

# Leader's Question Time – Hampton and Hampton Hill

Date: Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018

Time: 6.00 – 8.45pm

Venue: YMCA, White House, Hampton

## Panel members:

- Derek Papworth(Chair)
- Cllr Hodgins (Leader of the Council)
- Cllr Buckwell (Cabinet Member for Highways and Streetscene)
- Cllr Fleming (Deputy Leader – Cabinet Member for Environment, Business and Community)
- Cllr Seymour (Cabinet Member for Planning and Strategic Development)

## Councillors also in attendance:

- Cllr Boyle (Fulwell and Hampton Hill) Cllr Nicholson (Hampton)Cllr Roberts(Hampton/Leader of the Opposition)Cllr Linette(Kew/Cabinet member for Culture, Sport and the Voluntary Sector), Cllr. Samuel (Hampton North), Cllr Howard (Hampton North), Cllr. Sale (Hampton)

## Council Officers in attendance:

- Michael Singham - Waste Strategy?
- Yvonne Kelleher – Parks
- Colin Lucas – Community Safety
- Siobhan Oktay – Community Links
- Mick Potter – Parking Policy
- Anna Sadler – Community Engagement
- David Tidley – Transport Strategy

**Pre-submitted Questions:**

<b>Cycling on Pavements</b>	
<b>Question 1</b>	<p><b>Mr Michael Jay</b> I have been hit two times and have out of the way 11 times by cyclists riding on the footways. The police told me they can do nothing. What is the Council Cycling Champion, Jean Loveland, doing about this by way of a visible publicity campaign to stop this illegal practice before someone really gets injured or killed, as has already happened?</p>
<b>Response</b>	<p>Response and supplementary questions from: 16:33 -24:55</p> <p><b>Mr Jay</b> – had conversation with Sainsbury’s in relation to the possibility of sponsoring/supporting no cycling on pavement in Hampton Square.</p>
<b>Actions to be taken</b>	No action
<b>Speeding Cars</b>	
<b>Question 2</b>	<p><b>Judith Miller</b> Why does the council allow vehicles, including HGVs, to travel at such speeds along the A308 such that the row of listed buildings less than a metre from the road are being shaken to pieces? They accelerate coming away from the incorrectly placed speed cameras by St Mary's. Apart from the damage to property, it is only a matter of time before someone is killed.</p> <p><b>Mr S Chaudry</b> Cars speed excessively leaving the lights at the High Street in the direction of Twickenham at the junction with Park Road. This is also the case approaching the junction from the opposite direction. This is really evident in the early morning and after 7pm. Can we have speed cameras on Wellington Road to counter this?</p>
<b>Response</b>	Did Not Attend
<b>Actions to be taken</b>	
<b>Controls on Houses of Multiple Occupation</b>	
<b>Question 3</b>	<b>Stephen Cunningham</b>

	What can and what are local councillors doing to prevent HMO's (Houses of Multiple Occupancy) in this area for the future.
<b>Response</b>	Response and supplementary questions from 26:08 - 31:12
<b>Actions to be taken</b>	No action
<b>Streetscene/road improvements on Ashley Road</b>	
<b>Question 4</b>	<b>Mr Jon Slinn</b> Please can the council update on plans for improvement of the pavements on Ashley Road where many of the local businesses are based. After all the good work on Station Road this is now the most pressing area.
<b>Response</b>	Response and supplementary questions from 31:46 – 39:39
<b>Actions to be taken</b>	No action
<b>Parking Restrictions on junction of Chestnut Avenue and Priory Road</b>	
<b>Question 5</b>	<b>James Young</b> Please can the Councillors comment on the installation of double yellow lines at the junction of Chestnut Avenue and Priory Road, near Hampton Medical Centre, as it only takes 1 high vehicle parked close to either corner of Chestnut Avenue to cut out any sight-line of Priory Road traffic?
<b>Response</b>	Response and supplementary questions from 40:20 – 41:25
<b>Actions to be taken</b>	No action
<b>Traffic/parking issues on junction of Percy Road and Broad Lane</b>	

