

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14

SOUTH WEST WILTSHIRE AREA BOARD
WEDNESDAY 29TH FEBRUARY 2012

COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER

Hindon Allotments

Executive Summary

This report deals with an application for the transfer of Hindon Allotments, Hindon to be transferred to Hindon Parish Council in accordance with Wiltshire Council's Community Asset Transfer Policy.

Proposal

The Area Board is asked to consider an application submitted by Hindon Parish Council for the transfer of Hindon Allotments, Hindon. The applicants' proposal is attached.

Reasons For Proposal

This proposal supports and implements Wiltshire Council's Community Asset Transfer Policy.

Recommendation

To approve the transfer.

Stephen Harris
South West Wiltshire Community Area Manager

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Purpose of Report

1. The Area Board is asked to consider an application submitted by Hindon Parish Council for the transfer of Hindon Allotments, Hindon. The applicants' proposal and a Map are attached.

Background

2. Wiltshire Council is supporting the principle of the transfer of community assets in order to empower and strengthen local communities. The Council believes that transferring appropriate public assets to communities leads to more responsive services that better meet local people's priorities.
3. Transfer of an asset can also provide the opportunity to lever more resources into a community and provide a more accessible and responsive base from which to deliver local services.
4. A community group or organisation can benefit from greater financial stability and build confidence through having ownership (or long term security through a lease) of a physical asset. This financial sustainability can help the organisation become less dependent on grants, provide security for further borrowing and opportunities for further growth.
5. Typically, organisations that would be considered appropriate are Voluntary and Community Groups/Associations, Town or Parish Councils, Trusts or Charities, or Social Enterprise Groups.

The application before the Area Board

6. The application from Hindon Parish Council is attached and relates to the transfer of Hindon Allotments, Hindon for community use.
7. The application was submitted in accordance with the Council's application process and meets the requirements for consideration by the Area Board.
8. The Community Area Manager has consulted with Strategic Property Services, who have undertaken appropriate consultation with service

departments across the Council. Local consultation has been undertaken by the applicant in accordance with the application checklist and the outcome of the consultation is included within the application. Cllr Wayman, the local member, has been apprised.

The views of Council officers

9. On behalf of the Council, Strategic Property Services (who have overall responsibility for the Council's estates and property) has provided the following observations to the Area Board.
 - 9.1 The property is held by Hindon Parish Council under the terms of a lease dated 23rd September 1941.
 - 9.2 A public footpath and restricted byway run along the eastern edge of the land.
 - 9.3 The land is to be transferred on the standard basis. This is that there will be a covenant restricting use of the land to community purposes. If the land should cease to be used for this purpose it will revert to Wiltshire Council.
 - 9.4 The land has no value other than as amenity land. The Parish Council will continue to maintain the area. Therefore, there are no financial implications.

Recommendation

10. To approve the transfer.

Stephen Harris

South West Wiltshire Community Area Manager
