

GLENCROFT PUBLIC OPEN SPACE HAWKWELL

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report advises Members of Hawkwell Parish Council's interest in assuming responsibility for the public open space situated on the former Glencroft Nursery, White Hart Lane.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council is the owner of the area of land situated on the former Glencroft Nursery site, Whitehart Lane shown hatched black on the attached plan.
- 2.2 The land was acquired in connection with the residential development of the adjoining site, with the Developer undertaking to layout and landscape the area in accordance with an agreed scheme for its use as public open space.
- 2.3 Hawkwell Parish Council expressed an interest in assuming responsibility for the maintenance and management of the site when it was first acquired, and the layout of the open space was drawn up in consultation with the Parish Council in the anticipation that the open space would be transferred to the Parish once the landscaping had been carried out.

3 DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The landscaping works are expected to be completed by autumn of this year and subject to the Parish Council's agreement, the site could then be transferred to the Parish.
- 3.2 The transfer of this area would be subject to appropriate terms and conditions as to its use and maintenance and can be achieved as in other Parish transfers of recreational areas by way of a long lease at a notional peppercorn rental.

4 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The site provides an attractive informal public open space which will be enhanced by the completion of the landscaping works

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Responsibility for maintenance and management of the open space will pass to the Parish on transfer of the site.

6 PARISH IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Hawkwell Parish Council's confirmation of its willingness to proceed with the arrangements is awaited.

7 RECOMMENDATION

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

That, subject to Hawkwell Parish Council's agreement to transfer the public open space on the former Glencroft Nursery site, Whitehart Lane, to the Parish Council on a long lease for 125 years at a peppercorn rent, and on such other terms and conditions as the Head of Legal Services deems fit. (HLS)

Albert Bugeja

Head of Legal Services

Background Papers:

None

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