

Question from Councillor David Whitaker to Councillor Martin Bottoms

Has any engagement with external funding streams taken place regarding Centenary House on Regent Road taken place and what do you see as the most realistic options about the future use of this building whilst taken on board the implications for car parking if hopefully a commercial or community use is established for this building.

Councillor Bottoms responded

Its previously been said in Council that brownfield release money is available for developing this. That money is still there and is available and waiting for a developer to move this project forward. Its very difficult because Centenary House is bordered by roads with little to no parking and whatever you put there there's going to be parking issues. If a community centre there will be parking issues, if its commercial there'd going to be parking issues. We are in negotiations with an affordable housing developer but they're aware that the parking issues need to be part of the process and part of an effective resolution. I will keep you informed of progress on this.

Supplementary question from Councillor David Whitaker

Can you see an answer being found before LGR comes into place?

Councillor Bottoms responded

It's something we've all had concerns about since this administration was formed and we do need to find a solution and if we're going to get something done its down to us to get it done under this administration or at least get it started before our term ends and before LGR so I will keep pressing for this.