

CABINET - Thursday 10 October 2019

AGENDA PART 1

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: Brian Stoker

Asked of: Leader of the Council

'There are 3 current development proposals by the Council for greater usage of the Roger Bannister Sports Centre: a dinosaur mini golf course, a full size 3G football pitch and 4 improved football pitches, and a small overflow car park.

Residents have expressed concerns about all these applications in respect of the very high numbers of cars using the Centre on Event days on the field/track. The loss of the Green Belt field at the entrance which is used as overflow parking for more than **170** cars on many Event days at the Centre means local roads will be inundated with parked cars.

The planning department, planning committee and the Cabinet have been repeatedly told that in calculating future parking requirements the assumption of **60** cars using the Green Belt field on event days is **grossly wrong**. This number is contradicted by the **facts** of counting **170, 160** etc cars using this field and the Council has been sent the photographs to prove this.

The Interim Chief Planning Officer stated at the planning Committee meeting 24 July 2019 addressing the football pitches' application that "*....there will be a clear Technical Statement that the parking can be achieved.....A separate application in September for over-spill parking will have a Technical Note to give the level of parking required*". The maximum number of parking spaces required was stated to be **146**.

Addressing the parking problem, the Council Leader stated at the Cabinet meeting of 12th September 2019 that for the overflow car park application, "*a further survey and assessment demonstrated that the maximum demand is for **146** places*".

The Transport Technical Note documents commissioned by the Council to support the football pitches and overflow parking planning applications continue to incorrectly **assume 60** car spaces are lost by building on the Green Belt field, supporting the maximum **146** figure, instead of the **actual 170** cars counted and photographed by me. i.e. **110** more spaces required.

Why does the Council not reject these incorrect Transport Reports, give the authors the correct data and acknowledge that the loss of **170** overflow places by the Council leasing the Green Belt field for dinosaur golf will result in major street parking problems on the more than **37** Event days expected next year (stated by the Council in the S106 contract with the dinosaur golf development company)?'

2.

Questioner: John Feldman

Asked of: Leader of the Council

'There are proposed Council developments at the Bannister Sports Centre that will require extensive building time and loss of access to additional car parking facilities at the site for large numbers at Events on the field/track.

How many months will there be between first earth removal for the dinosaur golf course and its 50 car parking spaces being available to use, and how many months will the proposed over-spill car park of 49 parking places be occupied by football field construction contractor vehicles and facilities and therefore not available, and how many months of overlap between the two projects when 99 parking places will not be available, which would be catastrophic to the neighbourhood on Event days?'