

Questions from the public 14/07/2026

Full Council 14 July 2026

Questions from the public

Question to the Leader of the Council Stephen Giles-Medhurst from Jon Bishop

It is disappointing that this meeting will not be considering the proposed minor change to the Chorleywood Neighbourhood Plan to align the language in it to the changes introduced in the December 2024 NPPF and Green Belt PPG with regard to the term “village”. In line with the Settlement Analysis agreed by the Council in January of this year, which categorises Chorleywood as a “town”, this removes the description of Chorleywood as being a village so as to avoid confusion. The change was discussed with officers at TRDC through the second half of 2025, agreed by Chorleywood Parish Council in October 2025 and submitted to TRDC in February 2026 for final approval by the District.

Can I ask that the Executive of the District confirms that it is fully supportive of the proposed changes and that the Council will bring forward these changes for agreement by the Full Council without further delay?

I understand the concern, Jon, and thank you for discussing it with me. Unfortunately, due to the Minister’s directives and intervention on the Local Plan, officer resource had to be concentrated on dealing with that work and the very strict timelines he set, having imposed seven additional sites on Three Rivers.

However, I can confirm that I — and this Council — fully support, as does our emerging Local Plan (subject to the Minister’s Direction), the classification of Chorleywood and indeed other areas as “Towns” for planning considerations.

I have discussed with officers ways of bringing this forward as a priority and whether we can avoid waiting for the October Council meeting to make these changes. If we can, we will. I understand the Planning Inspector considers this a minor change, so I hope it can be completed soon.

