

Committee: Ordinary Council	Date: 28 th July 2021
Subject: Public Questions	Wards Affected: All
Report of: Claire Mayhew – Corporate & Democratic Services Manager	Public
Report Author/s: Name: Claire Mayhew – Corporate & Democratic Services Manager Telephone: 01277 312741 E-mail: claire.mayhew@brentwood.gov.uk	For Information

In accordance with the Council’s Constitution, a member of the public resident within the Borough may ask a maximum of two questions relating to the business of the Council providing notice has been received by 10.00am two working days before the relevant meeting.

In light of the current guidance, members of the public are able to attend the Town Hall to put their question to Leader of the Council. However, if you feel more comfortable, your question can be read out on your behalf by the Mayor at the Ordinary Council Meetings for the foreseeable future.

Every question asked pursuant to rule 11.1 of the Constitution shall be put and answered without discussion but the Member to whom the question has been put may decline to answer. An answer may take the form of a direct oral answer at the Council meeting or where there has been insufficient time to research an answer, a written answer will be sent to the questioner. Time for all questions from members of the public shall be restricted to 15 minutes in total. At the expiration of that period of time, any questions which have not been asked shall be answered in writing and the answer placed with the minutes.

Four questions have been received.

Kathryn Coffin has submitted two questions

1. Many Brentwood residents who have spent more time at home than normal during the last year will have realised how much waste they generate and made an effort to recycle more. What is the council doing to increase the types of items that can be included in the kerbside recycling collections, e.g. Tetrapaks, tissue paper and carrier bags?

While Tetrapaks can currently be taken to a recycling centre, this is not an option for residents without cars. Has the council given any thought to providing recycling bins for other lightweight items in a town centre location, or at supermarkets, if a kerbside collection is not possible?

2. Please could the council explain why it is not maintaining the green at the junction of Wharf Road and Rollason Way, given that the council adopted this land a couple of years ago? The grass has not been cut this year and is now waist height.

The green is an important resource for flat residents on Rollason Way, who are currently unable to make use of it due to its poorly-maintained state. In addition, the overgrown state of the green presents a fire risk and is preventing residents from being able to properly clean up their dog mess. I understand that councillors have been requesting action from the council on this for two years now. I have tried contacting the council online and been told it is 'already reported/in progress', but the grass has still not been cut.

Susan Kortlandt has submitted two questions

1. It is now one year since the mobile phone masts were removed from Ewing House and there is still no sign of the promised (temporary) replacements. As the re-development of Ewing House is now complete, will the mast(s) now be replaced there?

When can mobile phone users expect to be re-connected to a functioning service?

2. I welcome the Council's proposals for measures to make Brentwood greener, but should like to see far more action on climate change.

How will the Council ensure that residents' views and ideas feed into the process? Will you consult with a Brentwood Climate Change Action Group?