

**ITEM 4 - PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**Agenda item 5: BRENT CROSS CRICKLEWOOD REGENERATION**

**Questions from Mr John Cox**

Having regard to the contents of the BXC public report in the published agenda of this meeting, will the Committee join with me in concluding that the report by officers is inadequately written, with, just for instance and by no means comprehensively evidenced by, the following:

(1) an insufficient description for the Committee to take note, of the BXC planning application Section 73 changes, being based merely on the PR-led 'Pollyanna' description of three particular changes, as described by London Communications Agency on behalf of the applicant, and that the report is insufficiently mindful of including an independent assessment by the Authority (which is one reason why you exist as a supposedly independent, public-sector, statutorily-based, local planning authority and transport authority)

(2) an insufficient list of risks to the Authority for the Committee to consider (having regard, incidentally, to a long, painful, and expensive history of such shortcomings by the Authority, and the consequent obvious need for the Authority to raise its game)

(3) small inaccuracies, and text that creates misleading impressions by virtue of omission of detail,

and that, having regard to this, will not the Committee instruct the officers involved to make major improvements, coming forward with a significantly improved document for consideration by the Committee at a slightly later date, because of the grave risk the Committee will otherwise make what could turn out to be unsafe decisions, based on the current document?

Response:

This agreement has been fully researched and members have the details of the changes to the commercial agreement. Officers and advisors are here tonight to provide any explanations. These changes are the result of prolonged negotiations and represent a very positive deal for the people of Barnet. The new commercial agreement allows the S73 planning amendment to go forward for consideration at Planning and Environment Committee.