

COUNCIL MEETING 17 JANUARY 2024

Item 12 – Councillor Questions Received under Standing Order 27.4.1

	Question From	Question to	Question
1	Councillor Coates	Councillor Robinson and Bowerman	With the agreed lease between HBC and Portsmouth Diocese coming to an end, and no renewed lease in sight - what's the future for Hayling's Legion Field in Hayling East? Given that it is a well-used community play park where landmark local events such as The Donkey Derby have been held for many years, I'm sure the Council understand why residents would like to see it retained and maintained as such; are you able to give them cause to hope that it will be?
Reply <p>The lease came to an end in 2022 and there are no automatic renewal rights for HBC. To date, the Diocese have not been proactive in seeking to renew and the 'status-quo' remains, though given the cost to HBC of leasing and maintaining the site it is questionable whether HBC would want to enter into a new lease in any event.</p> <p>The site also contains allotments and Environmental Services are currently carrying out a review of allotment provision and management across the borough, which is expected to take up to six months.</p> <p>HBC is not currently in a position to make any long-term decisions regarding potential future leasing arrangements until this has been completed, though should the Diocese decide to take the site back (and HBC have no control or influence over this) the usual planning protections would apply.</p>			

