

**QUESTION TO COUNCIL FOR MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

From Judith Harley, Cowley

Lord Mayor, Councillors,

Last year, in April, 2015, a notice went up in a small, landlocked corner of Cox's Yard, Temple Cowley to the effect that this corner was owned by Oxford City Council and that it would be fenced off from the main yard in due course, which it was. Since then this small corner of yard has been sitting idle. Cox's Yard is as an employment site, is designated as such in the Oxford Local Plan, is in the Temple Cowley Conservation Area, and since March 2015 has been protected from development by an Article 4 Direction issued by the City Council and approved by the Secretary of State.

On checking with the Land Registry, this tiny piece of land appears to have been owned by the City Council since July 2010. On behalf of the residents of Temple Cowley I am asking the following:

1. Why was this tiny piece of yard, in the Temple Cowley Conservation Area, purchased by the City Council?
2. Why is the land sitting idle?
3. What do the City Council propose to do with this plot, both immediately and longer term?
4. How much did the City Council pay for this piece?
5. Is this plot currently earning rent or any other income for the Council?
6. Has the City Council derived any income from this site since it was purchased?

**Response:**

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