

CABINET – 15 SEPTEMBER 2016

PUBLIC QUESTIONS (ITEM 4)

Under Rule 16 of the Executive Procedure Rules, members of the public may question the Executive and Portfolio Holders at meetings. There is a time limit of 15 minutes for the asking and answering of public questions.

1.

Questioner: Graham Darvall

Asked of: Councillor Keith Ferry, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Business, Planning and Regeneration

Question: I do not think a fair and informed decision has been made to include our property within the Conservation Area when the following facts were incorrect or omitted: Officers had looked at 6 year old outdated Google earth maps and seen a green roof, also Officers had only looked at an out-dated Ordnance Survey map which did not show our 30 year old white UPVC Conservatory on the north facing side of the House. By 1994, the well-respected Head of Planning, Mr Keith Hubbard, had acknowledged that our House was not listed nor locally listed, nor part of the nearby Flats, and we quote “had been significantly altered and modernised”. E.G. The old green Crittall windows had been replaced by white UPVC Double glazing. White double glazed Patio doors had been installed, and a few years later the roof was changed to orange Terra Cotta tiles- all these modernisations having been planned to differentiate us from the nearby Flats and to match all the other 24 private houses, going up the Hill.

May we please respectfully ask that Councillors note our concerns and earnestly ask for the Boundary line to be very slightly re-defined so as to exclude our property and more accurately reflect the fact that our house actually clearly visually detracts from the concept of the Conservation Scheme - as after all, we have been for many, many years, simply the first house on the right hand side going up the Hill?

2.

Questioner: Lesley Darvall

Asked of: Councillor Keith Ferry, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Business, Planning and Regeneration

Question: "Why didn't Officers properly and thoroughly check the history of our House as it seems crystal clear that relevant letters were not known to Officers and therefore were not shown to Councillors, so we are sure that Councillors were not fully briefed. Has it been reported to Councillors that we were not consulted?"

We should have been able to make certain that both Officers and Councillors had the relevant letters and I am referring to the letter permitting our new orange terra cotta roof, the report from the then Head of Planning, Mr Keith Hubbard, and the letter from Andrew Pearce which would be most enlightening to Councillors.

In the March 2015 Report to Cabinet The Conservation Officer stated "there were no objections." It needs to be reported to Councillors that it is only because we were not consulted, due to what the Conservation Officer describes as "an administrative error".

3.

Questioner: Raksha Pandya

Asked of: Councillor Varsha Parmar, Portfolio Holder for Health, Equality and Wellbeing

Question: "Could you tell me what public health will be organising this year for World Mental Health Day on 10th October 2016?"