

Questions pursuant to Council Procedure 11.2

The following questions have been received, on notice, from Members:

Question One

From Councillor Alan Coley to Councillor Michael Talbot, Portfolio Holder for Environment & Public Space:

“This Council has made a firm commitment to reducing carbon emissions and thereby reducing Greenhouse Gases and improving Air Quality in our District.

I am sure, we all welcome the return of TDC supported events such as the Car Rally, the Airshow, and the Tendring Show etc.

So that the Council cannot be accused of conspiracy in ‘Greenwashing’, can the Portfolio Holder provide details of what meaningful Carbon Off-Set mitigations the Organisers and Service Suppliers of these events have committed to, and in particular, where those offsets will be found?”

Question Two

From Councillor Ivan Henderson to Councillor Neil Stock OBE, Leader of the Council:

“In the Leader of the Council’s Budget speech he confirmed that his administration was adopting a policy of voting against all budget amendments but that any such amendments would then be considered through the new Corporate Investment Plan.

One such amendment, tabled by me on behalf of the Labour Group, sought to utilise £144,000 of the existing Tendring Community Fund to allow each Member to make available £3,000 of support funding to local charities and organisations assisting vulnerable residents through the cost of living crisis.

The Leader instructed his administration to vote down this much needed amendment that would offer vital, targeted support to those experiencing genuine hardship within our District. Will he please inform Members as to when he is going to make good on his promise to bring this budget amendment before the board overseeing the Capital Investment Plan?”

Question Three

From Councillor Mick Barry to Councillor Neil Stock OBE, Leader of the Council:

“At a meeting of full Council on 15th February 2022 I proposed an amendment to the underlying base budgets for 2022/23 calling for re-instatement of the budgets for Brightlingsea and Harwich Sports Centres which had been withdrawn.

The amendment was lost and the Leader, in speaking against the amendment, said: ‘We have not taken a decision to close any sports facilities.’ He went on to say that he was ‘happy to guarantee as Leader that these facilities will stay open.’

The reality is that in Brightlingsea the Sports Centre has now got very limited opening times with early weekday closures and no weekend opening. Community access has shrunk from nearly 70 hrs per week to less than 15 and the expectation is that it will be fully closed during the six weeks school holiday.

Does the Leader feel that his guarantee given in February has been kept in respect of the sports facilities at Brightlingsea?”