

REPRESENTATIONS

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE	COUNCIL	5 JULY 2021	6a

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

PUBLIC ITEM

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

SUMMARY

Two further questions have 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 5 July 2021 and a response will be given by the Leader of the Council or by any other member nominated by her.

Question 3 received from Mr T Lake (28 June 2021)

In relation to Agenda Item 10 - Fully Funded Addition to the Capital Programme - Fairhaven Kiosk/Ice Cream Bar - Stanner Bank

"My question is to raise concerns over the financial wisdom & Viability of this scheme. For many years I was a Bank Manager at a large branch of HSBC in Preston assessing the viability & risks of business ventures.

This is a big project. Selling ice cream sandwiches and alcohol is not a Council function. There will be an outcry at locating this building at Granny's Bay. A bit like a similar outcry would be heard at the Green at Wrea Green, in the lawn in front of Lytham Hall or on Lytham Green.

Many older Councillors will remember the Scruples fiasco some years ago. No one could make it work and the Council and the Civic Society had to demolish the building.

The existing kiosk operators are good and successful and could be allowed to extend their premises on both seaward side and the landward side both by a significant distance.

The proposed rent if £25k represents a return of nearly 7% before maintenance costs – not an attractive return for the risks involved.

Concerning viability and risks. Takings will be low for many months, maybe nil for some months and there is an added risk if there is a poor summer.

It seems to me that FBC are taking on 100% of the risks with little or no risks to the Dalmasso family.

It is surprising that they are not required to take on a full repairing lease on this exposed site. If this enlarged business is run as a limited company, should it fail then the Dalmasso family can just walk away.

There is a pub nearby and the Lake Café is only 500 yards away. Drinks & ice cream are now being provided at the café on the site nearer the St Annes end of the Lake.

Finally I ask Councillors, would you invest your own money in this venture?"

Question 4 received from W Fell (29 June 2021)

"The NHS White Paper will erode our NHS in multiple ways and will as follows:

- **Introduce the American model into our NHS** where unaccountable decision making bodies prioritise profit margins and making savings over caring for people's health. This model is likely to lead to **cuts and closures**

of NHS Hospitals and A&E.

- **Push more people to go private** as cuts are made. Patients have already been promised greater rights to choose private treatment and have it paid for by the NHS.
- Open the door to yet more contracts being given to companies like Serco, as we've seen in the pandemic, but without any competition.
- **Encourage private companies to take the NHS to court** if they're unhappy.

Please can you Fylde County Council consider the impact of a privatised NHS on our community and urge Mark Menzies to oppose the NHS White Paper. Thank you for your time."