

Question: CQ11.01&02

Cabinet – 8 February 2022

Re: Agenda item 11 - Leisure Facilities Investment and Procurement

Questions submitted by: Councillor Gary Hopkins

1. It finally appears that there is likely to be a six month extension to the Parkwood contract at Jubilee pool. This is to allow the asset transfer to complete. What is clearly stated is that if the transfer has not completed by September the pool will close anyway despite the fact that Parkwood are happy to carry on longer and that profits are being made despite the council providing no subsidy.
Given the previous track record on this matter what assurances can the mayor give that he will not seek to impose unfair conditions upon the transfer agreement?
2. In the reports made available for this meeting officers have failed to take any account of the dramatically improved situation at Jubilee since the community got involved with the management. Despite high energy bills there is a trading profit and at the recent 24hr swimathon 207 swimmers swam 14,216 lengths (312,752M 193 Miles) and raised over £27,000. This does not square with the negative comments and the community now demand that the mayor get up to date and recognise the positive progress? Because the council failed to run the pool well does not mean that community progress should be ignored.