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Lytham, Lancashire, Tuesday, 12 November 2013

Press Release

Defend Lytham's Questions Ignored By MP

Nearly 2 months ago **Defend Lytham** sent a list of 38 questions to our MP, Mark Menzies. Mr Menzies eventually sent a reply, which ignored 33 of the questions ⁽¹⁾ and answered 5 in only the vaguest possible way.

Defend Lytham is tremendously disappointed that our MP has chosen to be so evasive.

Mr. Menzies now has 3 years experience as MP for the area that is on the frontline of shale gas exploration. He has worked as PPS to Energy Minister, Charles Hendry, and most recently he is serving as the Vice Chairman for the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Unconventional Oil and Gas which receives a significant amount of support from companies with interests in the fracking industry ⁽²⁾.

Given this background and experience, his claim to be unable to answer the questions, because they assume that he has a detailed technical knowledge of the engineering requirements behind the shale gas industry or are of such a speculative nature that it would be inappropriate of him to hypothesise on the answers, is quite incredible.

His failure to answer these valid and basic questions on a subject that will have a massive impact on his constituency, one way or the other, calls into question his commitment to representing the people of Fylde. If he won't answer the questions put to him by his constituents, we would ask the press to take a role in ensuring that answers are forthcoming. In the meantime **Defend Lytham** fears that Mr. Menzies' constituents are on their own as they face up to the fracking industry.

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For more information please contact John Hobson on 07976 763647 or admin@defendlytham.com

1. The list of questions and Mr Menzies responses can be seen here.
<http://www.defendlytham.com/mark-menzies-refuses-to-answers-most-of-our-questions-on-fracking>

2. Please refer to:
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmllparty/register/unconventional-oil-and-gas.htm>