

FULL COUNCIL – 10 JULY 2023 – QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 22

Question 1

From Cllr M Wade to the Portfolio Holder for Community, Safety and Wellbeing, Cllr Poole

In the minutes of the February 2023 Council meeting, the Leader of the Council committed to three hundred thousand pounds (£300,000) in 2023/24 of investment in enhanced Community Safety measures, further enhancing the feeling of safety within our various communities. Please can you give us detail on how that funding will be used?

Question 2

From Cllr Rackham to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economy, Cllr Tipp

Before the recent election I was told that it would be left for the next administration to establish how Dibden Bay would be protected from development. Now that we're in the next administration could we please hear how the council will protect Dibden bay from Development as it has become part of the free port designated area?

Question 3

From Cllr A Wade to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Sustainability, Cllr Blunden

I, like most Cllrs around the District have received a significant amount of feedback on the Council's 'No Mow May' and grass cutting policy. Much of it has been positive, and it has been encouraging to see wildflowers growing and promoting biodiversity throughout the area. However, clearly there are lessons to be learnt with the maintenance of specific areas such as near main roads and junctions. So, we can ensure our Residents are understanding and support how approach, would you agree to a consultation with local Residents, Cllrs, and our fantastic Open Spaces Team on the policy, so next 'No Mow May' receives even more Community Support?

Question 4

From Cllr J Davies to the Portfolio Holder for Community, Safety and Wellbeing, Cllr Poole

During the previous Council, I tried to get the Council to write up a deprivation action plan, like they have in other councils, but that was torpedoed by Conservative Councillors. With a new-look council, will "reducing poverty and deprivation" now be included as an objective in the upcoming corporate plan?

Question 5

From Cllr Clark to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economy, Cllr Tipp

This is a follow-up to my question submitted to the Council meeting held on 11 April 22, regarding the Planning Committee's decision to grant permission to re-develop the site of the former Fawley Power Station.

The application 19/10581 is for 1,380 new homes and employment. The status was then and still is today "Awaiting decision", and is still subject to a completed Section 106 agreement.

The Case Officer addressed the Planning Committee at their December 2022 meeting with an "Update", and a completed S106 was expected in January this year.

Will the Portfolio Holder explain in specific detail and the specific reasons why we still have no completed S106 agreement. It is now 3 years since determination and no decision notice has been issued. Surely, it is in the interest of this Council to be transparent, and also, it has to be in the public interest to know what is going on?

Question 6

From Cllr Sleep to the Portfolio Holder for Community, Safety and Wellbeing, Cllr Poole

At the Cabinet meeting held on 7 June, Cllr M Wade referred to the Waterside as a 'cultural desert'. Does the Portfolio Holder for Community, Safety and Wellbeing agree with this statement? If not, can he please explain why?

Second Questions

Question 7

From Cllr A Wade to the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Homelessness, Cllr S Davies

In the Annual Performance Report, it notes that we have currently completed 285 additional Council Homes, which is under half of the 600 homes target set for 2026. We are 3 years away, and only built 24 in 2021/22, are we in danger of missing this target? And as he is new to the role, are there any ideas or fresh approaches he is keen to explore in his new role?