

COUNCIL MEETING – 21 February 2024

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

1. Question from Mr T

My question concerns the rewilding of the green space at the top of Hoynors, Danbury.

In view of Councillor Moore's response last week, I would like now to propose: that the pond and the bank adjoining the hedge at the top of the site are left to rewild, but the main area is cut regularly in summer so that residents can enjoy the amenity as they have always done and children can play safely there. Many gardens on the estate are steep or very small, so that children have to play in the street and are in danger from fast delivery lorries. The nearest play area involves crossing busy roads.

Would the CC please consider this compromise, so that rewilding, which I am not opposed to, is still possible, but 'informal recreation' is also catered for.

2. Question from Mrs T

I would like a satisfactory answer to the question I posed in person at last week's Overview and Scrutiny meeting about the rewilding of Hoynors, Danbury. My question focused on the fact that this area is and always has been – for 45 years - for residents' **'informal recreational use'** and therefore should be exempt from the Council's 'relaxation' of grass cutting policy (see points 37 and 39 of the Policy).

Councillor Moore dismissed the area as too 'steep', which is untrue, and flies in the face of irrefutable photographic evidence.

The happiness and wellbeing of the 59 households of Hoynors, Danbury should not come second to a policy which shows little advantage. Therefore, would the City Council please undertake to cut the grass at the top of Hoynors regularly in the summer months?

Could I please stress that the residents are not against rewilding if it is in a suitable place and is carried out properly.
