

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There is one question from a member of the public.

1. **From Mr Perrin to Councillor John Kent**

In 2008 the Heritage Lottery Fund [HLF] made a grant award of £611,000 for the “Mardyke Valley Project exit Strategy 2008 – 2018” [ref HG-04-00084]. I understand the award was made to the “Mardyke Valley Partnership” with Thames Chase as lead bidding partner and Essex County Council signing the contract with HLF on behalf of the partnership. I also understand the broad partnership included Thurrock Unitary Council, the Countryside Agency and Forestry Commission.

The grant award was subject to contractual conditions and the preparation of a “10 Year Management and Maintenance Plan” for the Mardyke Valley.

Taking note of recently expressed concerns regarding the welfare of horses on the land, which has a very long history of severe flooding, are you satisfied that Thurrock Council has and is complying with its contractual obligations especially with Clause G9 “Monitoring the welfare of the animals [horses] throughout the year”.