

MEMBER QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – IN ORDER RECEIVED**1. CLLR A H EVES****To the Leader**

‘Please explain, following the widely publicised leaflet at the election earlier this year circulated by the Conservative party, whether the asset delivery programme was officially ‘paused’ in any part, as the leaflet declared and if so when and under whose authority.’

2. CLLR M G WILKINSON**To the Leader**

‘Item 13 on tonight’s agenda is to update the position on the Asset Delivery Programme in light of public feedback earlier this year.

With the exception of the officer’s report and the terms of reference for the Partnership Panel – the documents which accompany the report and those with the details of what the options are – are marked as ‘commercially sensitive’ and not to be shared with the public.

Please can the Leader of the Council explain to this Council and more importantly to all members of the public who are present precisely why the public will be excluded from hearing the amended plans the Council has come up with, which the Council will be expecting Members to vote on tonight without being able to seek any feedback from their ward residents beforehand.’

3. CLLR M G WILKINSON**To the Leader**

‘In relation to item 13 on tonight’s agenda – we will be discussing the Asset Delivery Programme. Can the Leader of the Council assure Members of this Council and members of the public that he has not tied this Council into any contract with either GB Partnership or any other organisation for that matter that in the event that if we, as a Council, decide to abandon the project as a whole or any part of the project resulting from public opinion, there will not be any penalties to us either financial or otherwise. Can he give us his assurance that we can vote this evening with confidence that we will not be penalised by GB Partnership in the event that we decide to vote for Option 2?’

4. CLLR M HOY**To the Leader**

'As part of a Heritage at Risk review, Historic England to complete (and update as appropriate) a survey of its Conservation Areas, highlighting condition, threats and trends.

- a. The surveys identify conservation areas that are deteriorating or are in very bad or poor condition and are not expected to change significantly in the next three years, as being defined as at risk.
- b. RDC received this request on 18th May 2021. Rochford District Council did not respond to the survey as their resources have been focused this Summer on work towards preparing a new Local Plan.
- c. The last surveys of the district's conservation areas were carried out in 2007.
- d. Rayleigh Conservation Area survey states:
 - i. Rayleigh Castle is a scheduled ancient monument protected under the 1979 Ancient Monuments Act.
 - ii. Rayleigh Castle is important as an historic monument, the only significant public open space and amenity in the conservation area, and as a wildlife haven.
 - iii. The outer bailey of Rayleigh Castle is today occupied by the Mill Hall, the windmill, and associated car parking.
 - iv. The Mill Hall (1971) is a large functional rectangular community building incorporating a theatre and a cafeteria.
- e. Will the Council explain why they didn't implement Rayleigh Conservation Management Proposals?
 - i. The entrance by the Mill Hall needs to be given greater emphasis and presence and needs to be advertised by a better positioned notice board.
 - ii. The idea canvassed in the Conservation Plan to re-create the Barbican entrance is an exciting one.
 - iii. The space in front of the Mill Hall on Bellingham Lane is a prominent one at the edge of this group of public buildings and the monument. It is laid out with sculpture and planting and has the potential to be a piazza.
- f. And, will the Council commit to completing a new comprehensive survey of all Conservation Areas?
- g. And, will the Council accept their own Conservation survey states the Mill Arts & Events Centre is classed as a theatre?'

5. CLLR C M STANLEY

To the Leader

'Regarding the proposed re-development of the Rayleigh Civic Suite and gardens site into commercial units and flat blocks, can the Leader address why there has been no change in proposals despite overwhelming public objection to the proposals?'