

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

22nd April 2014

Public Participation

Question from Mr Michael Sprules, - Chairperson RADAR
(Residents Against Development Affecting Recreational Land)

Item No. 5

Question : -

Westinghouse Cricket Club “Fold” due to “Indecisiveness” of Developer to set out “Timetable” for “Mitigation”.

Cabinet Members and attending Elected Members

As you will have seen from my Statement, Westinghouse Cricket Club – a Cricket Club with 87 years of history has now folded. This is due in part to the fact that many of their Members lost faith in the promised “Mitigation” package – a “Mitigation” package that never came.

Time and time again, Westinghouse Cricket Club asked the developer for a Timetable for delivery of the promised “Mitigation” package..... and time and time again they waited and waited and waited and the promised “Mitigation” package never came.

After two and a half years of waiting for their much needed and promised “Mitigation” package, Westinghouse Cricket Club decided that they had thrown their last Ball and for their long established Club, the only “Over” they would play is the one that said “We're Over”.

It is a sad day for Wiltshire that a developer can, through their “Indecisiveness”, in not delivering a much needed and promised “Mitigation” package, as set out in a Section 106 Agreement, cause a Club like the Westinghouse Cricket Club to fold.

This act sends out a message to developers that says “Wiltshire is the place to go if you want to kill off Sports Clubs”. I, for one, believe that if a developer has chosen this route – that they should not then be rewarded with the “permission” they crave but without the “Sport Provision”.

Taking my concerns into consideration, my question to Cabinet is :

Whilst I am aware that Cabinet can in no way comment on an individual act by a developer, are Cabinet able to give an assurance that, where a developer has chosen not to give a satisfactory “Timetable” for “Mitigation” to a Sports Club and, therefore, as a result of “Non-Mitigation” the Sports Club then decide to close due to this “Indecisiveness” and “Non-Compliance” by the developer, Wiltshire Council would then review its Planning Decision, in regard to that particular Application and Sports Club “Mitigation”, in order that other like minded developers do not consider doing the same ?

May I, once again, thank Cabinet Members and, indeed, Elected Members for allowing me to ask this question.