QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR, CABINET MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

To the Leader of the Council:

1. Can the Leader please say in his opinion, what adverse impact a no deal Brexit will have on the citizens of Newcastle under Lyme ?

Cllr Mark Olszewski

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To the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Efficiency:

2. Can the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Efficiency confirm that the Audit of the Council's Accounts has been completed.

Cllr Andrew Parker

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To the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Efficiency:

3. Please can the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Efficiency outline how the Council is spending the money provided by the government to prepare for Brexit on Freedom Day (31st October 2019)?

Cllr Andy Fear

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To the Leader of the Council:

4. Last Saturday I was informed by a number of distressed residents that Cultural Squatters Cafe and Community Hub in Merrial Street was closing down on Wednesday 18th September which is today having been given three weeks notice to leave by their Landlord RM LTD.

Cultural Squatters is an unofficial social enterprise and a valuable resource providing sanctuary for many vulnerable people including those with mental health issues, learning difficulties and homelessness.

It is non profit making and has a Be Kind ethos.

The previous agents were very supportive of the community benefits of Cultural Squatters but RM LTD took over the contract to manage the the Arcade a year ago and things have gone downhill since then as the company is not really interested in what they are doing.

There is no new tenant and the building will be left empty for the present time. Having been given such short notice they have two significant issues namely finding a storage facility ASAP and also finding new premises.

I am asking you as Council Leader if we as a caring Council can offer support and help for them to secure new premises within the Town Centre as a matter of urgency?

Cllr Ruth Wright

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To the Leader of the Council:

5. Will Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs) be sustainable now the decision has been made by the council not to provide administrative support to them?

Cllr Kyle Robinson

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To the Leader of the Council:

6. Will the Leader assure me that any plans to spend the new Town Fund in Kidsgrove will be distributed fairly so that Talke Pits village and Butt Lane centre also receive some much needed investment?

Cllr Kyle Robinson

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