

## Response to Questions and Actions Arising from Full Council Meetings

**Question 1:** The pollution is a concern therefore my question is, with large housing developments taking place (and proposed) within the ancient Parish of Ifield, what steps are being taken by this Council to protect Bewbush Brook - and beyond - from further contamination and pollution? (this question was asked whilst indicating water pollution on a map within Bewbush Brook to the Full Council)

**Supplementary Question:** On a scale of 1 to 10 [Low risk = 1 High Risk = 10], how dangerous do you consider this to be in the future?

**Response:** The Environment Agency is responsible for water pollution, and you should report the incident you have witnessed relating to Bewbush Brook to the Environment Agency incident hotline as they will have the expertise to investigate it <https://www.gov.uk/report-an-environmental-incident>. Whilst the council's Environmental Health team has some powers/duties under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to investigate "foul ponds, pools, ditches, gutters and watercourses", in order to determine statutory nuisance, it is effectively the Environment Agency that deals with pollution to water courses. Should a major application for further development come forward in the area, the Environment Agency will be a statutory consultee and they will advise the relevant local planning authority on necessary measures to protect against potential water pollution, and on flooding issues.

**Question 2:** I've been contacted by an elderly resident who attends the Pilates class at K2 Crawley on a Friday. The class costs £3.30 which is billed automatically to their bank account. If there is an event in the main hall, the class is moved into the studio. The resident has found out that when this change of venue is made by K2 Crawley, the charge increases to £7.00 which is over double and apparently is because the studio is classed a premium room. What do you as Cabinet member think of this charge and do you think it's acceptable? Can I just add that the election count is on a Friday, and can we ensure that all residents are not charged double?

**Response:** The Centre Manager confirmed the increased charge was caused by a fault with the IT software. The fault was identified and has now been rectified. Following the class, the Aerobics Coordinator dealt with the participants affected who were offered a free class the following week. I have passed on contact details to Councillor Kim Jaggard if the lady wants to claim her free class. There is a class relocation this Friday and the price has been adjusted ensuring that this was just a one-off error. Apologies were sent.

**Question 3:** I would like to follow up on any possibility of a Tree Preservation Order searchable database for the public.

**Response:** The Local Planning Authority is working towards making more of its tree records available and accessible. We have recently completed the digitisation of all our historic Tree Preservation Orders and our intention going forward is to move these Orders onto the website. We do have a TPO database but there are no plans to make it public currently – it is not currently on the work programme – it would require additional resources to make it fit for purpose.

**Question 4:** The Maidenbower Community Centre is hired out to various children's groups. Is the Cabinet Member aware that the community hall has been without heating for the last few weeks according to residents, and what can be done and perhaps refunds offered to the groups that have hired it out and been impacted?

**Response:** The heating fault at Maidenbower Community Centre was rectified on February 20th and the heating has been working since this date. The Playgroup, who are a regular hirer of this space, had complained about the disruption the heating fault had caused. Further to their complaint, a 50% refund of the hire fee for the period that the heating was defective has been offered to the Playgroup. They were appreciative of this offer and have accepted this as compensation for the disruption caused.