



ORDINARY COUNCIL

27th SEPTEMBER 2023

REPORT TITLE:	Notices of Motion
REPORT OF:	Claire Mayhew – Joint Acting Up Director of People & Governance & Monitoring Officer

REPORT SUMMARY

Any one or more Members of the Council may, by notice received by the Monitoring Officer no later than 10.00 am eleven working days before the day of the Council meeting, require the Council to consider a motion about a matter relating to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the Council's area. A notice of motion may be accompanied by a statement of not more than 200 words setting out the reason for the proposed motion.

The Monitoring Officer shall include all notices of motion and accompanying statements in the agenda for the next relevant meeting of Council in the order received.

Three Notices of Motion has 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.

Motion 1 – Received 16th August 2023 @ 14:54

Mover: Cllr Dr Barrett

Seconder: Cllr Aspinell

Statement:

Brentwood High Street was redeveloped into its current form over a decade ago, at a cost of over fourteen million pounds, and considerable negative impact on local businesses during the implementation of the works.

Currently large areas of paving slabs on the High Street are broken, dislodged sunken or move. The Road condition also suffers from major dips and sunken sections.

Brentwood Access Group has consistently raised concerns over the state of the High Street and its impact on local residents. Residents, businesses and Councillors have also raised numerous issues regarding the state of repair of the High Street both directly and indirectly with appropriate stakeholders.

Motion

This Council believes:

- Brentwood residents and businesses deserve a High Street environment that is in good order and a beacon for the Borough.
- The current state of Brentwood High Street is unacceptable and is causing a direct negative impact on both resident enjoyment and economic development of our main retail area.

The Council resolves:

- To demand Essex County Council, as the Highway Authority, acts on their responsibility to maintain Brentwood High Street to a good standard.
- That it will request Essex County Council completes a full audit of the high street and within three months produce a schedule of repairs to be made publicly available.
- That Brentwood Borough Council will provide all appropriate assistance necessary to deliver this audit and any repairs programme.
- That we will work with SEPP on any element that requires changes to parking, waiting areas or enforcement activity to assist in this programme of repairs.

Motion 2 – Received 10th September 2023 @ 21:40

Mover: Cllr Heard

Seconder: Cllr Barber

Pigeon droppings under Shenfield Railway Bridge

The situation regarding pigeon droppings under the Shenfield Railway Bridge has deteriorated badly over the summer months and has become totally unacceptable. Such waste material contains harmful fungal spores which can lead to respiratory disease.

Effective measures such as erecting wire and fencing, use of a falcon or deployment of sound devices can all help to provide a solution.

It is the council's view that the health risks to members of the public from the current unhygienic situation cannot be allowed to persist.

This Council resolves to :

- i) Deploy the necessary resources to treat the affected area to effect a deep clean and maintain a regular cleaning regime until adequate measures are taken to deter the pigeons from the area.
- ii) Arrange an urgent meeting with Network Rail and the relevant Borough Council officers to secure delivery of the necessary work to both the Bridge and the Railway Station roof to deter pigeons from nesting.
- iii) Bring back a report to the Clean and Green Committee with the details of steps taken and progress made.

Motion 3 – Received 11th September 2023 @ 08:17

Mover: Cllr White

Seconder: Cllr Hirst

This Council recognises the critical importance of a healthy natural environment to the overall wellbeing and quality of life of our residents, and the pressing need to protect nature.

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic lockdowns raised awareness of how human health and wellbeing is intrinsically linked to the health of the natural environment. Use of parks and public green space, such as woodland, increased as people sought solace, exercise and recreation in nature.

Considering the responsibility this Council has for the management of local parks, local planning policies and land it owns, this Council resolves to:

1. Establish a climate and nature advisory committee to guide Members and council officers.
2. Include ecological impact assessments alongside climate and sustainability considerations in all committee and council reports.
3. Work towards making nature recovery a top strategic priority in planning policies and design guidelines for new developments. This includes:
 - a. Identifying suitable areas for habitat restoration, establishing 'green allocated sites' and embedding Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRSs) in local plans and policies.
 - b. Promoting Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), extending the minimum requirement from 10% to 20%.
 - c. Minimising the impact of development on existing habitats.
 - d. Enhancing access to nature-rich green spaces within a 10-minute radius for all residents.
 - e. Requiring new developments to commit to a minimum of 30% tree canopy cover.
 - f. Increasing tree canopy cover in existing housing estates where it is below the 16% urban average for England.
4. Support initiatives, including community run tree nurseries, to increase the supply of local saplings.
5. Prioritise the use of council land holdings, for habitat creation and restoration, by transitioning where appropriate from maintaining grass to planting trees.

Finally, Council urges all stakeholders to come together to protect and restore our natural assets, recognising their intrinsic role in securing a sustainable future for our community.