

**NON-CONFIDENTIAL
BOROUGH OF TAMWORTH**



COUNCIL

6th December 2025

Tuesday, 10th December, 2024, 6.10 pm in Town Hall, Market Street, Tamworth

SUPPLEMENT – ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

Further to the Agenda and Papers for the above meeting, previously circulated, please find attached the following further information, which was not available when the agenda was issued:

Agenda No. Item

5. Question Time:

- (i) To answer questions from members of the public pursuant to Procedure Rule No. 10.
- (ii) To answer questions from members of the Council pursuant to Procedure Rule No. 11

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. C. V.'.

Chief Executive

To Councillors: G Coates, C Bain, C Adams, N Arkney, M Bailey, B Clarke, L Clarke, M Clarke, R Claymore, T Clements, M Couchman, S Daniels, C Dean, S Doyle, D Foster, H Hadley, T Jay, R Kingstone, K Norchi, J Oates, P Pallett, B Price, L Smith, S Smith, N Statham, M Summers, P Turner, J Wadrup, L Wood and A Wells.

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC NO. 1

Under Procedure Rule No 10, J Nicholson-Roberts, will ask the Leader of the Council, Councillor C Dean, the following question:-

With the announcement that the government wants to abolish Borough Councils, will Tamworth Borough Council undertake a governance review with the intention of creating a number of new parish councils covering Tamworth and therefore provide the first level of local government the majority of Staffordshire benefits from?

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC NO. 2

Under Procedure Rule No 10, P Sharman, will ask the Portfolio Holder for Infrastructure, Heritage and Local Economy, Councillor N Arkney the following question:-

With the council now securing the purchase of Ankerside shopping centre has a full structural survey of the building been carried out.

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC NO. 3

Under Procedure Rule No 10, P Sharman, will ask the Portfolio Holder for Infrastructure, Heritage and Local Economy, Councillor N Arkney the following question:-

How much will Repairs cost to Ankerside shopping centre to make it safe and presentable to the public.

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL NO. 1

Under Procedure Rule No 11, Councillor P Turner will ask the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Sustainability, Recycling and Waste, Councillor D Foster, the following question:-

Following the recent Environment Agency updated flood risk assessment from the River Tame in Tamworth.

Fluvial flood risk in Tamworth is primarily dictated by the River Tame, a “main river”

designated watercourse falling within the remit of the Environment Agency. Flood defences are located along the Lichfield Road and Coton Lane to prevent flooding from this watercourse to nearby properties.

In 2012 the previous modelling suggested the key residential and commercial areas in that location Tamworth benefitted from a 100-year climate change protection, the latest study 2023 show the over topping of the flood defences return period flood events as low as 1 in 30 years.

The flood levels generated during Storm Henk were approximately 0.3 lower than the crest of the flood defence along Lichfield Road.

A 100- year with climate change standard of protection could be reached if the flood defence crest height were increased by 0.5m .

The crest level of the existing flood defence along Lichfield Road is relatively uniform and thus overtopping occurs over a significant length, on either side of the A51/Lichfield road roundabout.

How well does the council believe its current strategic flood plan is robust enough to mitigate the flooding within the whole of the borough?

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL NO. 2

Under Procedure Rule No 11, Councillor M Bailey will ask the Leader of the Council, Councillor C Dean, the following question:-

A long running community project led by former councillor alderman Robert Pritchard along with the Staffordshire Regimental veterans is the installation of the statue of Colour Sergeant Watchman V in the Castle Grounds, I understand that the statue is ready but the council has faced difficulty identifying a suitable contractor for the installation.

Will the Leader of the Council confirm the council is doing everything it can to get the memorial installed as soon as possible and can the Leader update us on when they expect the council to complete the installation so we can continue to honour the memory of our brave men who paid the ultimate sacrifice and service for our country.

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL NO. 3

Under Procedure Rule No 11, Councillor M Summers ask the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Sustainability, Recycling and Waste, Councillor D Foster, the following question:-

According to BBC reports there were over a 1000 hours of raw sewage discharge in our local water courses. Since May 2023 scrutiny in Tamworth has been controlled by the Labour Party. In the 2023 local elections the Labour party also attacked the Conservatives over sewage going into rivers.

Just before the local elections the Conservative group moved a motion to make clear our opposition to this discharge and called on the council to investigate the matter via our scrutiny committees. Why has the labour group failed to deliver this vital public scrutiny?

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL NO. 4

Under Procedure Rule No 11, Councillor P Turner will ask the Leader, Councillor C Dean, the following question:-

Following the recent public meeting convened to discuss activities undertaken by Lightspeed Networks in Tamworth installing their fibre broadband network. I have contacted Lightspeed to understand their plans to rollout this network and enquire why their communications to the residents and this Council have been poor. And request they pause any further pole erection whilst we obtain a clear picture of their plans.

Having received a full and frank apology from Mr Brett Shepherd for their poor level of communication to the residents who are affected by the pole deployment.

Plus, a willingness to cooperate with Tamworth Borough Council by taking up my suggestion of attending a Planning committee meeting also and IS&G meeting.

Bearing this very constructive offer, can I ask the Leader and CEO to find time in their diaries to meet with Mr Brett Shepherd personally to develop a professional communication strategy and action plan.

Also, can you instruct the chairs of the Planning & IS&G Committees to invite the Lightspeed teams to these committees to discuss this full fibre rollout plan so our councillors are fully up to speed with this exciting opportunity.

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL NO. 5

Under Procedure Rule No 11, Councillor S Smith will ask the Leader of the Council, Councillor C Dean, the following question:-

With the impending 'Future High Street' development works, particularly around the Castle Gateway Bridge, many residents and local business owners are increasingly concerned about potential disruptions and the adverse effects these developments may have on our community's events and attractions.

Could the council please outline the mitigation and risk planning strategies that are in place to prevent negative impacts on scheduled events, local businesses, residents, and our iconic Castle during these works? Specifically, how will the council ensure that these important aspects of our town are protected and that any disruptions are minimised?

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL NO. 6

Under Procedure Rule No 11, Councillor S Smith will ask the Portfolio Holder for People Services, Leisure and Engagement, Councillor L Smith the following question:-

Following the recent Light Speed saga, which has significantly impacted and distressed many of our town's residents, it's evident that our current communications strategy is largely reactive rather than proactive. Can the council acknowledge this shortcoming, and what steps are being taken to improve our communications to restore confidence among the community?