

**COUNTY COUNCIL – 19TH MAY 2020****PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	<b>Question to:</b>	<b>Question</b>
1.	Ms Jenny Wood	Councillor Josh Schumann, Chairman of Commercial and Investment Committee	<p><i>Question carried over from 17 March 2020.</i></p> <p>Residents are concerned that the Flats above Milton Road Library remain vacant, albeit Milton Road Library was completed and it is understood that the Flats have been ready for occupation since June 2019.</p> <p>It is understood that This Land has the ownership or control of the Flats, and that the intention was that the Flats provide an income stream to the County Council or otherwise provide revenue to the County Council.</p> <p>Can the County Council advise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) The state of play with regard to the Flats, namely are they complete and if so</li><li>(b) What date are they to go on the market and</li><li>(c) Are they to be sold, leased or tenanted?</li></ul> <p>And further what are the financial arrangements between the County Council and This Land as to provision of an income stream or revenue in relation to the Flats.</p>
	<b>Response from:</b>	<b>Response to:</b>	<b>Response</b>
	Councillor Josh Schumann, Chairman of Commercial and Investment Committee	Ms Jenny Wood	<p><i>Response to be given at the meeting of Council on 19 May 2020.</i></p>

No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question
2.	Robert Stanford	Councillor Mathew Shuter, Chairman of Highways and Infrastructure Committee	<p>Are there some simple things the council could do to give people space for social distancing, and space to walk, cycle, and safely complete their shopping or essential trips?</p> <p>This is really important locally, because we're all trying to give each other at least two metres, but we've still got pedestrians trying to pass each other safely on narrow pavements, whilst there's acres of unused road space that could temporarily be made available for people travelling on foot or cycling.</p> <p>Creating that space could massively benefit the key workers keeping our hospitals, care homes and essential services going. Those key workers won't all feel comfortable using public transport at the moment, but with some people taking advantage of the quieter roads to drive far above the speed limit, many key workers would need safe space separated from motor traffic to feel confident cycling or walking to work.</p> <p>When it comes to taking action, one thing this crisis has shown us is that where there's political will things can be done quickly. National and local governments around the world have realised this, implementing emergency measures to temporarily widen footpaths, create new cycle lanes and restrict motor traffic on residential streets and create low-traffic neighbourhoods: all designed to open up space and enable people to socially distance.</p> <p>There's no reason why we can't do this here, and I'm really hoping that you can help with this.</p> <p>Whilst we're in the middle of this crisis it's crucially important that people aren't just told that they must stay two metres apart, but that local authorities put in place measures that enable them to do so. This will still be essential as and when restrictions are eased, because people will need to get out and about, to and from shops and town centres, benefiting from outdoor exercise whilst giving others space.</p> <p>I've just written to the leader of the council explaining that it wouldn't be difficult or</p>

			<p>complex to make this happen. Neither does it have to be expensive. It just needs political will, and it's incredible what can be achieved temporarily by using some cones, some planters as temporary bollards, suspending push buttons at pedestrian crossings and through experimental traffic orders.</p> <p>Cycling UK has provided a short guide (<a href="http://www.cyclinguk.org/advice-for-councils">www.cyclinguk.org/advice-for-councils</a>) with suggestions for what can be done quickly, with advice to overcome any barriers that you may identify or which may be raised by others.</p> <p>Rather than restricting people's access to space, we need to enable them to move more actively whilst maintaining social distancing, freeing up road space that's not needed.</p> <p>This is really important locally, so I would be hugely grateful if you could raise this and ask both the leader of the council and the Highways Authority whether they will consider what measures can be taken quickly to create space for people during the current crisis.</p> <p>This crisis presents an opportunity to think about things differently. It would be fantastic if you could help persuade the council to seize it.</p>
	<b>Response from:</b>	<b>Response to:</b>	<b>Response</b>
	Councillor Mathew Shuter, Chairman of Highways and Infrastructure Committee	Robert Stanford	<i>Response to be given at the meeting of Council on 19 May 2020.</i>

No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question
3.	Mr Jeremy Caddick Cambridge Green Party	Councillor Steve Count, Leader of the Council	<p>While Cambridge Green Party welcomes the publication of the Council's Climate Change and Environmental Strategy, it is disappointed at the way that it fails to address the full seriousness of the challenge presented by the Climate Emergency, and consequently fails to propose adequate steps to address it.</p> <p>In his Foreword Councillor Count claims that UK emissions have fallen by 40% while the economy has grown by two thirds. Does he agree that when we include the emissions embodied in our imports our contribution to global warming is virtually unchanged, and that we have merely succeeded in exporting our greenhouse gas production? Does he further agree that the figure for GDP growth is of no use at all as a measure of success in tackling the Climate Emergency?</p> <p>Will the Council agree to redraft the Strategy to set out more ambitious steps to tackle the crisis?</p>
	<b>Response from:</b>	<b>Response to:</b>	<b>Response</b>
	Councillor Steve Count, Leader of the Council	Mr Jeremy Caddick Cambridge Green Party	<i>Response to be given at the meeting of Council on 19 May 2020.</i>
No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question
4.	Mrs Elizabeth May	Councillor Steve Count, Leader of the Council	<p>On behalf of the Cambridge Green Party, I would like to ask about the CUSPE report prepared by Cambridge University students which highlighted the huge amount of greenhouse gases released from the County's peatland. This is thought to be about 4 to 5.5 million tons of CO2 equivalent which is nearly as much as the 6 million tons produced by all other human activity in Cambridgeshire. The Strategy talks lamely about working with others to tackle this problem.</p> <p>What urgent steps are being taken to draw the huge size of the emergency to central government, and to reform agricultural practices to address it? Will the answers to these</p>

			two questions be included in the Strategy document before it is approved?
	<b>Response from:</b>	<b>Response to:</b>	<b>Response</b>
	Councillor Steve Count, Leader of the Council	Mrs Elizabeth May	<i>Response to be given at the meeting of Council on 19 May 2020.</i>