

Rother District Council

Report to:	Cabinet
Date:	28 June 2021
Title:	Egerton Park Leased Tennis Courts: Disposal of Public Open Space
Report of:	Ben Hook
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Timpe
Ward(s):	Central Ward, Bexhill
Purpose of Report:	To determine the letting of tennis courts at Egerton Park, Bexhill to Bexhill Tennis Club.
Decision Type:	Non-Key
Officer Recommendation(s):	It be RESOLVED: That a new lease of three years term be granted to Bexhill Tennis Club with terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive.
Reasons for Recommendations:	To support Bexhill Tennis Club to sustain their current membership in addition to maintaining the associated physical and mental health benefits of the sport for the community.

Introduction

1. In February this year, Cabinet approved the letting of the tennis courts at Egerton Park to Bexhill Tennis Club, subject to advertising as a disposal of Public Open Space in accordance with the provisions of S.123(2A) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). The advertisement was required because the arrangement of the courts would differ from that previously let to the Tennis Club (Minute CB20/104 refers). A plan showing the area of the proposed letting is attached as Appendix 1.

Analysis / Details of the proposals

2. Following advertisements in the local press, three objections have been received to the proposed letting. Broadly these objections are all raised on the basis that the election of Bexhill Parish Council (now known as Bexhill Town Council) was imminent, and this is a matter on which the Parish Council might wish to comment. Redacted copies of the objections are attached as Appendix 2.

Conclusion

3. As the proposed letting is for a short-term and simply replaces one tennis court with another without any other substantive change to the previous arrangement, it is recommended that the letting proceed.
4. Cabinet is recommended to approve the proposed letting to Bexhill Tennis Club as set out in the previous Cabinet report.

Financial Implications

5. The rent will be £2,640 per annum exclusive.

Legal Implications

6. The Council has fulfilled its requirements in relation to a disposal of public open space. The site is not subject to the Fields in Trust QEII Playing Fields scheme therefore there are no implications in that regard.

Consultation

7. The demised area has been duly advertised as a disposal of public open space in accordance with S.123(2A) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

Other Implications	Applies?	Other Implications	Applies?
Human Rights	No	Equalities and Diversity	No
Crime and Disorder	No	Consultation	Yes
Environmental	No	Access to Information	No
Risk Management	No	Exempt from publication	No

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Appendices:	Appendix 1 - Area to be leased to Bexhill Tennis Club Appendix 2 - Objections
Relevant previous Minutes:	CB20/104
Background Papers:	N/A
Reference Documents:	N/A