

Meeting of the Council

Thursday, 26 September 2013

Questions Under Standing Order A13

Question (1) by Councillor James to the Mayor and Executive Lead for Employment and Regeneration, Finance and Audit (Mayor Oliver)	Recently a decision was taken by the Council SCOPE committee not to provide funding for a new building to replace the threshers building in Brixham as was originally set out in the local transport plan. Private finance is being sought through a sale at auction. If this is unsuccessful, will you give a reassurance to Brixham Town Council and the residents of Brixham that you will provide council finance for a new building to be built and sold in its place so that there is no risk that we are left with an empty building site as the entrance to Brixham.
Question (2) by Councillor James to the Executive Lead for Strategic Planning, Housing and Energy (Councillor D Thomas)	Statements have consistently been made that the work to build a Tesco superstore in Brixham will start in Autumn 2013. To reassure local businesses and allow them to make advance plans, place orders and schedule deliveries can you give a date for when you expect the work to commence?
Question (3) by Councillor Darling to the Executive Lead for Highways, Transport and Environment (Councillor Hill)	With the reduction in Litter and dog bins in Torbay, why has the Council not considered increasing enforcement activity against those who allow their dogs to fouling public spaces?
Question (4) by Councillor James to the Mayor and Executive Lead for Employment and Regeneration, Finance and Audit (Mayor Oliver)	What stance is the Council taking on the LGA Rewiring Public Services campaign?
Question (5) by Councillor James to the Mayor and	Of the Torbay residents who have had some of their council tax benefit removed as a result of the governments benefit changes in April, has anyone missed a payment, been warned by Torbay Council about failure

<p>Executive Lead for Employment and Regeneration, Finance and Audit (Mayor Oliver)</p>	<p>to pay or been prosecuted for being unable to pay their council tax bill? If so, how many people has this affected?</p>
<p>Question (6) by Councillor Darling to the Executive Lead for Business Planning and Governance (Councillor Mills)</p>	<p>At our O & S briefing meeting in August it was requested there be all member briefings on matters the O & S did not have time to debate due to an already busy schedule. These included Clennon Valley Sports Facilities Procurement, Plymouth City Deal and Housing Strategy. To date there has been no response from the Authority to this request. I would welcome an explanation?</p>
<p>Question (7) by Councillor James to the Mayor and Executive Lead for Employment and Regeneration, Finance and Audit (Mayor Oliver)</p>	<p>During the planned Tesco development in Brixham town centre, what are the Council's plans to sustain parking provision in the town during the building period and what will be the net gain or loss in parking spaces resulting from the Council efforts to reduce the impact during this period.</p>
<p>Question (8) by Councillor Darling to the Mayor and Executive Lead for Employment and Regeneration, Finance and Audit (Mayor Oliver)</p>	<p>In the Councils financial outturn for 2012-13 it stated that the Council had £21 Million of unallocated borrowing. This is costing the Council hundreds of thousands of pounds in interest. What plans do you have to use this finance to either generate income for the council or assist in delivering priorities for our local communities?</p>
<p>Question (9) by Councillor Baldrey to the Executive Lead Highways, Transport and Environment (Councillor Hill)</p>	<p>An article in 'The Observer' on the 18th August entitled 'March of incinerators threatens recycling' states that in the UK "39 incineration plants have either been built, are under construction or are the planning stage, and there are concerns about overcapacity".</p> <p>Given the likely overcapacity in the UK of incineration plants, can the Executive Lead confirm that Torbay Council will prioritise recycling of waste over incineration, for although as a Council we are committed to sending our residual waste to the incinerator under construction currently at Devonport, we need to be assured that we will always give greater weight to the need for us to recycle?</p>
<p>Question (10) by Councillor Darling</p>	<p>Since October 2012 the credit union Plough & Share have engaged in the</p>

<p>to the Mayor and Executive Lead for Employment and Regeneration, Finance and Audit (Mayor Oliver)</p>	<p>following activity in the TQ2 area of Torquay</p> <p>Loans- Total Successful Loans for TQ2 = 52 Total loaned = £45,170 Average loan = £868.65 If one presume that loans were over one year and at 26.8% (total interest £10,788), compared with a doorstep lender with an APR of 272% (total interest £109,571) that is an interest saving of £98,783 for the TQ2 post code! Savers- 23 regular savers with total deposits £1849 held Oct 2012 to date. In light of the above figures what plans does the Council have to further promote Plough & Share and will the Council consider banning pay day loan lenders from advertising on council advertising space?</p>
<p>Question (11) by Councillor J Faulkner to the Executive Lead Safer Communities, Parking and Sport (Councillor Excell)</p>	<p>I have been contacted by a number of local residents on Torre Marine, Torquay about issues with parking. When will the Council be taking over responsibility for the roads on that estate from the developer?</p>
<p>Question (12) by Councillor Darling to the Executive Lead for Safer Communities, Parking and Sport (Councillor Excell)</p>	<p>I was shocked to learn that the provision of a Women's refuge in Torbay is out to consultation, with a view to ending this service in its current form? Surely at a time of increasing tight finances the Council is wrong to put these people more in harms way by potentially ceasing this Service?</p>