

## COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 14 - QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

### **1. Question from Councillor Penny Rainbow**

I'm sure that many Members will be aware of the recent flooding events in Southwell on 12/13th June, which affected a number of properties and required immediate and swift mobilisation of residents and flood risk responders from late at night into the early hours of the morning. Residents are understandably concerned to understand why and how this happened, and when flood defence measures will be completed in Southwell.

I would like the Chairman of the Homes & Communities Committee to set out their understanding of the reasons for the flooding, especially in relation to land at and around Springfield bungalow. Why did the flooding happen, what was done about it, and what will be done in the future?

I'm sure the Council agrees that completion of flood defence and resiliency schemes for Southwell remain critical and I'd also like to ask, therefore, whether we could seek certainty from Flood Risk Management agencies, notably the Environment Agency and Nottinghamshire County Council, as to when current flood defence proposals will be completed.

Finally, I would like to put it on record our appreciation for the help given by members of Southwell flood forum on the night, who undoubtedly saved properties from flooding. Until you have been flooded you cannot imagine the devastating effect it has on those families, we owe it to our communities to protect them.

### **2. Question from Councillor Peter Harris**

Although a recent appeal against the refusal of planning permission in Hockerton was dismissed, there is a concerning paragraph in the inspector's letter about not having a numerical number of new houses for the villages. This presumption may mitigate other planning rationale for rejection of future plans for residential development in smaller villages. I would like to ask what plans there are for addressing this deficiency.