



COUNCIL MEETING
14 JULY 2011

AGENDA ITEM 9 **QUESTIONS "ON NOTICE" FROM COUNCILLORS**

The following questions have been received from Councillors under Procedure Rule 12 by the deadline of 12.00 noon on Friday 8 July, 2011.

1. Question from Cllr Brooks to the Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder (Cllr Berry): Affordable Homes

“Would the Portfolio Holder advise the total number of new Affordable Homes constructed in the borough by Registered Social Landlords or Registered Providers for social letting in each of the five years from 2006 to 2010 broken down between the Urban and Rural areas of the Borough.

Would he also advise the total number of affordable homes not yet constructed but in receipt of planning permission broken down between the Urban and Rural areas?”

2. Question from Cllr Brooks to the Economy Portfolio Holder (Cllr Birch): Regeneration of Rural Economy

“The Portfolio Holder has for many months, if not years, reported that he and his officers were engaged in, first regenerating and now, revitalising the Rural areas. This assumes that there are serious issues to be addressed.

What is your assessment of the state of Agriculture, Industry, and the Commercial, Service and Retail sectors in Rural Wyre? a What initiatives have you taken, and with what success, and what initiatives are you about to take to deal with the perceived threats?”

3. Question from Cllr Brooks to the Street Scene Portfolio Holder (Cllr Murphy): Waste Management

“At the last Council meeting the Portfolio Holder reported that a letter would be sent to Fylde Borough Council demanding a reduction in the annual fee this Council pays for the Commercial Waste Contract.

Will he please publish the reply that he has received?”

4. Question from Cllr Brooks to the Leisure and Culture Portfolio Holder (Cllr Bowen): Marine Hall

“Does the Portfolio Holder agree that over the last twelve years the Council Tax Payer has subsidised the Marine Hall and its various activities by up to approximately half a million pounds a year despite repeated attempts to make it pay including changing the management and considerable Capital Investment which is over and above the annual Revenue losses. Does the Portfolio Holder further agree that this Council should not be in the business of running an entertainment venue and that particularly in these difficult financial times where others are having to take the consequences it is intolerable that the Council should continue to preside over the outward flow of scarce resources that could be better spent on projects that have a positive future?”

5. Question from Cllr Grunshaw to the Leader (Cllr Gibson): PCSO's

“With reference to the reduction in the number of PCSOs in Wyre in a recent article in the Blackpool Gazette you accuse the police of a "huge betrayal" and of "playing politics". Can you be specific about who you are referring to?”

6. Question from Cllr Grunshaw to the Leader (Cllr Gibson): PCSO's

“With reference to the reduction in the number of PCSO's in Wyre Chief Supt Richard Bayly said (Blackpool Gazette Friday 24 June) "the police had always made it clear if funding was removed the force would have no choice but to relocate PCSOs" and describing the situation as regrettable he said "the force had worked hard to persuade the local authority to continue to fund them".

Are you suggesting that Chief Supt Bayly is lying or misleading the public in relation to the reductions of PCSOs in Wyre, if so why?”

7. Question from Cllr Grunshaw to the Leader (Cllr Gibson): PCSO's

“Again with reference to the reduction in the numbers of PCSOs in Wyre an unnamed Wyre Council Spokesperson stated (Blackpool Gazette Wednesday 22 June): "Wyre Council have not reduced funding for the PCSOs" and further "we have no control over the numbers (of PCSOs) employed. That is a decision for the police."

Could Coun Gibson identify who the unnamed Wyre spokesperson was, in this instance, and does he concur with these comments?”

8. Question from Cllr Grunshaw to the Leader (Cllr Gibson): PCSO's

“Again with reference to the reduction of PCSOs in Wyre does Coun Gibson accept that the resources allocated to part-fund PCSOs in Wyre is as follows:

07/08	£220,000
08/09	£220,000
09/10	£220,000
10/11	£211,742.47

And then for the two year period from 1 April 2011 until 31 March 2013 there is an earmarked reserve of just £234,930 – representing a reduction of nearly half the year-on-year funding for PCSOs within Wyre.

Does he accept that a change in funding from an annual contribution of £220k to a two year contribution of £235k is a reduction?”

9. Question from Cllr Grunshaw to the Leader (Cllr Gibson): PCSO's

“Finally, if it is to be found that Chief Supt Richard Bayly has not, in fact, misled the public over the reduction of PCSOs in Wyre would you consider that your credibility has been tarnished and would you consider a) apologising and b) resigning as leader of Wyre Council?”