<b>Question 6</b>	<p><b>Mr Saunder Narayan</b></p> <p>Could we please consider traffic lights at the junction of Percy Road and Broad Lane in front of Dillon's shop? Particularly in the rush hour, this looks like a serious accident waiting to happen. And Could we please consider clearing at least 1 side of the road for moving traffic in Percy Road and Broad lane, particularly approaching the junction and during peak morning hours.</p> <p>For example a 111 cannot pass another opposite 111 on Percy Road opposite Dillons' shop. Similarly an R70 cannot pass another opposite R70 on Broad lane in front of the cemetery.</p>
<b>Response</b>	Response and supplementary questions from 43:23 – 51:12
<b>Actions to be taken</b>	Highways Officers to inspect area in terms of parking and traffic lights.
<b>Application of Supplementary Planning Document on planning decisions</b>	
<b>Question 7</b>	<p><b>Norma Henning</b></p> <p>Since the SPD from the Village Plan was finalised and come into effect, has it ever been used in any planning applications or other ways to influence decision made?</p>
<b>Response</b>	Response and supplementary questions from 51:38 -59:00
<b>Actions to be taken</b>	<b>Cllr. Seymour</b> – to respond to resident on direct question on potential Hampton Hill car park development.
<b>Future of Clarendon School playing fields</b>	
<b>Question 8</b>	<p><b>Matthew Battle</b></p> <p>Clarendon School Playing Fields - What is the long term plan for these school playing fields post Turing School? Cllr Susan Chappell has indicated that it will sold to the highest bidder - is the council really going to sell off a school playing fields to a housing developer when Carlisle School et al are so in need of space to run, play and learn?</p>
<b>Response</b>	Response and supplementary questions from 1:03:34 -1:10:46

<b>Actions to be taken</b>	<b>Cllr. Hodgins</b> -Talk with officers for future plans for the playing fields.
<b>Development of Hampton Pool site</b>	
<b>Question 9</b>	<p><b>John Banks</b></p> <p>My question concerns the application submitted by Hampton Pool Trust (in August 2016) seeking planning approval for an ambitious expansion project costing approximately £5.5 million.</p> <p>The application was submitted prematurely as the Members of Hampton Pool Trust were not properly informed, involved or consulted about the business case for the project, its affordability and phasing, all of which will have significant bearing on whether Hampton Pool survives in the long term as a local community asset.</p> <p>Do you agree, given the Council’s mandate to act in the best long term interests of the community – specifically the Council’s Adopted Core Policy CP17 regarding facilities for Health &amp; Well Being and the Council’s Draft Local Plan paras 8.1.9 &amp; 8.3.3 on the same subject, that it would be proper for the planning application to be referred back to Hampton Pool Trust so that the Members can then be properly informed, involved &amp; consulted? And, as a result, a modified/more modest/affordable/less financially risky development plan then be re-submitted for planning approval.</p> <p><b>Kevin Rice</b></p> <p>-----</p> <p>Sir, are you aware of the current planning application to increase the size of the Hampton Pool facility by 125% by constructing a new gym building. The justification for this scheme which was not voted for by Members, is given as preserving the facility for future use though currently swimming activities (80% of the attendance) accounts for 87% of the business which makes an annual surplus of over £100,000.</p> <p>This site is part of Bushy Park, a Conservation Area where current Council policy demands any proposals are required to preserve and enhance the location. Amongst other planning designations, the land is Metropolitan Open Land where current Council</p>

policy requires 'land to be protected and retained in predominantly open use. Inappropriate development will be refused unless 'very special circumstances can be demonstrated.'

We all want a better Hampton Pool, but can you ensure full consideration is given to the appropriateness of this scheme for this very sensitive site; that the related planning issues of traffic and sustainability are fully assessed; whether a debt funded scheme for another membership gym is justifiable when this much loved Pool could be offering a plan to enhance Hampton's social infrastructure and increase its attractiveness to the non-active residents who are more likely to use the community swimming pool to improve their health and well-being; these being the declared planning objectives of Richmond Council.

**Cathy Groom**

Are you aware that, contrary to planning policies,

1 this inappropriate application necessitates a "multi-million pound investment" (sic HPT) ie multi-million pound borrowing, to build in Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) and inside Bushy Park Conservation Area (BPCA)

1.1 a large new gym, an additional 845 sq meters of gross internal floor space, (Phase 2)

1.2 rather than prioritizing, before any new build, upgrading the swimming facilities (male/female changing, introduction of new family changing rooms, possible increase the number of disabled changing rooms from a single unit, and staff facilities, ) which is what most Objectors and most Supporters want, ie renovation, and which is consigned to Phase 3 of the application (and only if any funding is available and not exhausted, after the new gym build etc Phase 2 ) and

1.3 additionally a glassed-in high roof clearly visible and rising above the Pool site in an open swathe of uninterrupted visual amenity stretching from Hampton Hill (over the allotments, Park and grazing meadows) to the River, and thus

1.4 will you please reassure and confirm the application will be reviewed in line with planning policies to preserve this unique community open air swim site equipped for high demand for swimming, consider expressly prioritising renovation over new build in MOL and BPCA, and not choke/crowd out the site with construction precluding a transparent swimming review including supportive modern technology.

