

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11

SOUTHERN WILTSHIRE AREA BOARD
DATE 19 AUGUST 2010

COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER

LAND AT REDLYNCH SCHOOL PLAYING FIELD

Executive Summary

This report deals with an application for the transfer of land at Redlynch School Playing Field to be transferred to Redlynch Parish Council in accordance with Wiltshire Council's Community Asset Transfer Policy.

Proposal

The Area Board is asked to consider an application submitted by Redlynch Parish Council for the transfer of land located at Redlynch School Playing Field. The applicants' proposal is set out at Appendix 1.

Reasons For Proposal

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

Recommendation

To approve the transfer subject to confirmation of the precise area in question with the Corporate Estates Manager and the Parish Council

Tom Bray
Southern Wiltshire Community Area Manager

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Purpose of Report

1. The Area Board is asked to consider an application submitted by Redlynch Parish Council for the transfer of land located at Redlynch School Playing Field (see map attached at Appendix 1). The applicants' proposal is set out at Appendix 2.

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 Redlynch Parish Council is attached at Appendix 1 and relates to the transfer of land at Redlynch School Playing Field for community recreation.
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 are undertaking 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 Randall, 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.
 - a. Rights will have to be reserved across the site for pedestrian and vehicular access, together with a right to lay services, all for the benefit of the land to be retained by the Council, currently subject to a lease to the Lover and Redlynch pre-school.

Main issues for consideration by the Area Board

10. The playing field will be established as soon as the transfer is confirmed. Its management will be overseen by a formally constituted Management Committee, a sub group of Redlynch Parish Council.

Recommendation

11. To approve the transfer subject to confirmation of the precise area in question with the Corporate Estates Manager and the Parish Council

Tom Bray

Southern Wiltshire Community Area Manager
