? Would a car that is currently compliant need to be changed when this new policy comes into force? That could get very costly for drivers and operators.