

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Letter request - Newbury Weekly News  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 30, 2019 4:31:06 PM

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[REDACTED]  
See below – as discussed  
Best regards  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED] >

**Sent:** 24 April 2019 13:58

**To:** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] >

**Subject:** RE: Letter request - Newbury Weekly News

Dear [REDACTED],

Please can you advise me if you will be publishing my letter?

Thank-you  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED] >

**Sent:** 20 April 2019 13:46

**To:** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] >

**Subject:** Letter request - Newbury Weekly News

Dear [REDACTED],

I submitted the following question at the West Berkshire Executive Council Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019:

*"Can the Council please share the business case and the associated up front and ongoing running costs for next 3 years, associated with its latest proposal for the Faraday Football ground? (that was announced last week)"*

I asked the question because like many in Newbury, I am struggling to understand the justification the Council has in spending money on turning a needed and previously heavily used facility into one that no-one has asked for and one the Council has not consulted anyone about. To be honest I also suspected that again a decision has been passed by this administration without going through a recognisable and transparent process and without a business case / justification that surely we would expect our Council to follow prior to making a decision that involves the commitment of a significant spend on a facility that after all is listed as an Asset of Community Value (ACV)

Rather than answer the question openly and transparently, Cllr James Fredrickson took the too familiar West Berks Councillor approach of not answering the question and did not outline the business case, he simply said "Yes, we will share the business case" His response is particular frustrating and possibly disingenuous when you consider that questions have to be submitted to the Council 10 days in advance of the actual meeting. Surely the business case

should have been readily available and accessible for Councillor Fredrickson to share at the meeting given the actual decision was made at least 3 weeks prior?

Needless to say a full month later, we are still awaiting for him (or anyone from the Council) to share the business case. As a result one has to ask: Was a business case / justification actually produced prior to the decision being made? Can the Council's governance and audit process still allow decisions to be made without a business case and without evidence of need and consultation (as defined by its own Consultation Policy)?

Best regards



Newbury Community Football Group