

Council – 29 March 2023

Public Questions:

1. From Mrs M Wheeler to Councillor Monk, Leader of the Council

I understand that an offer has been made by Sunningdale to buy the land at Princes Parade and to build the pool. I would like to know what stage the negotiations have reached, is it a fair offer in comparison to what they offered last year and how the Council could keep some control over the progress and quality of the build should the offer be accepted?

ANSWER:

Thank you, Mrs Wheeler, for your question. The council has received an offer from a private developer to acquire and develop out the Princes Parade site including the leisure centre.

Cabinet discussed the matter on 22 February 2023 and instructed officers to consider the offer and potential next steps following the successful conclusion of the current agreed works.

A detailed report considering community and commercial factors will be prepared and put before members once this work has been completed. As with any offer, officers will have to consider 'best value' and how the council will achieve this.

The immediate focus remains on progressing the decisions made in December – ensuring all outstanding pre-commencement planning conditions are satisfied and carrying out some material works to ensure the planning permission is implemented.

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION:

It appears extremely likely that you will lose control and leadership of this council in May, due mainly, I believe to your development plans. Therefore this may be your last opportunity to express your shame and regret, particularly to Seabrook residents to subjecting them to a toxic future. What do you have to say about that?

ANSWER:

I think I made my position very clear earlier.