



ORDINARY COUNCIL

21st JUNE 2023

REPORT TITLE:	Public Questions
REPORT OF:	Claire Mayhew – Director – People & Governance & Monitoring Officer

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 clear working days before the relevant meeting.

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.

Mrs Jan Gearon-Simm has submitted two questions:

- 1. There is horrifying evidence that damage is being done to the sea, to wildlife and to us by discarded plastic, which is made from fossil fuels.*

Billions of plastic bottles, for example, are thrown into landfill.

The Drinking Fountain Association is trying to track down now-derelect drinking fountains, which were provided by councils from the 1860s onward in public places.

Will Brentwood Council follow this example and alert Brentwood residents against plastic bottles by re-opening any derelict fountains and by providing other clean water public outlets?

2. *At the ordinary Council meeting on 5th July 2011, the then Conservative Leader, Cllr Louise McKinlay proposed that:*

The Town Hall building be demolished and a new town hall be built on the car park alongside.

Thankfully, the town hall building was saved because of agreement between council members from difference parties, 11 of whom were Conservatives.

The town hall building symbolises the importance of Brentwood residents being served by democratically elected councillors from a variety of political persuasions.

I would like the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Opposition to both respond to my Residents Question, which is:

Will all Brentwood Councillors be willing to work in collaboration in order to achieve solutions to Brentwood problems?