

COUNCIL – 21ST FEBRUARY 2022

ITEM 10 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

10.1 Councillor Snartt – Garage Sites in Woodhouse Eaves

I refer to the answer to Councillor Howe's question at the last Full Council meeting. In the reply, I note that half of the 21 garages are void at the Bird Hill Road, Woodhouse Eaves location. I also note from Officers, that based on local knowledge, it is likely that these garages are being used for storage, other than a small car the garages are not of a suitable size to fit a medium sized modern day car.

All my attempts to release this garage land for affordable housing have failed. Therefore, I ask, is this good practice and value for money to continue to maintain these garages when the land could be used for most needed affordable homes?

The Leader or his nominee will respond:

The Council have completed a garage and parking spaces review across the Borough.

We have considered the potential for redeveloping Council owned garage parking spaces for housing to meet local need across the Borough.

The review has concluded that we could deliver 26 – 32 homes. There are a number of options of how these could be delivered.

We had a set out the next steps for the review and due to COVID and other priorities this has been delayed.

In relation to the use of the garages it was not possible to access the allocated garages to determine if they are used for storage or parking by garage tenants, based on local knowledge it is likely that these garages are being used for storage other than a small car as the garages are not of a suitable size to fit a medium sized modern day car.

Based on the review at that time the recommendation was that the garages on this site be brought up to a Lettable Standard on the basis that there are 20 applicants interested in renting a garage on this site.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE TO COUNCIL – PROCEDURE

- Councillors are required to submit a question on notice in writing by 12noon on the sixth working day prior to Council, the title of the question is published on the Council Agenda.

- Questions and responses will be published at the end of the previous working day (usually the Friday prior to a Council meeting on a Monday) and will be available at the Council meeting for Councillors, the press, and the public.
- After the questions and responses are published **Councillors may indicate that they wish to ask a supplementary question by noon on the day of the Council meeting.**
- The Mayor will invite those Councillors who have indicated that they wish to do so to ask a supplementary question.
- The Leader (or relevant Lead Member on behalf of the Leader) or Chair of the Committee is able to respond.
- The total time each person can speak on a single question is time limited.