

PUBLIC QUESTIONS
COUNCIL MAY 9 2024

Question from Adam Fejfer

As a Monkmoor resident I reported over 5 months ago a number of potholes that needed repair on Fix My Street. Since receiving acknowledgements for my complaints I cannot see any update. As far as I am aware there has been no assessment of the problem nor any report or when the potholes will be fixed. And I am not the only resident who has made a complaint - other residents tell me that they have complained about potholes without any response.

When will the potholes in Monkmoor be repaired, particularly those on Crowmere Road?

Question from Teri Trickett

The SAMDev Adopted Plan recognises that:

‘The development of the [Bayston Hill] village is constrained by the presence of the A49 running through the village and the major quarry to the east.’

On 18th November 2021, there was the following quote from a Cabinet Member in the Ludlow Advertiser: 'Councillor Dean Carroll said there was a desperate need to cut the number of accidents on the A49 between Shrewsbury and the Herefordshire border south of Ludlow, which has been branded “one of the most dangerous roads in England.”

Over 100 Bayston Hill residents objected to, and Shropshire Council itself refused, a planning application for green belt/agricultural land to the West of Lyth Hill Road in 2017 (17/02561/Outline Planning Application), on several grounds, including that such development: ‘...would also result in the loss of higher quality agricultural land, contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework’

A further Planning Application (22/05284/FUL) was withdrawn, following large numbers of objections.

Residents from The Hunttons have expressed serious concerns regarding flooding. Their report can be found on the planning portal, under comments, in the most recent application.

Can Shropshire Council please explain why the same land (BAY039- Emerging Shropshire Local Plan) has now been identified for 100 dwellings?

I believe that Bayston Hill villagers deserve a full explanation as to how circumstances have changed so considerably that this could now be conceived to be a sustainable development, contrary to previous planning decisions and the wishes of so many local residents and Bayston Hill Parish Council.

Question from Victoria Moore

The respected Environmental Science Journal of The Royal Society of Chemistry, confirmed in January 2023 that 80% of England's drains at or beyond capacity, with consequent leaks, flooding and pollution of our streams and rivers: *Reference* - DOI: 10.1039/d2ew00637e

The 2020 Shropshire Water Cycle Report confirmed that Shrewsbury and Shropshire's drains are beyond capacity, needing urgent repair/updating/replacement

Since they were constructed, the Sweetlake Meadow and Oteley Road developments have had recurrent issues, with blocked and leaking drains, demonstrated recently by human excrement flowing onto residents' porches, gardens and out of sinks and toilets, which is both repulsive and a public health hazard.

Worse still, Shropshire Council, builders SJ Roberts, Taylor-Wimpey and McPhillips, Severn Trent Water and The Environment Agency have been playing Pass the Poo Parcel, with no-one accepting responsibility for dealing with the issues and blaming residents for putting non-degradable items into sinks and toilets. I'm reminded of the Fujitsu/Horizon/Post Office attempts to avoid responsibility for their failures by blaming users.

Will Shropshire Council now take responsibility and show leadership by commissioning a further urgent report of Shrewsbury's water supply, drains systems and watercourses along with its partners, including Severn Trent Water, Shropshire Wildlife Trust, Shrewsbury Fisheries, The Environment Agency and Shropshire's Director of Public Health, to establish the causes and extent of the current issues and the required remedies, with a commitment to urgently implement recommendations?

After all, Shropshire Council granted Planning Consent for all these developments, in full knowledge of the lack of capacity of existing drains.

<https://plus.shropshirestar.com/news/environment/2024/04/28/residents-blamed-for-blocking-drains-as-human-waste-spills-into-streets-of-shrewsbury-development/>

Question from Spencer Edwards

It is a statutory duty to provide household recycling centres. The legislation does not specify how many need to be provided leaving it up to the authority to decide, but does it mention accessibility? How can I access the ones in Shropshire, taking

Shrewsbury as an example, if I do not have a car? I have been informed by Shropshire Council that it is not possible to walk or cycle into these facilities. Since around 18% of Shropshire households and many more individuals do not have a car or a van, what can be done to rectify this so that all council taxpayers can use a service they already pay for?