

Questions received since the County Council meeting held on 24th October, 2024

Submitted by Councillor David Coggins-Cogan

Questions to the Leader of the Council

(7) The recent Special Meeting on the issue of the County's libraries, leisure, and play facilities was debated because an opposition party brought it before Full Council. Seemingly, the Labour, Independent, and Eagle Cabinet had no intention of discussing this matter before Full Council. With that in mind, do you think it was courteous or wise to deliberately withhold the four-day closure from Members?

(8) Since an uninvited guest managed to join a Council meeting, Zoom invitations have been guarded and those who are attending virtually are always verified and introduced to the meeting. Recently, for instance, the Monitoring Officer announced and introduced the officers from Audit Wales to OSC meetings as courtesy to the officers and Members. At the Special Meeting to discuss Aura, the successful employee-owned not-for-profit company, two lawyers were attending the meeting were not introduced or even mentioned until their presence was directly questioned. Was it courteous or wise to withhold their identities from Members?

Question to the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Leisure

(9) Which organisation has been conducting the health and safety checks of the facilities formerly under the control of Aura, the successful employee-owned not-for-profit company, and confirm is this is the same organisation since 2017?

Submitted by Councillor Andrew Parkhurst

Flintshire Libraries and Leisure

Would the Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure please advise:

(10) how much income was lost by not collecting Direct Debit payments in November, and

(11) whether she is now in a position to let Members have a copy of the Flintshire Libraries and Leisure Business Plan?

Potholes

Would the Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Transportation please advise:

(12) how much the JCB Pot-Hole Pro machine cost?

(13) how many hours per day is it, on average, in operation?

(14) how many potholes it has repaired since it was acquired in April?

(15) whether any North Wales Senedd members were given the opportunity to join the photoshoot alongside Chief Officer Katie Wilby and yourself that appeared in Deeside.com on 28th October other than Labour's Carolyn Thomas?

Threatened Legal Action by Thurrock Council

Would the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services please advise:

(16) on what date did Flintshire County Council first become aware of the possibility of a legal claim from Thurrock Council bearing in mind it has been confirmed that “Thurrock have been corresponding with APSE for some time”?

(17) what would the financial cost be to Flintshire County Council (FCC) in the worst case scenario?

(18) why is APSE, in which FCC has part ownership, not incorporated with limited liability?

(19) in view of the potential for unlimited liability why has the financial exposure and risk not been previously declared to members?

(20) in what other organisations does FCC have part or whole ownership without a limitation on its liability?

(21) if an article had not appeared in Deeside.com would members have been advised of the potential for this financial loss?