

16 September 2015

Ordinary Council

Questions from the Public

Report of: Jean Sharp – Governance and Member Support Officer

Wards Affected: All Wards

This report is: Public

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 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.
- 1.2 If the person wishing to ask the question is not present at the meeting when the item is called the question(s) will be deleted from the list of questions to be asked.
- 1.3 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.
- 1.4 At the time of publication of the agenda two questions had been received from Mrs Gearon-Simm, as follows:

1. *"At one Ordinary Council meeting, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mark Reed chaired the meeting. He told the meeting that the Mayor, Councillor Madeline Henwood was unwell and was therefore unable to be present.*

Would it be possible for a reason to always be given at the beginning of meetings and recorded in the minutes for the absence of councillors at committee meetings?"

2. *In the past, councillors were paid only when they attended the meetings of the committees on which they had elected to sit.*

If a nominated member of a committee was absent, was his/her substitute paid instead?

Report Author Contact Details:

Name: Jean Sharp

Telephone: 01277 312655

E-mail: jean.sharp@brentwood.gov.uk