

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Council Meeting – 17th April 2019

Question 1 from Mrs Shead to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure

Question

Why is my household being penalised and only allowed 100 visitor's permit per year? I need more.

I pay for parking and permits so that people can visit me either for the day or for an hour or two. Sometimes I have more than one visitor per day. Sometimes I need a tradesperson to perform a repair. 100 is not enough. Why am I being punished for illegal actions of others?

Answer

I can confirm that the restriction on Visitors Permits is not in respect of your household only. The restrictions on the number that can be purchased are outlined on the Council's website. Visitor Permits are in books of 20 vouchers and residents within schemes areas can apply for up to 5 books per year, per household.

The restrictions are in place to ensure parking spaces are used for their correct purpose and ensuring valuable kerb space is available for residents of the Borough. There are however, various, parking spaces within the Borough via pay and display on-street and in car parks should you feel you need other places to park. The visitor's permit scheme represents great value for money.

Question 2 from Mrs Shead to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure

Question

Can we have the parking space returned outside number 40 Wimborne Road?

It used to be a disabled space and when the lady who used it moved, it was replaced with a single yellow line. I would ask for it to be returned to a parking bay space. We are very limited for spaces in our road, especially at night time.

Answer

The restrictions in Wimborne Road are currently Monday – Friday, 9.30am to 4.30pm for resident permit holders. Therefore outside of these times the space is available for people to park and as such there is no need to mark out a specific parking bay.

Question 3 from Mr Grubb to the Cabinet Member for Growth

Has Parliament given the powers to the local authority to insist planning applications for residential developments will not be considered unless there is full recycling facilities provided at the time of occupation of the property?

Answer

Parliament has not given Local Planning authorities a specific power in this regard.

The provision of adequate recycling facilities for new residential schemes is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications for such development.

Where planning permission is granted for residential development and it is appropriate to do so conditions can be used to ensure adequate recycling facilities are delivered at the time of occupation.

Question 4 from Mr Grubb to the Cabinet Member for Growth

Question

If parliament has not given the powers to the local authorities in respect of the above question:

Why has Southend Borough Council not passed a By-Law in order to deal with this problem? (Cole House has been occupied for the last 2/3 years and it is possible the other developments in Kenway also have this problem).

Answer

Byelaws are local laws made by a local council under an enabling power contained in a public general act or a local act requiring something to be done, or not done, in a specified area.

Byelaws are considered measures of last resort after a local council has tried to address the local issue through other means.

Therefore, as the provision of adequate recycling facilities is a material planning consideration in determining any planning application for a new residential scheme is therefore addressed through the planning regime, it would not be appropriate to consider the introduction of a byelaw in this regard.

Question 5 from Mrs Kelly to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure

Question

Speaking to residents in Kursaal ward many feel that the standard of street lighting is inadequate in the town. Particularly around Southend East train station, there are simply not enough lampposts to properly illuminate the streets, leaving residents feeling unsafe.

Can the cabinet member for Infrastructure tell me what plans there are to address this problem, and when residents can expect the lighting on their streets to be returned to the proper levels?

Answer

Street lighting is generally to standard across the Borough. However we have identified a number of roads where the older style columns were converted to LED, that the column spacing was poor. We have identified 16 roads at present and an 'infill' programme on new columns commences next month.

I will arrange for the roads in the vicinity of Southend East Station to be surveyed and if any additional columns are identified they will be added to the above programme.