



SPELTHORNE JOINT COMMITTEE – date 30 November 2020

AGENDA ITEM 8

WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS

All of the following were submitted by Mr Andrew McLuskey.

Question 1:

Given that the recent report by the UN Convention on Biological Diversity strongly recommends, inter alia, protection of habitats (including those of lakes and rivers) and also making more space for nature in built up areas - will the Committee give urgent consideration to ensuring the rapid implementation of the hugely delayed plan for a Stanwell Nature Reserve?

Question 2

Is there a date yet for the planned site meeting at the Stanwell Woods site with Cemex and interested parties in respect of the planned Nature Reserve?

Officer response for both of the above questions:

As has been previously stated in answers to your earlier questions on this subject, it is important to recognise the limits of influence that the Joint Committee and its respective councils have on the issues you raise. Whilst local authorities are consulted on such projects and can lobby for certain outcomes, they do not possess the prerogative to determine the ultimate decision.

However, we continue to foster a good working relationship with CEMEX in order to bring about the site visit that has been twice been cancelled due to the national lockdowns. We continue to work to fix a date on this and hope that it will cast light on how this project is being progressed. As we anticipate the end of the current lockdown period, we will be looking to carry out a visit before the Christmas break.

Question 3:

'In the light of Surrey County Council's announcement of a £100 million Community Fund, will the Committee seek an allocation sufficient to allow the addition of long hoped for projects (such as the rebuilding of the West Lodge) to the current plans for a Nature Reserve in Stanwell?'

Officer response:

Your Fund Surrey was launched on 16 November and was designed to give financial backing to projects that will enhance their local area.

As a local government organisation, the Joint Committee is not eligible to apply for funding as projects must be submitted by residents and community groups.

Ideas are currently being invited from the community for development. Your area Partnership Committee Officer, Carys Walker would be happy to speak with you outside of the meeting about developing your idea or alternatively, why not find out more by visiting www.surreycc.gov.uk/yourfund.