



BROMLEY CIVIC CENTRE, STOCKWELL CLOSE, BROMLEY BRI 3UH

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COUNCIL

Meeting to be held on Monday 14 April 2014

Please see the attached lists of questions and motions received.

- 5 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (Pages 3 - 6)
- 6 ORAL QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL (Pages 7 - 8)
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www.bromley.gov.uk/meetings

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COUNCIL MEETING

14th APRIL 2014

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

(A) Questions for Oral reply

(1) From John D Bailey, UK Independence Party Candidate for the Bromley Common & Keston Ward, to the Portfolio Holder for Resources

Can the Council say how many empty residential properties, and how many empty commercial properties there are in the Borough of Bromley at this time? Have the Council any plans to fine property owners (as in Islington) who allow properties to remain empty beyond say, three months?

(B) Questions for Written Reply

(2) From Martin Curry to the Environment Portfolio Holder

Some time ago, the pedestrian crossing markings were removed from Juglans Rd. The PHYSICAL crossing features, gap in barrier and embossed paving stones were NOT removed. The entrance to Juglans road is much wider than the road itself so cars sweep in, in many cases ignoring the road markings. This is a danger to pedestrians. Will you please either restore the crossing and/or ADD a traffic island to the middle of the crossing?"

(3) From Michael McHale to the Resources Portfolio Holder

The Council publishes " A list of categories of Council Tax discounts and exemptions" on it's own web site of which item T refers to an "unoccupied dwelling which forms part of a property" is entitled to exemption. Why has this exemption not be granted to 5 Elm Grove, Orpington?

(4) From Colin Willetts, Governor, Kemnal Technology College to the Leader of the Council

Dear Leader, thank you for your reply 2/4/14, if the owner of the land incorporating the Waste4Fuel transfer station were to offer the land 'gratis' to the Council/EA on the understanding the site would be cleared by either/both EA/LBB would the Council accept this offer?

(5) From Angela Wilkins, Crystal Palace Ward resident, to the Leader of the Council

(As residents of Crystal Palace ward, we welcome the potential of investment that might bring jobs and economic regeneration to the north of the Borough. We feel however that, given the potential scale of the proposals from ZhongRong Group, the public consultations undertaken to date have failed both in terms of their penetration of the local community and in the very scant level of information provided to the public.)

What safeguards are Bromley Council proposing to ensure that any disposal of land at Crystal Palace Park is genuinely in the public interest, is at a true market rate, and via a process that is transparent and fully compliant with current legislation?

(6) From Angela Wilkins, Crystal Palace Ward resident, to the Leader of the Council

What plans are in place for a true and comprehensive public consultation once the developer's plans are more developed and informed?

(7) From Richard Williams, Crystal Palace Ward resident, to the Leader of the Council

What guarantees can the Council give as regards crucially important traffic and environmental impact assessments and when will they be undertaken?

(8) From Richard Williams, Crystal Palace Ward resident, to the Leader of the Council

Is there any truth in the rumour that the Council and the Mayor of London are attempting to secure a change in the law via the Queen's Speech this autumn to allow for the sale of land in the park?

(9) From Susan Sulis, Secretary, Community Care Protection Group to the Care Services Portfolio Holder

BROMLEY WELFARE FUND PAYMENTS

- (a) What was the allocation for 2013/14 for the Fund?
- (b) What is the allocation for 2014/15?
- (c) What was the total monies paid out?
- (d) Who has the Contract to administer the Fund?
- (e) What is the annual value of the Contract?
- (f) Is the cost of the administration taken from the fund allocation ?

(10) From Susan Sulis, Secretary, Community Care Protection Group, to the Care Services Portfolio Holder

- (a) How many applications for “General Living Expenses” were received, and how many were approved?
- (b) What was the total funding for the G.L.E. category?
- (c) Are vulnerable residents in poverty allowed to make more than one application?
- (d) How is the scheme monitored?
- (e) How are residents made aware of the scheme, and where is it advertised?

(11) From Susan Sulis, Secretary, Community Care Protection Group, to the Care Services Portfolio Holder

**BROMLEY BOROUGH FOODBANK – CHARGING OF A £8,400 P.A.
COMMERCIAL RENT BY THE COUNCIL FOR THE USE OF THE DISUSED SHOP
AT 111 COTMANDENE CRESCENT AS A FOOD DISTRIBUTION CENTRE**

- (a) Why does the Council not take into account the differences between the operation of the Foodbank, and other charities, which derive an income by using shops to sell donated goods, or receive payment from the Council under contracts, to provide essential services?
- (b) Please explain the justification for this decision.

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COUNCIL MEETING

14th April 2014

ORAL QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1. From Councillor Simon Fawthrop to the Resources Portfolio Holder

Is the Portfolio Holder aware of any discussions regarding assigning the Biggin Hill Airport lease under paragraph 5.8.4 of the agreement dated 6th May 1994?

2. From Councillor Tom Papworth to the Environment Portfolio Holder

- How many complaints were received by Bromley regarding potholes in 2013?
- How much did the London Borough of Bromley spend repairing potholes in 2013?
- How much did the London Borough of Bromley spend on compensation for cars damaged by unrepaired potholes in 2013?

3. From Councillor Russell Mellor to the Resources Portfolio Holder

Can you advise as to the number of meetings scheduled for the Improvement and Efficiency Sub-Committee for the current Civic year and the number of meetings, which were cancelled for lack of business?

4. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Care Services Portfolio Holder

Why are clients at Sutherland Court not being allowed to attend day centres?

5. From Councillor Tony Owen to the Resources Portfolio Holder

What would you advise my constituents at 5 Elm Grove, Orpington to do next? They bought their house with an extension, approved by the Council, containing a bedroom, living area, bathroom and kitchenette which enabled an elderly relative to retain a degree of independence within the confines of the house. The planning permission forbade any division of the property into two and none has taken place.

At some point in time the house was mistakenly redesignated as a house and an annexe. The valuation office has recently reaffirmed this redesignation from their desks. If they had visited they may have noticed that there is only one front door to the property and it is a single house with an extension.

6. From Councillor Katherine Bance MBE To the Environment Portfolio Holder

The crossroads at Croydon Road and High Street Penge, continually have the highest statistics for KSI's in the borough. We have been told that the Council will work with TfL in 2014/15 to revisit this location to find an engineering resolution. Can you assure us that funds will be allocated to implement a resolution that can reduce these high KSI figures?

7. From Councillor Russell Mellor to the Leader of the Council

Can the Leader advise me of the changes, which have been undertaken within the Council operating structure since the commencement of the Commissioning programme, also confirming the date the programme was initiated together with substantiated and detailed cost savings since inception.

8. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Environment Portfolio Holder

Is he aware that Steve Reed, MP for Croydon North has commissioned an independent report into the state of the streets in his constituency?

9. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Leader of the Council

What was the cost of the leaflet that went out recently in the borough from him with an explanation of the Council Tax for 2014/15?

COUNCIL MEETING

14th April 2014

WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett to the Leader of the Council

If he will set out the main points of his proposed programme for the next four years for the Council to be elected on May 22nd 2014?

2. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett to the Environment Portfolio Holder

If he will make a statement on the flooding in West Wickham in 2014 and the actions taken by the Council to assist local residents?

3. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett to the Public Protection and Safety Portfolio Holder

What action he is taking to detect and combat fly-tipping in West Wickham?

4. From Councillor Russell Mellor to the Resources Portfolio Holder

Further to my question placed before Council on the 24th February 2014 can the Portfolio Holder provide the salary scales for the staff grades BR and MG together with the number of staff within the relevant grades in each department as listed in the Appendix 1 in reply to my question of the 24th February 2014 for the years 31/03/2011, 31/03/2012, 31/03/2013 and up to the 31/03/2014

5. From Councillor David McBride to the Chairman of General Purposes and Licensing Committee

Could he list the yearly attendance figures of each Councillor from the 2010/11 municipal year, including the figure so far for the current year?

6. From Councillor David McBride to the Renewal and Recreation Portfolio Holder

Could he list the shop unit vacancy rates for Bromley, Beckenham and Orpington town centres from May 2010 up to the latest available figures?

7. From Councillor David McBride to the Renewal and Recreation Portfolio Holder

Could he itemise the financial support from the Council given to areas for their Christmas lights since 2010 and tell me how much those areas can expect in support from the Council this coming Christmas?

8. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Resources Portfolio Holder

What are the latest statistics for electoral registration in the borough, please list by ward in percentage terms?

9. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Environment Portfolio Holder

What has been the cost to date for the Council and the other agencies involved of clearing up after the floods in Sparrows Den and Courtfield Rise?

10. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Environment Portfolio Holder

Why are Friends Groups being denied access to basic information about the contracts for their local park?

11. From Councillor Katherine Bance MBE to the Resources Portfolio Holder

For cases of overdue Council Tax is there a case to answer that Bromley Council resorts to bailiffs too early in the process? What are the conciliation procedures?

12. From Councillor Katherine Bance MBE to the Renewal and Recreation Portfolio Holder

Is the underpinning work at Anerley Town Hall scheduled to go ahead and if so when is the expected start date?

13. From Councillor Katherine Bance to the Environment Portfolio Holder

Will the Council help to resolve the daily fly-tipping on High Street, Penge by use of temporary CCTV. The Council has said this is not their preferred solution, if that is so, do they have a workable solution?

14. From Councillor Simon Fawthrop to the Renewal and Recreation Portfolio Holder

How many food recycle bags (bundles) were sold in Bromley's libraries in the last 12 months?

Can these be shown by Library?

15. From Councillor Simon Fawthrop to the Renewal and Recreation Portfolio Holder

How many visits were there to Bromley's libraries in the last 12 months compared with the previous 12 months?

Can these be shown by Library?

16. From Councillor Simon Fawthrop to the Chairman of the Development Control Committee *(to be asked at every Council Meeting)*

What pre-application meetings have taken place since the last full Council Meeting between Council Officers and potential planning applicants? Can these be listed as follows:-

The name of the potential applicant, the site address being considered.

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COUNCIL MEETING

14th APRIL 2014

MOTIONS

(1) Strike Action in Schools

To be moved by Councillor Michael Tickner and seconded by Councillor Neil Reddin

This Council welcomes the news that only 3 out of all 94 schools in Bromley Borough had to be closed on 26th March due to strike action by NUT teachers. On behalf of the Borough's children and parents, the Council records its thanks to the vast majority of teachers and other staff who worked normally on that day, thus putting our children's education first.

(2) Housing

To be moved by Councillor Peter Fookes and seconded by Councillor Katherine Bance MBE

This Council calls on the Executive to come up with proposals to resolve the housing crisis in this borough.

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