

ECONOMY COMMITTEE - 27 September 2022

AGENDA ITEM 5 – PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – ORDER IN WHICH THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE WILL INVITE QUESTIONS BELOW RECEIVED IN WRITING IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING

1. From Mr Tony Hunt to the Chair of the Economy Committee, Councillor Cooper

FULL DETAIL OF THE QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED IS DETAILED BELOW

Note, the Chair will:

- invite questions from members of the public who have submitted in writing their questions in line with the Council's Constitution;
- explain that the questions received will be answered by the Chair or other appropriate Members of the Committee
- confirm that Public Question Time allows Members of the public to ask one question at a time and that a maximum of one minute is allowed for each question.
- state that questions will be invited in the order in which they have been received and that if there is time remaining from the 15 minutes allowed for Public Question Time, questioners will be allowed to ask a supplementary question.

QUESTION ONE

From Mr Tony Hunt to the Chair of the Economy Committee, Councillor Cooper

Does the Economy Committee believe that it gave sufficient consideration to the warning from Arundel Town Council that it would be dangerous to build an Airbnb in River Road Arundel which would attract visitors to drive down this hazardous road?

Response

The Economy Committee, when it met on 29 March 2022 considered the options for the future of the site including a proposal to develop the site into a unit of purpose-built holiday let accommodation.

As you know the report set out that comments had been sought from Arundel Town Council on the options proposed for the future of the site. The Town Council's comments received on 19 November 2021 and the additional comments received on 23 December 2021 from River Road residents, supported by Arundel Town Council, were both appended to the report for the Committee to take account of when reaching its decision.

The clear expectation of Members is that they read their papers before attending committee. I appreciate that you will be disappointed that the committee's decision was not to go ahead with the option Arundel Town Council preferred. However, I believe that the committee did take account of Arundel Town Council's comments along with all the other information in the report in arriving at its decision which I believe is well aligned with Arun District Council's vision. As a mark of the importance the committee placed on obtaining the views of the Town Council, I would point out that the report was originally considered by the committee at its meeting in October 2021 and a decision was deferred partly in order to allow time to obtain the Town Council's comments.