

WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed for questions submitted by a member of the public who either lives or works in the area of the authority at each ordinary meeting of the Council.

Every question shall be put and answered without discussion, but the person to whom a question has been put may decline to answer. The person who asked the question may ask one relevant supplementary question, which shall be put and answered without discussion.

The following five written questions have been received from members of the public.

(a) Ms Ferguson

“We appreciate that the Transport Committee has a mandate to ensure traffic moves in a safe manner at 7 Dials and that a public consultation exercise was undertaken in relation to the new proposals. However, the tree campaign highlights other aspects of life in the city, such as the need to maintain the character of the area, health and well-being, and sustainability of the environment.

Given the strength of feeling to retain the Elm Tree, will the council agree to a multi-disciplinary approach to review the proposed plan, consult further with residents and secure an alternative plan that will save the Elm Tree and achieve improved traffic control?”

Councillor Kitcat, Leader of the Council, will reply.

(b) Mr Furness

“Regarding the proposed felling of the elm tree at the Seven Dials, could you please tell us, Councillor West, whether;

- 1) the Arboriculture Department under the watchful eye of Di Morgan were consulted; and
- 2) whether this department had made you aware that the elm in question is a Wheatley Elm – the rarest form of elm in the world?”

Councillor West, Chair of the Environment & Sustainability Committee will reply.

(c) Ms Paynter

"How many street trees has Brighton & Hove City Council planted in Brighton, Hove and Portslade in each of the financial years since the Green Party took over the Administration of the city and have any of them been Wheatley Elms?"

Councillor West, Chair of the Environment & Sustainability Committee will reply.

(d) Mr Kemble

"At a meeting of the Transport Committee on 15th January 2013 a number of representatives from the Taxi Forum were in the public audience. During the debate on the 20mph speed limit across the City, Councillor Davey publicly stated that the taxi trade had been consulted. However there is no mention of this in the minutes of the meeting.

Would Councillor Davey now publicly state what consultation was carried out?"

Councillor West, Chair of the Environment & Sustainability Committee will reply.

(e) Ms. Shepherd

"As residents of Roedean we overlook the Marina and most of us visit regularly for shopping, eating, sailing and to enjoy the marina environment. In the light of the many points raised by expert witness, Professor John Watts one of the architects involved in the construction of the Marina, we are concerned as to the future safety for residents and visitors alike if the planned development should proceed. In particular we ask where the RNLI station will be relocated and when bearing in mind this provides a vital service not only to this Marina but other communities along the coast."

Councillor Bowden, Chair of the Economic Development & Culture Committee, will reply.