

COUNCIL

THURSDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2019

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Ms Sarah Church has asked the Leader of the Council:

I have been supporting a local campaign by the Parks and East Walcot Community Forum asking the Council to take responsibility for the poor state of repair at Cavendish Square. The Square has suffered for years from poor drainage, rotting fencing and completely inadequate lighting. This was apparent when I used to work on Whitbourne Avenue in 2016-17, and continues to be apparent during my regular visits to the Square. The lack of maintenance became a real danger when a car broke through fencing recently and hit a pedestrian. Latterly, the MP for South Swindon has become interested and sent correspondence to local residents confirming that the Council has agreed to buy back the land it used to own, and to thereby take responsibility for its upkeep. If this is the case, then the campaign has been successful and this a pleasing outcome for all of us who have spent many hours collecting petition signatures, but can the Leader of the Council please confirm the timeframe for the buy back, its extent and any other caveats that may prevent this promise being kept?

The Leader of the Council has responded:

Thank you for your question.

I am aware that there is an issue which needs to be resolved at Cavendish Square because I have visited the site along with local residents and I have had direct contact from Robert Buckland MP who has been working to find a resolution to this issue.

I can confirm that the Council is committed to ensuring that there is a resolution in respect of the issues at Cavendish Square which includes negotiation with a view to purchasing Cavendish Square subject to usual requirements for any such purchase. This will be concluded as soon as reasonably practicable.

Mr Roy Worman has asked the Leader of the Council:

Is there a transcript of the meeting with Dr Laurie Marsh recorded on any Cabinet Notes, if so where and when.

The Leader of the Council has responded:

A written response will be provided.