

Questions and Responses on the Cabinet Portfolio Holder Reports

Questions from Angela Pooley, Community Representative to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Cleansing and Waste

Road Improvements

Will the proposed improvements on the A338 between the Cooper Dean Roundabout & Blackwater Junction include a cycle lane?

My reason for asking this is that currently Dorset CC; Bournemouth Council & Bournemouth Airport are looking at ways to provide a safe cycling commuting route from Bournemouth to the Airport & Business Park. These planned improvements would be an ideal opportunity to do this.

Response: The detailed plans for this stretch of road have not yet been prepared, however I will join with Ms Pooley in urging that cycle lanes will be provided in both directions.

Further information received from Transportation Services Manager: Work on the proposal to widen the A338 between Cooper Dean and Blackwater junctions is being led by Bournemouth Council. A key aspiration of the project will be to construct a cycleway alongside the northbound carriageway of the A338 to provide improved access for cyclists across the River Stour to and from Bournemouth Airport and the adjacent Business Park. This of course will be subject to the results of feasibility work which will be carried out early in the design process.

Strategic Waste facility.

Has the location for the MRF be identified? I believe this to be an excellent initiative.

Response: The exact location for the MRF has not yet been confirmed. On 27 February Tenders were returned and are being carefully processed and evaluated. Each tenderer must submit their proposed location. Until a decision has been made the precise location of the MRF is not known but it is probable that it will be within the County of Dorset. We hope to appoint the Preferred Bidder, which will determine the MRF location, in April 2015.

Question from Councillor Whittaker to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Cleansing and Waste

Pavement Surfaces

Having had numerous emails with the officer concerned regarding work carried out by Scottish @Southern in mid Feb due to a cable fault which resulted in trench works to the new relayed pavement outside ATS, the reinstatement was laid in black tarmac when the whole paths in Kinson have been treated in red material and being told that red surface material is not that easy to get hold of as it is a special order, the so called temporary black surface is a mess, what then happens if we end up with

another trench dig , without unable to get the red material, why is it that I have to keep chasing for a reply to WHEN this reinstatement be completed in the red material?

Response: These emergency works were required to restore the power to the Sembcorp Bournemouth Water pumping station at Longham after a failure overnight on Thursday 12 February. To repair the fault Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) had to replace approximately 10 metres of cable from the central island outside Kinson Hub to the footway adjacent to the ATS tyre depot at the corner of Kinson Road. Fortunately the cable was laid in a duct and therefore SSE did not have to trench across the newly laid tarmac in Wimborne Road. Their excavation in surfacing materials was therefore restricted to the service road and the footway. The cable repair was completed on the Sunday and the permanent reinstatement of the service road carried out on the Tuesday 17 February.

As the footways in Kinson use a red tarmac the footway was reinstated with a temporary black material laid on sand until they could arrange for a batch of the red material to be produced. This red material is a special order and has a minimum quantity mix of 3 tonnes with the excavation itself only needing approximately ¼ of a tonne.

Officers have spoken with the SSE's reinstatement team and they have informed me that a batch of the red material will be produced next week and that the permanent reinstatement will be carried out Thursday or Friday next week.

Question from Councillor Anderson to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Cleansing and Waste

A338 Road Improvements

Whilst I am happy that work is finally being under taken by DCC on the A338 can the Cabinet Member confirm that discussions have taken place with DCC to ensure that where this work interfaces with the Blackwater junction improvements they will carry out as much of the integration as possible so we don't end up with work done as part of the earlier scheme having to be dug up, I would also hope that similar forward planning will take place for the Hospital junction

Response: Yes and Yes!

Question from Angela Pooley, Community Representative to the Portfolio Holder for Tourism Leisure and Culture

Will the proposed 'New Aviary' be just to replace the existing aviary providing a safe home for the birds already there or are there plans to increase the number of birds? My reason for asking this is that whilst I fully agree with providing a safe home for the current rescued birds it is no longer generally seen as acceptable to keep birds in cages and I do not believe Bournemouth should be endorsing this.

Response: Originally the gardens were known for free roaming peacocks, followed by an aviary in the early twentieth century. The existing aviary, dating from the 1970's is rapidly reaching the end of its serviceable life. The building is not sympathetic to the space it's in and does not have a good flight area for the birds that it holds, it is also susceptible to rats/squirrels.

The Parks Service are at the planning stage of developing a replacement building with an improved flight area and back of house facilities. The building would be more in-keeping with the heritage value of the gardens. This all forms part of the Lower Gardens management and masterplan adopted in 2011, visitor surveys have shown the aviary to remain a very popular part of the Gardens.

The funding of the new aviary would be supported by the Bournemouth Parks Foundation and the Lower Gardens Aviary Volunteer Group. The purpose of the aviary will remain as a rescue centre for captive bred cage birds. Plans will also include improved interpretation and signage, which will educate visitors about the bird species held within the aviary and their natural environment; it will also promote the conservation of exotic birds in their natural habitat. These ambitions are shared by the dedicated aviary volunteers. There are no plans to increase the number of birds held.