

**ACCESS TO GROVE NURSERY GROUP VIA GROVE WOODS**  
**(Minute 388/00)**

**1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on the current situation regarding the suggested new path through Grove Woods, leading to the Nursery Group building, as initially detailed in Item 18 of the previous meeting of this Committee on 21 November 2000

**2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 Following discussions, Members requested a site visit to the proposed area within Grove Woods, in order to assess the situation thoroughly.
- 2.2 The site visit took place on Saturday 16 December at 10.00a.m. when Members and Officers met with representatives of the Grove Nursery Group.

**3 SITE VISIT**

- 3.1 Following the walking of the proposed route and seeing how it would link to the existing pathway, Members expressed the following concerns.
- The length and potential cost (to the Nursery Group) of the proposed path.
  - The extent of maintenance that would be required (at the cost of the Nursery Group) particularly, as it would remain a public right of way.
  - The general suitability of the proposed route and whether or not a more direct pathway could be found.
- 3.2 Members also discussed the possibility of the proposed path going through the adjacent piece of land (believed to be owned by Grove Primary School) which was closer to the Nursery Group building and of a more even nature.
- 3.3 It was also pointed out that the Nursery Group's lease was with the school and therefore should the onus be on the school to ensure reasonable access for the duration of that lease.

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- 3.4 It was agreed that Officers of the Contracted Services Division undertake further consultation/research with Essex County School and Grove Primary School regarding various access routes and responsibilities, followed by further discussion with the Grove Nursery Group.

#### **4 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The consideration of the use of alternative land for the pathway would therefore not have any effect on the land within Grove Woods.

#### **5 RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

To wait until further information is gained from Essex County Council / Grove Primary School regarding the ownership and use of alternative land on the site and details of the lease before considering the initial proposals any further. (CD(FES))

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