

## COUNCIL – 4 MARCH 2026

### MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

<b>Question 1</b>	<b>Cllr Joe Thomas to ask Cllr Sarah Hopewell, the Executive Member for Wellbeing</b>
<p>Hartham Leisure Centre Car Park is operated by a private parking company, Civil Enforcement Limited (or CEL). For those that do not enter their car registration into a tablet found behind the set of gates, a "parking charge" of £100 is issued to the registered keeper.</p> <p>CEL are known to be one of the most prolific issuers of County Court Claims among private parking companies - a scaremongering tactic in the industry to make people panic and pay the "parking charge" when court paperwork arrives, even when they are not liable to pay the charge.</p> <p>This is in stark difference to Grange Paddocks Leisure Centre. Its car park is operated directly by East Herts District Council, who are able to issue proper parking penalties of £50 and £70 respectively through the standard manner.</p> <p>Could the Executive Member confirm as to why there has been a historic difference in car park operations between the leisure centres, and as to who receives the money from "parking charges" at Hartham Leisure Centre Car Park?</p>	
<b>Question 2</b>	<b>Cllr David Andrews to ask Cllr Ben Crystall, Leader of the Council</b>
<p>Where does East Herts currently stand with regard to Housing Land Supply and what effect could this have on Planning Applications currently being considered?</p>	
<b>Question 3</b>	<b>Cllr Ian Devonshire to ask Carl Brittain, the Executive Member for Financial Stability</b>
<p>It would appear from the Budget Papers that this Council is still preparing to spend another £170,000 on the United Reformed Church Hall in Bishop's Stortford. Does the Executive Member not agree that</p>	

this will simply be a waste of tax payers money given that this Council has been professionally advised (in a recent survey report, by Aecom) that it will cost £1.6 million to put the building into good order?

**Question 4**

**Cllr Carolyn Redfern to ask Cllr Sarah Hopewell, the Executive Member for Wellbeing**

The Hertford Theatre has now been fully open for nearly 18 months and needs to increase its attendance figures. What steps have the administration taken to improve both the car parking and coach drop offs for BEAM attendees?