CABINET - 9 July 2025

Public and Member Questions

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

1. Graham Betts

In late 2024 Shropshire Council Monitoring Officer (SCMO) accepted the Ombudsman did not consider the removal of raised plateau speed tables (RPST) from the plans of Red Deer Road in Shrewsbury as part of investigation 17016380. The SCMO also accepted the complainant did not raise this in the complaint leading to 17016380

In a question to Cabinet (16 January 2019) from Mr Chris Lemon, the Council response states the Ombudsman had considered the removal of RPST's to justify their removal, thereby misleading the public with an untrue statement. The Cabinet response also stated that the RPST's had been built, which is demonstrably untrue.

The Ombudsman's investigation has also been cited in a Council letter dated 26 April 2024 to justify sanctioning an individual under the Councils Unreasonably Persistent and Vexatious Person Policy (UPVP). That individual had been trying to correct the Councils misleading statement and ask why the RSPT's had been removed from original road plans at Council request and contrary to its design policy. Despite making Freedom of Information requests the Council is unable, or unwilling, to state why the RSPT's were removed from the original plans.

Will the Cabinet please apologise for the use of false information to mislead the public, exonerate the individual unreasonably sanctioned under UPVP and explain why the RPST's were not constructed as claimed?

2. **John Palmer**

A safe and secure environment in Shrewsbury town centre allows economic development, social progress and individual liberties to thrive. Politics is about choices. Shropshire Council's Conservatives-run Cabinet in October 2024 decided to crash 24/7 proactive live CCTV monitoring in Shrewsbury town centre, against the wishes of the public.

Has Cabinet considered restoring the service to its essential gold standard? This could be funded from the savings achieved from the long overdue rationalisation of senior management roles and/or the cancellation of the £28m plans to transform the non-statutory services choices at Shrewsbury Sports Village, including a new second public swimming pool?

Residents' and visitors' safety and security are widely considered to be a first and most fundamental responsibility. Halving serious violent crime, and halving violence against women and girls, is a local and national emergency. Be progressive, and save us from the threats posed by beer monsters and far right supporters littering our county town?

MEMBER QUESTIONS

1. Cllr Rosemary Dartnall

Phases one and two of the Weir Hill development in the South Sustainable Urban Extension are broadly completed. It seems a Phase Three planning application is imminently expected to add a suggested 460 new homes to the 600 already built. This quiet corner of Shrewsbury is forever changed and nowhere more noticeably than on the surrounding roads. In agreement with Shropshire Council the developer contributed £250,000 towards improvements to Belvidere Bridge and £50,000 to provide a footpath/cycle route from the estate to London Road to give travel options for residents accessing shops, schools, GPs and other local needs. These facilitating works are the responsibility of Shropshire Council and the council has been paid.

What has been done to make the bridge safe for two-way traffic? When will the joint foot and cycle path be completed?

2. Cllr Kate Halliday

Belle Vue and Coleham is experiencing persistent problems of people parking their vehicles on residential streets and walking into town, leaving their cars for the day and sometimes for weeks. It is likely people are doing so to avoid car park charges which have recently increased. As a result residents in Belle Vue are having problems getting in and out of their driveways, or finding a parking space near their home. Cars are parking at junctions making visibility and accessibility a problem and on narrow streets there are concerns about emergency vehicles being able to gain access. Cars are parking on pavements (sometimes with all wheels on the pavement causing full obstruction) and creating problems for pedestrians especially those with prams/mobility scooters. Cars are also obstructing the road, parking in turning circles, over driveways and 'double parking' causing problems for vehicular access. In 2020 Belle Vue was identified as a neighbourhood that would be consulted regarding resident parking permits. This was paused during the pandemic, and then when I put a question to cabinet in 2023, the Portfolio Holder at the time would not commit to accepting any new areas for consideration.

Will the new administration consider new areas for resident parking permits, and can Belle Vue be included as an area for consideration?