SPECIAL CABINET MEETING Thu 25th Nov 2010

The following Statements and Questions had been registered by the time of publication.

REGISTERED SPEAKERS

There were 23 notices of intention to make a statement at the meeting. Where the intention is to speak about an item on the Agenda, the speaker will be offered the option to speak near the beginning of the meeting or just before the Agenda item.

Re: Culverhay School (Agenda Item 11):

- Cllr Dine Romero
- Cllr John Bull
- Cllr Paul Crossley
- Cllr Gerry Curran (Chair of Governors, Culverhay School)
- Sue East (Bath Primary Heads Group)
- Sean Wyartt (Assistant Head, Culverhay School)
- Richard Thompson (Head, Culverhay School)
- Sue Adams (Head, Southdown Infants School)
- Sarah Wall (Parent, Culverhay School)
- Simon Scarborough (Teacher, Culverhay School)
- James Eynon (Head Boy, Culverhay School)
- David Eynon (Parent, Culverhay School)
- Sarah Moore (Friends of Culverhay)
- Sean Turner (Deputy Head, Culverhay School)
- Claire Brown (Parent, Culverhay School)
- David Dunlop (The Bath Society)
- Jayne Nix (Parent, Culverhay)
- Daniel Bryant (ex-pupil, Culverhay School)
- Steve Wakefield (ex-pupil, Culverhay School)
- Daniel Hine (ex-pupil, Culverhay School)
- Albert Lightfoot
- Vincent Inchley (ex-pupil, Culverhay School)
- Ann Harding (Governor, Culverhay School)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS - COUNCILLORS

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS - PUBLIC

01	Question from:	Malcolm Dodds (Chair, CycleBath)
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(a) Can the Cabinet confirm that cyclists are still second highest priority in the Council's transport policies?

(b) Does the Cabinet acknowledge the importance of the Victoria Bridge to Bath cyclists, as the only traffic-free river crossing in the city, and a key link to the National Cycle Network Route 4?

(c) Can the Cabinet confirm what other signed, equally safe alternative routes have been designated for cyclists whilst the bridge is closed and how these have been communicated to cyclists?

(d) Can the Cabinet confirm the date for the re-opening of the bridge for cyclists?

(e) Can the Cabinet confirm the amount of money provided in the S106 agreement for Southgate to provide for additional cycle parking?

(f) Can the Cabinet confirm that this funding has been ring-fenced for this purpose?

(g) Can the Cabinet confirm how much of this money has been spent so far and how many additional cycle parking places this has provided?

(h) Can the Cabinet confirm that all cycle parking facilities are provided only after consultation with the police and CCTV operators so as to maximize security for Bath cyclists?

Answer from:

Councillor Charles Gerrish

(a) Yes, the second highest transport user priority is cyclists, but the priority list needs to take into account local circumstances. The proportionate increase in the number of cyclists in B&NES has been higher than any other transport user group in recent years.
(b) Whilst Victoria Bridge is not the only traffic free river crossing (there are other footbridges), its importance is acknowledged for cyclists.

(c) An alternative North-South route is being developed across the Destructor Bridge.

(d) There is no date set for re-opening the bridge. The investigations carried out to date have identified that the bridge in its current state is unsafe for cyclists and given this it would be irresponsible to reopen the bridge until suitable remedial works have been completed.

The assessment and cost estimates of carrying out the works to allow the bridge to be reopened have yet to be completed but an options report is expected by the middle of next month (December).

(e) £10k

(f) Yes

(g) None of this money has been spent so far. The new cycle stands provided to date (about 23) replace those installed prior to the development. A further 218 stands provided in the station area have been incorporated within the Bath Spa station scheme as the final stages of development are implemented. The Council is working to identify and define other locations to prioritise from this S106 source.

(h) Cycle stands are provided where there is demand for cycle parking and where there is natural surveillance from people passing by. However CCTV covers most of the city centre, including Southgate, and cycle stands would normally be covered by routine CCTV surveillance. The Council provides CCTV to cover as much as the City as possible.