

Oral Questions from the Public to the Chairman:

1) Question from Richard Gibbons:

Given all but two appointments to ECS Committee are new, would all members and portfolio holders introduce themselves, stating: (a) name; (b) relevant skills, experience and interests; (c) wards represented and frequency of proactive engagement with residents by way of surgeries, newsletters, social media, etc.; and (d) mode of travel this evening?

Response to Question 1:

Thank you for your question.

One of the first items on the Agenda tonight will be for the Portfolio Holders and Executive Assistant to briefly introduce themselves and tell the Committee what they are responsible for and what projects they have been assigned this year.

Due to the fact that many of the Committee members are new, as well as the extensive agenda for tonight's meeting, it is essential that the Committee prioritises carrying out its obligations to scrutinise, as well as ensuring that new members familiarise themselves with the task in hand. As a result, the committee simply doesn't have the time to carry out your request. Please feel free to contact members directly after this meeting to discuss your requests should you wish.

Supplementary Question:

Thank you, Chairman, disappointing that you choose not to answer the question. It would have been good to hear how members are engaging with residents. As founder of Friends of Green Street Green Common (which now straddles two wards), I emailed Councillors on 11th April requesting a meeting. Request declined. I emailed again on 24th May. No reply. What would you say to the councillors that appear disinterested in their local environment, considering one of them is on your committee?

Response to the Supplementary Question from the Chairman:

I would say that this is something that you would need to take up with your Councillors after this meeting.

Response from Councillor Mike Botting:

Unfortunately, what Mr Gibbons has said is not 100% correct. He did email Cllr Page, Cllr Page sent out an invitation to all the other Councillors in Mr Gibbons' email. As far as I am aware, Cllr Page is dealing with it, otherwise give me a call.