The bigger the build the bigger the borrowing the bigger the risks. Unlike the long queues for a unique open air swim and use of recreational grass area, no one queues like that for a gym.

**John Orr**

As a Hampton resident, living about 200 metres from Hampton Open Air Pool, I would like to ask the Leader a question about the current application to more than double the size of the facilities by building a new gym facility and increasing the height of the current pool building.

Is the leader aware of the very strong feeling locally against such an enlargement, from so many of my neighbours in the roads near the pool?

Of the significant number of responses on the council website, the vast majority of those from local residents are against the proposal. They cite car-parking problems, extra noise and visual impact of the inappropriate style and size of the proposed building in a part of the borough which is almost rural by its nature as part of Bushy Park, Metropolitan open Land and next to a SSSI.

**Joy Tisdale**

With ref to Planning Application 16/3434/FUL Hampton Pool

As a Hampton resident for more than 30 years, is the leader aware of the multiple issues surrounding this major planning application which are not in line with planning policies?

- The pool is within Bushy Park, a Conservation Area, and in designated Metropolitan Open Land; which according to guidelines should be protected from inappropriate development.
- With a proposed new-build gym on the site this would increase the current buildings by the 845 sq metres or 128%. This is a multi-million pound project and such high borrowing would put our pool at risk in present, uncertain, economic times.
- Locals wish to preserve their much-loved community open-air pool with a more modest, appropriate and sustainable refurbishment.
- The loss of our visual open countryside aspect, given the current plans for a high, glass cafe roof and surround, which does not 'blend in'.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is already an unacceptable pressure of traffic/congestion on local roads and a lack of parking in this residential area.</li> <li>• There is a shortage of pools within the borough and swimming is in high demand and is all inclusive. There are plenty of membership gyms in the area.</li> </ul>
<b>Response</b>	Response and supplementary questions from 1:21:58 – 1:31:54
<b>Actions to be taken</b>	No Action
<b>Future of empty shops in Hampton and Hampton Hill</b>	
<b>Question 10</b>	<p><b>Jane Usher</b></p> <p>What is happening to Hampton's station road ie empty shops, the police station and parking?  What is happening to Hampton Hill High Street empty shops?</p>
<b>Response</b>	Response and supplementary questions from 1:32:57 – 1:50:44
<b>Actions to be taken</b>	<b>Cllr Fleming</b> to check if article 4 on the Tile Shop in Station Road, to be changed into residences.



**Open Questions from the floor:**

<b>Level of crime, particularly moped theft</b>	
<b>Question 10</b>	<b>Resident</b> - Level of crime, moped theft in the area. Made multiple correspondences to the Police and the Mayor. But police said it was not a crime hotspot. Could we have a 30 day trial CCTV at the junction to catch multiple offender, who is living nearby?
<b>Response</b>	Response and supplementary questions from 1:01:44 – 1:02:00
<b>Action to be taken</b>	<b>Cllr Boyle</b> to take resident's details to follow up with the resident.
<b>Attracting business to the area, particularly engineering companies</b>	
<b>Question 11</b>	<b>Resident</b> - policy of attracting engineering companies into the area?
<b>Response</b>	Response and supplementary questions from 1:50:50 -1:53:05
<b>Action to be taken</b>	No action
<b>Loss of heritage buildings in Hampton Hill High Street</b>	
<b>Question 12</b>	Hampton Hill High St – 19 <sup>th</sup> C buildings, due to be demolished for potential M & S
<b>Response</b>	Response and supplementary questions from 1:53:40 – 1:54:14
<b>Action to be taken</b>	No action
<b>Position of planning permissions for Kingsbury Garage and Hampton Police Station</b>	
<b>Question 13</b>	<b>Resident</b> - What is the latest position with Kingsbury Garage in Hampton and the police station in terms of development?
<b>Response</b>	Response and supplementary questions from 1:55:16 – 2:02:10
<b>Response</b>	<b>Cllr Seymour</b> – need to look into infrastructure to support new builds

	<b>Cllr. Hodgins</b> – Concern’s over Major’s Plans in relation to potential 8000 more residences required in the Borough, and the infrastructure that would require. Need to use developments to enhance areas.
<b>Action to be taken</b>	No Action
<b>Traffic levels in the area, impact of Kempton Park potential development</b>	
<b>Question 15</b>	Pressure on Hampton roads, especially around the station. Urgent representation from the Council in relation to Kempton Park and TFL
<b>Response</b>	Response and supplementary questions from 2:03:09 - 2:08:00
<b>Action to be taken</b>	No action
<b>Police provision in the area</b>	
<b>Question 16</b>	<b>Resident</b> - Where is the provision of police in the area?
<b>Response</b>	Response and supplementary questions from 2:08:29 -2:13:34