

<b>Committee:</b> Ordinary Council	<b>Date:</b> 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
<b>Subject:</b> Notices of Motion	<b>Wards Affected:</b> All
<b>Report of:</b> Claire Mayhew - Corporate & Democratic Services Manager	<b>Public</b>
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### Summary

Four Notices of Motion have been submitted in accordance with Rule 3 in Part 4.1 of the Constitution - Council Procedure Rules and are listed in order of the date received.

Three of which were deferred from the Ordinary Council meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

#### **Motion 1 Received 02/06/2021 @ 15:47**

**Proposer Cllr Dr T Barrett**

**Seconder Cllr G Barrett**

*The Council resolves that all future Brentwood Borough Council backed, or part backed developments, including those through the Brentwood Development Partnership, SAIL and other subsidiary companies will at a minimum meet the guidance on design and amenity standards set out in both Brentwood & Essex design guides.*

#### **Motion 2 Received 02/06/2021 @ 15:47**

**Proposer Cllr Dr T Barrett**

**Seconder Cllr G Barrett**

*The Council resolves that all future Brentwood Borough Council backed or part backed developments, including those through the Brentwood Development Partnership, SAIL and other subsidiary companies will be compliant with the 35% affordable housing requirement or provide the market rate sum to purchase the equivalent property/properties in the Borough for use as affordable housing in lieu of this requirement.*

#### **Motion 3 Received 29.6.2021 @ 12.22**

**Proposer Cllr Mynott**

**Seconder Cllr Naylor**

*In June 2019, a motion was submitted proposing that the Council go through an Article 4 process to remove permitted development rights on the conversion of office space to residential accommodation, in specific areas of the borough, and to reinstate the normal Planning process for such proposed conversions.*

*That motion was carried with overwhelming cross party support. However, in the two years since then, no step has yet been taken to achieve what was agreed. Recent claims have, moreover, been made that Council acquisitions of a handful of commercial properties in the borough might somehow defend Brentwood borough from the numerous drawbacks of unrestrained office conversion. Nevertheless piecemeal property acquisition cannot address across the board issues of the kind caused by permitted development rights on office conversions.*

*This council will abide by its decision of June 26th 2019 on the previous motion, and requests that legal advice is sought on the introduction of an Article 4 restriction be undertaken, as agreed.*

#### **Motion 4 Received 26.9.2021 @ 21.31**

**Proposer Cllr Mynott**

**Seconder Cllr Aspinell**

*Earlier this year the Government introduced a new Use Class MA, allowing buildings and land within the (itself only recently created) umbrella Class E (commercial, business and service) to be converted into dwellings.*

*The underlying consequence is once again to prevent local control over the planning process, to rip up a rulebook which isn't the root cause of the current housing shortage, and to circumvent much needed improvements in the availability of affordable housing.*

*Applications under Class MA have been possible since August the 1st, even though this is yet another change to planning regulations in Britain that has aroused widespread criticism, with the Royal Town Planning Institute, the Town and Country Planning Association, the National Trust and even the British Property Federation opposed to it (amongst others). Introducing a change like this at a time of Covid, when numerous businesses have been under unprecedented pressure for over a year (and nationally one in seven Class E units are already empty) is likely to wreak havoc with the future viability of UK high streets, and to do so irreversibly.*

*A report from University College London already predicts losses of High Street businesses ranging between 89% and 75%, with four out of five shops likely to go, most of which will be small and locally owned.*