

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL

QUESTION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 10

COUNCIL – 13 DECEMBER 2023

QUESTION D

Councillor Michael Moran to ask the Leisure and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder, Councillor Daly:

“Why was the Rugby Parkrun cancelled this year with little or no notice, why has the Park Run not been reinstated after a number of weeks’ absence, when will it be reinstated and what lessons are being learnt to ensure this valuable community event does not suffer a similar fate next year?”

Councillor Daly, Leisure and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder, provided the following response:

“The recreation ground was inspected as part of usual practice following a large-scale community event delivered on the Council open space. Unfortunately, following the inspection, the ground surfaces including both grass and footpaths, were deemed to be unsafe and in need of repair before further use.

The Rugby Parkrun organisers were informed at the earliest opportunity to request cancelling the next scheduled event on the forthcoming weekend. They then communicated to their members via social media.

Poor weather and scheduled repairs being delayed has meant further cancellation to the weekly event. Officers remain in contact with the organisers who are currently considering options for adapting the route and subsequently updating their risk assessments for approval with Parkrun to avoid undue damage to the grass football pitches specifically.

We are liaising with organisers to ensure this valuable event returns as soon as possible with expectation for it to restart on 23 December with an extra event for New Year’s Day being considered.”