

REPRESENTATIONS

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE	COUNCIL	4 JULY 2022	6a
QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

One question has been received from members of the public before the requisite deadline, as outlined in Procedural Standing Orders for Council and Committees of Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, but after the statutory deadline for publication of the agenda.

The questions received are reproduced below.

Questions will be heard during the Council meeting on 4 July 2022 and a response will be given by the Leader of the Council or by any other member nominated by her.

Question received from Mr M Wright (28 June 2022)

"Wrea Brook Park housing development, Blackfield End Farm, Warton – 12 months ago, we met with Councillors Fiddler, Threlfall and officer at the Town Hall to try to understand why officers were not taking enforcement action with regards to the outstanding planning breaches on this development – notably relation to critical drainage and landscaping conditions. We were given various assurances and commitments, including the promise of an onsite meeting with the developer and residents ASAP. This didn't happen.

5 months ago, I stood here before you with the same unresolved issues and broken promises and I again received assurances from Councillor Fiddler that the outstanding planning issues and breaches regarding critical drainage and landscaping were being addressed as a priority – this time, before the end of February. But nothing has happened.

I tried to raise this matter at the Full Council meeting on 25th April, but my submission was deemed too long. But it did at least elicit some action, namely the Development Manager met with myself and another resident offsite on 27th April – but disappointingly, only so that Mr. Stell could remind himself of the outstanding issues. Mr. Stell promised to take the issues forward as a priority and the following day (28th April), Councillor Threlfall confirmed to me personally that Mr. Stell would be contacting the developer that day. He didn't and nothing has happened since – Mr. Stell continues to claim he has other priorities.

Councillor Fiddler and his officers repeatedly tell us that Fylde follow national planning guidance that seeks to avoid formal enforcement action through engagement and negotiation with developers. But there has been no dialogue and no engagement by Fylde officers with this developer for at least 12 months on these outstanding critical matters. Fylde are not following national guidelines.

Would anyone in this room like to stand up and accept responsibility for these failings and be accountable and commit to doing something about it, rather than the empty promises residents have been given for the last 3 years?"