

NON-CONFIDENTIAL
BOROUGH OF TAMWORTH



COUNCIL

17th January 2025

Tuesday, 21st January, 2025, 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:** (Pages 3 - 6)
- (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, D Maycock, will ask the Portfolio Holder for People Services, Engagement and Leisure, Councillor L Smith, the following question:-

Can Cllr Smith provide a detailed account of what actions he has personally overseen regarding the Armed Forces Covenant since it was added to his portfolio, including any interactions he has had with the Armed Forces Community?

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC NO. 2

Under Procedure Rule No 10, D Maycock, will ask the Leader, Councillor C Dean, the following question:-

Can Cllr Dean outline what measures the council has implemented to ensure financial assistance and support is accessible to the most vulnerable residents, including those affected by unaffordable housing costs?

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC NO. 3

Under Procedure Rule No 10, Beetham, will ask the Leader, Councillor C Dean, the following question:-

Was the leader of the council aware the Labour Party were going to abolish district and borough councils before the general election 2024?

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL NO. 1

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

Could the leader of the council inform council when they became aware that building known as Ankerside Shopping Centre was potentially coming under into council control?

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL NO. 2

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

It is more important than ever to celebrate our identity as a council. Each year, showcasing events take place across the county. What does this council intend to do for Staffordshire Day to celebrate Tamworth's character, history, and heritage?

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL NO. 3

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

In a world of AI, photoshops and fake news, history can be airbrushed away. Holocaust Day is held on 27th Jan. This day is a reminder of the atrocities in our past and is held to stop any form of genocide from ever happening again. What is this council doing to ensure this terrible behaviour is not forgotten and never repeated as I haven't heard of any plans.

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:-

Will the leader of the council along with me, congratulate our hard working Country councillors for all hard work and endeavour's in getting our roads fixed?

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL NO. 5

Under Procedure Rule No 11, Councillor R Kingstone will ask The Leader, Councillor C Dean, the following question:-

When the Dunstall Park development was approved a few years back a condition (no. 23) was applied that required improvement works to the Ventura Park Road and A453/Hints/Watling Street.

The condition stated, and I'm not going to read word for word what it actually says but to summarise, that plans for road improvement works should be submitted and constructed before any of the properties are to be occupied. In a nutshell, this should have involved a left-hand filter lane being constructed at the Mile Oak crossroads.

We are now some 7 to 8 years on since the application was approved, and the development has seen properties occupied for 4 to 5 years but no infrastructure improvements.

What are the leaders' views on this apparent breach of planning conditions?

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL NO. 6

Under Procedure Rule No 11, Councillor S Smith will ask The Portfolio Holder for Housing, Homelessness and Planning, Councillor B Clarke the following question:-

It's approaching a year since the independent review of Leaseholder Charges was released, which revealed instances of incompetence and poor customer service by the Council. Since taking control of the Council last year, could the

Portfolio Holder update members on any actions taken or implemented within the Council to address these issues? Additionally, have any personnel within the Assets Department been held accountable or received additional training?

Addressing these concerns is vital for rebuilding trust with leaseholders and ensuring that such shortcomings are not repeated.

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL NO. 7

Under Procedure Rule No 11, Councillor S Smith will ask The Portfolio Holder for Cooperative Council, Community Partnerships and ASB, Councillor S Daniels the following question:-

Given the significant increase in funding for our council from the Asylum Dispersal Grant—where Contingency Accommodation funding has risen from £107,250 in 2023/24 to £182,000 in 2024/25 (an increase of £74,750), and with new Dispersed Accommodation funding of £21,000 in 2024/25—resulting in a total funding increase of £95,750—can the council assure us that this increase in funding will not lead to the neglect or reduction of resources and provisions for our existing homeless population who are not categorised as asylum cases?

What measures are being taken to ensure that the needs of all vulnerable residents are fully met, and that support for existing homelessness services is maintained or enhanced alongside our commitments under the Asylum Dispersal Scheme.

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