



Date: Thursday, 21 March 2024
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Council Chamber, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND
Contact: Tim Ward, Committee Officer
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COUNCIL

TO FOLLOW REPORT (S)

5 Public Questions (Pages 1 - 4)

To receive any questions from the public, notice of which has been given in accordance with Procedure Rule 14. Deadline for notification is 5.00pm on Friday 15 March 2024

A petition, bearing over 1000 signatures has been received from Shrewsbury BID, requesting a debate under the Council's Petition Scheme. The petition requests that the Council:

Halt damaging parking charge hikes.

The petitioner will be allowed 5 minutes to outline their case, after which there may a debate of up to a maximum of 15 minutes

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Question from Kate Butler

Shropshire Council announced a Climate Emergency in 2019 and aims for the Council to become carbon net-neutral by 2030. Can the Council provide their justification of the Carbon impact of the planned demolition of Shirehall to then build a new Civic Hub in the Riverside development? It is well established within the Built Environment that the retrofitting and the reuse of an existing building is more carbon effective than demolition and new build - how does this align with their 2030 net-neutral strategy?

Question from Patricia Kapalo

As a 78 year old resident of Shrewsbury I have had some excellent support from Age Concern over the last few months and years. Their advisors and volunteers have really helped me with some difficulties, as well as understanding the new ways of accessing public services which are increasingly complicated. They provide a very valuable service for older people. I saw the Council has announced large scale cuts in its services for next year.

Can you explain whether these budget cuts will impact on grants to voluntary organisations in Shropshire?

Will the work of Age Concern be affected by a reduced grant from the Council?

I hope you will ensure some funding is retained to support older residents as we are still paying our Council tax every month and contributing to our county as valued members of the community.

Question from Victoria Moore

Page 162 of Appendix 3 of The Shropshire Council Financial Strategy 2024/25, there is an item regarding "Oteley Road, Shrewsbury Traffic Management improvements" with the detail being Traffic Flow Improvements and Road Safety on Oteley Road and an allocation of £1 million, funded from Developer Section 106 contributions.

What are these improvements and what is the cost of the various elements?

As Section 106 funds have been allocated to the Community Centre and children's playground, how much will be spent on each, where are the plans and when will construction begin?

The second Oteley Road Development Public Consultation describes 230 homes & 40% affordable but no social housing, which is the principal need.

It is unclear whether the Community Centre squeezed into a small quadrilateral adjacent to the A5, along with children's playground are the same structures already promised in the first Section 106 agreement.

There is very little available green space on the current development and this is proposed to be 'shared' with the proposed new development.

There is no current GP Surgery, pharmacy or school and no space for these.

All Active Travel routes on both the current and proposed developments are shared & one on the new proposal is a public right of way.

No bus provisions are mentioned, other than the current On-Demand, apart from a possible bus gate on the proposed new development.

How will Shropshire Council provide the necessary infrastructure of GP Surgery, Pharmacy, School(s), green space/leisure areas, public transport and Active Travel?

Question from Tamarin Bibow

1 I have been the owner of Ruyton Hall, in Ruyton XI Towns and have lived in the property with my husband and young family since January 2022.

2 We live on part of the B 4397 linking the A5 at Shotatton Cross roads with Baschurch, heavily used by traffic of all sorts heading to and from the industrial estates and business parks on the North side of Shrewsbury as a "rat run".

3 Not all the HGVs, vans, cars which blight our village can be diverted onto more suitable roads. But it is clear that "through" drivers would not choose to use lanes through rural villages like ours if there was a quicker and better route. However, at present the only practical alternative is to use the A5 southern by-pass, the A49 etc, a very much less direct route.

4 I have been a Parish Councillor for nearly two years. I'm pleased that Shropshire Council support Cllr Dan Morris, Cabinet Member for Highways is moving the project forward.

5 I would very much like him now to supply more detail as to: - the next steps - how quickly he expects the Final Business Case to be completed - when we might expect to see a start in constructing this very much needed new road

Question from Michael Dineen

How much does the budget of £41,655,000 for the REFOCUS-Shirehall relocation (Civic Centre or Hub) exceed or is less than the cost of refurbishing the existing Shirehall and allowing for commercial letting of excess space not required by Shropshire Council for its own use? Has a report been prepared on the office and property needs of Shropshire Council in Shrewsbury, and if so, has it considered how they can be met in the existing building?

Question from Andrew Bebb

Can you please explain why the Award winning Health Checks conducted in the Countys' Livestock Markets are being reduced in terms of frequency and what plans are in place for the continuation of this essential service beyond September?

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