

QUESTIONS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION – 27 MARCH 2025

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The questions have been listed in the order they were received.

Inspector Ian Foster and colleague from the Humberside Police were in attendance.

FROM:	QUESTION
Written question from M Billany	<p>“Disruption in Baxtergate emanating from Stride Residential Establishment: We have lived in our property for 40 years as have several of our neighbours, since Holyrood House became Stride along with a significant change of residents the neighbourhood has totally changed especially at our address which is directly opposite. In previous years we and others have had an occasional elderly person wandering into the garden and on one occasion into the house, this has never posed a problem. However, there are some people now on the street who are abusive, foul mouthed and very, very angry.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. An incident in January 2025 resulted in the Police and Ambulance being present on the street between 8am and 1pm clearly trying to manage an unpredictable man who was shouting and being abusive.2. 3rd March around 10 o clock when I was driving out of our garden there was a man in the garden shouting, swearing and carrying on alarmingly clearly out of control. Two young women came across from the Home and tried to reason with him. Eventually they got him across the road where he promptly sat down on the pavement. Very difficult to see staff being verbally abused by someone totally irrational.3. 14th March early evening an ambulance and police car present. The ambulance for some two and a half hours blocked our drive with the engine running we could neither get in or out. We were expecting visitors arriving following a long flight, clearly they would not be able to get into the drive. Having got no response from the Home I realised as I crossed the road the ambulance was occupied. I knocked spoke to the responders who then moved the vehicle off. There is a car park at the side of the building why does no one use it?4. 19th March 11.30am. A man outside of Stride kicking the door, shouting swearing foul mouthed abuse at anybody and everybody. He started to discard his clothing and threw his footwear at two female staff members who were trying to reason with him.5. We have a one-bedroom holiday let in our garden in what was previously my mother’s cottage. It is in even closer proximity to the Home that we are and visitors having witnessed this behaviour are concerned for their safety when going out into the locality. Not a good advertisement for visiting Hedon. <p>Most residents in the street are elderly, several are widows living alone who are becoming reluctant to venture out into the street especially in the evening due to the unpredictable situations they may encounter. The shouting, foul mouthed abuse and violent behaviour demonstrated by some Stride residents is not something people chose to live with in what was once a peaceful street. Surely the residents and taxpayers of Baxtergate should expect to walk the street where they live without fear. This is serious issue which needs addressing.”</p> <p><i>Answer: The Mayor read out the question and asked Inspector Foster for his comments. Inspector Foster outlined how he had monitored calls in the immediate area of Stride on Baxtergate, and calls from the town which referred to incidents involving residents of Stride. He had met the temporary Manager of the facility to discuss the incidents and felt that she was genuine in her wish to help and noted that she was in the process of delivering a letter to nearby residents (the Mayor also read out this letter to attendees). Inspector Foster felt that the manager was keen to work with the community on the issues. However, he appreciated that for residents in the immediate area there were problems with anti-social behaviour.</i></p>

	<p><i>The ERYC Ward Councillors had visited the home in 2024 and discussed the possibility of anti-social behaviour; they had been reassured that bad behaviour would not be allowed; however, that has not been the case. They had also been told that in the event of a resident not sticking to the rules they would be returned to where they had come from – but that also does not seem to be the case. Councillors wondered what the staff to resident ratio was and whether the facility was fully staffed with trained employees and what, if any, rules there were about residents being accompanied when outside the grounds.</i></p> <p><i>It was noted that there had been incidents in the town centre, particularly around the bench outside Couplands, which had resulted in the Market Manager having to intervene – which was not acceptable.</i></p> <p><i>Inspector Foster pointed out that some of the calls received, citing bad behaviour from Stride residents, when investigated had turned out not to actually be Stride residents and, as Police Officers, they had to remain objective.</i></p> <p><i>Residents who lived in the immediate area described incidents that made them afraid to leave their own properties and behaviour fuelled by drink and drugs. Inspector Foster asked that all incidents were reported to the police – if they are not reported then they do not appear in the statistics that can drive police interventions.</i></p> <p><i>Humberside Police had held brief conversations with ERYC Anti-social Behaviour Team. Inspector Foster said that he understood the residents fears and the police will do what they can if evidence is found to back up the reports.</i></p> <p><i>The Clerk was asked to write to the Stride Manager to request a meeting with Councillors, representatives from Humberside Police and the ERYC Anti-Social Behaviour Team.</i></p>
Written questions from R Purdue	<p>“Lighting down Ivy Lane: I would like the Hedon Town Council to look into lighting being installed down Ivy Lane. In all the years I have gone up and down Ivy Lane I have never noticed that there is no lighting down there, until I myself fell over the grey/green moss concrete unmarked bollards next to Elsiegate on the 5th of February 2025. Because of my fall, I sustained injuries to my shin, elbow and hand alongside my new watch being broken. I wrote to ERYC informing them of my accident and my concerns and in my reply letter they stated that the parish and town councils have the ability to fund lighting in such areas of this. Street lighting may not be a statutory obligation for the council, but they certainly have a duty of care to their residents who walk up and down Ivy Lane at all times of the day and night.</p> <p>There are so many places down there in which undesirable people could be lurking and in this changing world that we are told we are living in now god forbid anything nasty happening to any of the towns residents. We need to feel safe wherever we walk in Hedon and walking down Ivy Lane with no lights is not safe.</p> <p>Thank you for giving this matter your attention, I look forward to the Town Councils response.”</p> <p>Answer: <i>The meeting closed before this question could be addressed; however, it will be deferred to the Annual Town Meeting which will take place on Thursday 3 April 2025.</i></p>
Any question that does not receive an answer due to time pressures would be put on the relevant agenda for the next council committee meeting	