

Question from Mrs. M. Cocks, Lower Bullingham

"The latest information is that consideration is being given in the latest UDP for 300 houses to be built on the eastern side of the Bullinghope land owned by Bloor Homes. This will put about one thousand more cars per day on to Hoarwithy Road. This will compound the traffic from the north that will still prefer to use Holme Lacy Road to access the Rotherwas estate.

What plans does the council have to ensure that every vehicle travelling from or to the north, of all types wishing to access or egress the Rotherwas Industrial Estate uses the proposed new road?"

Question from Mr. P.J. Cocks, Lower Bullingham:

"The council's purpose for putting housing development at Bullinghope into the UDP is to part fund the ROTHERWAS road, in the sum of £8,000,000 from Bloor Homes.

As the council will have to, initially, borrow the £8,000,000 for up to three years until Bloor Homes tender their contribution, what services do the council propose cutting to service the debt? At 6% £480,000 per year. £1,440,000 over three years or if compounded over three years a total of £1,521,128."

Questions from Mr. I. Jardin, Campaign to Protect Rural England, Herefordshire Branch

"With regard to the Rotherwas Access Road:

- (a) what is the latest cash flow forecast, by financial year, of expenditure on procuring the Road, including any interest payments?
- (b) what are the intended sources of funding for that cash flow, including loans, by financial year?
- (c) what is the earliest expected date for the signing of a Section 106 agreement with Bloor Homes to secure their contribution to the funding of the Road?
- (d) if Bloor Homes' contribution does not eventualize, how do you propose to fund the equivalent element of the cost of the Road?
- (e) do you still share the conclusion, set out in the letter of 20 January 2004 from Bloor Homes' agent to the Forward Planning Manager, that "the direction of future growth of Hereford should be to the south of the City"?
- (f) do you expect the number of heavy goods vehicles travelling north on the A49 through Hereford, including the Belmont roundabout, to increase after completion of the Road?"

Question from Mr. B Caldicutt, Hereford

The Initial UDP up to 2011 included for 300 houses at Holmer, which after the consultation period was moved to Bullinghope in the Draft UDP. After a Public Enquiry the inspector recommended that the houses should be reinstated back to Holmer as proposed in the Initial UDP. This was quite rightly done through the democratic procedure. Planning Permission has been granted for the houses at Holmer so it appears to me that this is now an over provision of houses based on the Initial & Draft UDP especially when the Stirling Lines development is to increase by a further 250-300 houses

I generally have the feeling that the majority of members do not know where the site is, and even more so just how much land Bloor Homes, the prospective developer owns, which could lead to some 2000 houses.

If it were not for the financing of the Rotherwas Access road, these houses would not have been included in this Modified UDP.

I personally collected 220 signatures on a petition against this proposal, and standing on residents' doorsteps the feeling was, enough is enough. It is a pity that they are not here to voice their opinions!

Before the Committee approves this Modified UDP, I request that, another Public Enquiry is held on this matter, and all members should visit the site to acquaint themselves with the landscape and the drastic consequences this proposal would have.

Question from Ms J. Shuttlewood, Bullinghope

Based on the recent history at the Stirling Lines development, where one of the developers sold amenity land to another developer who subsequently obtained planning permission to build on it, I am concerned that leisure and amenity land be protected. If planning consent for the Bullinghope development includes leisure and amenity land will the Council insist that the developer gift any such land to the people of Herefordshire for leisure purposes in perpetuity?

Question from Mrs. S. Shuttlewood, Bullinghope

What is the hidden agenda that persuades this council to go against the results of its own surveys and the decision of the inspector from the Government department with regard to the development at Bullinghope?

I would be grateful to receive a transcript of the meetings recorded minutes.

Question from Mr. H. Shuttlewood, Bullinghope

Population Estimates for Hereford - As an interested party in what Herefordshire Council is proposing for Bullinghope I have tried to research the reasons, but some figures are a little out of date.

Surfing the internet has produced the Council's papers on population figures, age distribution and housing needs and I see that population growth is expected to slow during 2003-11 and be in line with the general growth of England and Wales of 3.4%. Do you have later figures from the Population Estimates Unit of ONS for growth in Hereford City and rural areas that support planned housing growth here?, and can you tell me what the housing needs figure was for Hereford in the last unitary development plan? There is obviously a shortage of cheap homes, but the plan to piggy back development here just to get a builder to pay for a spur road of limited use, will not achieve that aim given the cost to the builder.

Just how many homes are you expecting to be justified?

Question from Mr. T. Ford by e-mail

Question from Cycle Hereford concerning the current scheme for the St Owen's Street cycle contraflow:

The Council convenes the Pedestrian, Access and Cycle Forum to get advice on improving the environment for vulnerable road users in the County. The PAC Forum has agreed a set of movement principles to ensure that traffic management schemes benefit road users in line with the Council's road user hierarchy and enhance the area where they are introduced. It is clear from the scheme currently being progressed for the St Owen's Street cycle contraflow that the Council ignored the movement principles and the road user hierarchy when instructing its consultants.

If the Council will ignore these principles for a scheme on St Owen's Street, one of the most attractive and sensitive streets in Hereford, where and when will it apply the principles?

Question from Mr. P. Cocks by e-mail

Is the council aware that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Gordon Brown, announced on 6th December, 2006: that the government intends to introduce legislation that will take away clause 106 money from local authorities and pass it to Regional Government?

How would this legislation affect the councils financing proposals for the Rotherwas Relief Road and thus the need for the Bloor Homes houses at Bullinghope?

Question from Revd Peter Hackett, Lower Bullingham

How many houses would need to be built to meet the shortfall in the cost of the Rotherwas Access Road, and how many houses would be affordable?