

Public Questions to Special Council 21 November 2017

1. Question submitted by Malcom Allen on behalf of the Chorley Traders Alliance

“Following the closure of Woolworths and having attended various meetings over a 15 year period organised by the council with consultants, reports were published and then nothing happened. I called a meeting of all the traders in the town and from that the CTA was formed, one of the first things we wanted was the north end of Market Street reopened with limited parking for customers which took us 5yrs to get and was a great success with town centre customers which helped get back to feeling like a market town.

But with the building of Buckshaw Village and all the new houses in the borough over the last few years our town centre has not expanded to meet there needs.

As Chair of Chorley Trader’s Alliance I wish to comment on recent coverage regarding the re-development of Market Walk in the town. Whilst the recent news of Marks & Spencer’s decision to review all of their planned store openings nationwide and including Chorley is a set-back, I believe that Town Centre Traders wish to see the overall scheme continue to be developed out to make our Town Centre fit for the future. We have a thriving town centre and work closely with the Council to ensure that shoppers can have the best facilities that Chorley has to offer. At the moment there are several false stories with regard to phase 2 doing the rounds in the town and on social media which is not helping trade in the town centre.

Whilst I appreciate that some people can find change challenging and will always find reasons not to do things, the members I have consulted are encouraging Chorley Council to carry on with the development. Can I ask on behalf of Chorley Traders Alliance that we do just that? The development is necessary if we want to see Chorley prosper in the future but do not want to take as long as the reopening of Market St.”

2. Question submitted by Trevor Witt on behalf of the Chamber of Trade

“Why can’t the debate concerning Market Walk Phase 2 be held in open session.”