

## **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**1 JULY 2014**

### **ITEM 6 – QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

#### **QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR N SMITH TO COUNCILLOR N J RUSHTON**

“Chairman, I accept that the constitution allows meetings such as this to take place, however I would suggest that as one of the councils priorities is value for money, could the Chairman please explain to this council how a meeting consisting primarily of questions and motions that could have waited until the next full council meeting is value for money and could he please confirm the cost involved in holding tonight’s meeting.”

#### **QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR M SPECHT TO COUNCILLOR N J RUSHTON**

“I would like to put forward a question for next week's meeting. This relates to the cost of rescheduling this meeting which The Chairman had previously decided would not take place in July, due to there being no business to bring to Council”.

#### **RESPONSE FROM COUNCILLOR N J RUSHTON**

“The purpose of Council is twofold:

- a) To consider and make decisions on reports presented by officers through the relevant port folio holders; and
- b) To consider other matters which arise through the democratic process such as deputations, questions and motions.

The constitution sets out the basis on which a motion can be refused which is that it is illegal, scurrilous, improper or out of order. Whether or not a motion can or should wait until the next meeting is not relevant to determining whether the motion is accepted for inclusion on an agenda.

The cost of the Council meeting includes time spent on agenda preparation, printing and dispatch, administration of the meeting and all officer time including time spent on legal advice, meeting attendance and motions and questions received. The estimated cost of tonight’s meeting is £2462.32”.