

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

26th August 2025

An Extraordinary meeting of the Housing and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel was held on Tuesday, 26th August 2025 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall Nuneaton.

Present

Councillor C. Phillips (Chair)

Councillors: J. Collett (substitute for M. Bird) S. Dhillon, M. Etienne (Vice-Chair), B. Pandher, B. Saru, C. Smith and K. Wilson (substitute for T. Cooper)

Apologies: E. Amaechi, T. Cooper and M. Bird

PART I – PUBLIC BUSINESS

HC13 Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED that the declarations of interest are as set out in the Schedule available on the website. ([Councillor Schedule of Declarations of Interests for Meetings](#))

HC14 Call-in Conduct a Public Consultation on changes to the Pool Bank Car Park

The Democratic Services Team Leader advised the panel that the decision of Cabinet on the 16th July 2025 regarding the above had been 'called in'. The request for call in was received on 28th July 2025

The call in had been assessed against Article 12: Principles of Decision Making as detailed within the Council's Constitution. Following this assessment four of the five call in areas had been rejected as they fully complied with the Article 12 Principles.

The area relating to "Options offered for consideration will be explained" were accepted for the OSP to review and consider.

**SPEAKERS: Councillor D. Brown
Councillor S. Markham
Councillor J. Clarke**

The panel discussed the following points:

- The consultation is premature, the lease for Abbey Theatre is still being negotiated and the impact of this will affect their business.
- The consultation is dealing with effectively a police matter; the outcome of the consultation could harm other businesses. The theatre is a premier cultural venue and customers who go there use the car park. It is essential for the theatre's business.
- The consultation needs to be delayed until the terms of the lease for the Theatre have been agreed.
- The car park has never been part of the Theatre's lease, the Council own the car park, and it is part of Council business.
- This is only a consultation, to gather the views of the nearby residents and stakeholders who are experiencing the anti-social behaviour taking place in

the car park as to exactly what, if we can, do to reduce the impact of this on residents living nearby.

- Both political groups have the same aims and ambitions regarding reducing the anti-social behaviour and ensuring the Theatre can have a lease which will enable them to apply for funding. The issue here is just about the timing of this consultation of which the outcome could have a material impact on the lease.

Councillor K. Wilson moved that the matter be referred to full council.

This was seconded by Councillor J. Collett.

A recorded vote was taken as follows:

FOR: Councillors J. Collett, M. Etienne, B. Pandher, and K. Wilson

AGAINST: Councillors S. Dhillon, B. Saru, C. Phillips and C. Smith

ABSTENTIONS: None

The vote was tied therefore the Chair had the casting vote; the Chair C. Phillips voted against the motion.

The motion was lost

Councillor C. Phillips moved that the panel endorse the decision made by Cabinet allowing the decision to be carried out but under different timescales due to delay

This was seconded by Councillor B. Saru

A vote was taken.

The vote was tied, and the Chair had the casting vote.

The motion was carried

RESOLVED that the decision of Cabinet be endorsed allowing the decision to be carried out but under different timescales due to delay.

Chair