

## PUERTO DE LA CRUZ

# Bus station scandal rages on

The socialist party (PSOE) in Puerto de La Cruz have complained about the incapacity demonstrated for years by the the Town Council led by Lope Afonso to clarify the situation regarding the plot of land where a future bus station is supposed to be constructed.

A recent press release by the political party carried a headline saying they demand that Mayor Lope Afonso and Tenerife President Carlos Alonso stop messing around. National delegate Tamara Raya had initially asked the Parliament in Madrid if and when the land (Finca 5497, Plot 53) would be handed over to the town so that the works to build the new central bus station, promised since 2013, could begin. The shocking answer was simply that the state administration company SEPES is not the owner of Plot 53, and what's more, they do not know who owns it.

Marco González, the socialist press secretary, commented: "We have been travelling to Madrid for three years, watching ridiculously slow progress, and nothing has helped us to resolve this key development in Puerto de La Cruz. If this situation reveals the shortcomings of the Town Council, then the latest declarations on social media by Carlos Alonso, saying that he doesn't have the information needed to solve the problem, add even more confusion".

The socialist party said that the sad truth only came to light after a simple question to Parliament, and that this is yet another grave error which condemns Puerto de La Cruz to continue without a decent bus station for its residents and visitors. González stated: "Necessary steps were not carried out to prevent this problem from being pushed aside. Rather, it seems that the current Town Council did not want a quick solution or



↑ A proposed model to replace today's dilapidated bus station

that they are simply unable to achieve results". The opposition party does not understand why the bus station threatened by collapse was not simply demolished and rebuilt.

Instead, there have been delays because a new plot supposedly owned by SEPES is being considered for construction. In addition, nobody knows who Plot 53 belongs to as it is not registered.

The socialist party insists that the current misuse of the open street as a bus station does not meet the demands of a modern city. Both residents and visitors consider the current con-

ditions a major inconvenience. González asked: "Why have we been making promises for three years? In addition, the people in charge of the town must have known perfectly well that they have been talking about a plot of land that is not even theirs. It's all hot air".

The role played by President Carlos Alonso and whether he was deceived by the council in Puerto de La Cruz is open to debate. Those who certainly have been deceived by the politicians of the PP and CC parties (Partido Popular and Coalición Canaria) are the general public. Since 2013, new promises were made every year that an adequate bus station was within reach, and then the plans disappeared. The opposition's statement concluded: "Like the inhabitants of Puerto, we are tired of hearing empty promises and declarations. They only show idleness, which seriously hinders the development of this holiday town." ■

## LA SÉPZIMA

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