

## **Rother District Council**

Report to	-	Council
Date	-	22 May 2019
Report of the	-	Cabinet
Subject	-	References from Cabinet Meetings

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The Council is asked to consider recommendations arising from the Cabinet meetings held on 11 March (the meeting scheduled for 8 April 2019 was cancelled) as set out below.

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### **CABINET – 11 March 2019**

#### **CB18/76. CAMBER WESTERN CAR PARK GROUND REINFORCEMENT**

Members gave consideration to the Executive Director's report on proposed ground improvements to Camber Western Car Park (CWCP).

CWCP was the largest of three car parks owned by the Council in Camber. It consisted of 1,800 spaces and measured approximately 35,000sqm. The surface was primarily laid to grass on a thin layer of topsoil. As a result of the high volume of traffic during summer seasons and localised flooding during the winter months, temporary repairs had been carried out in the past and an upgrade was now required for a more permanent solution.

During October 2018, three independent specialist companies assessed the car park; they recommended reinforcing the ground with heavy duty grass blocks, with a plastic interlocking grid system which was estimated to last approximately 20-25 years, minimising the need for further maintenance costs over the period. The indicative cost, plus contingencies and other associated costs amounted to £330,000. Provision would be made in the Capital Programme and the work completed during October 2019 to March 2020. As a result of this investment, it was anticipated that income would increase by £19,000, reduce maintenance costs by £6,500 and that £625,000 saving would be realised over 20-25 year period. Therefore it was proposed that provision be made for the works from the Car Park Earmarked Reserve and the financial forecast for 2020/21 be amended to take account of the changes in income and costs.

The estimated cost of the improvements was below the current EU limit and procurement would follow the Council's procurement process with companies being invited to tender for the works.

Cabinet agreed that the upgrade and financial recommendations be forwarded to full Council for formal approval. It was agreed that the improvements would secure the future of CWCP, reduce the health and safety risks associated with its current operation, provide additional income and reduce ongoing maintenance costs to the Council. Investment in the infrastructure would reduce traffic congestion and improve/maintain economic viability of Camber.

The Leader thanked the officer team that supported the operation of CWCP and associated project.

**RECOMMENDED:** That the:

- 1) improvements to the surface of Camber Western Car Park as outlined in the report be approved;
- 2) 2019/20 Capital Programme be updated to make provision for £330,000 for these works funded from the Car Parks Earmarked Reserve; and
- 3) financial forecast for 2020/21 be amended to increase income by £19,000 and reduce maintenance costs by £6,500.

(Cabinet Agenda Item 6.1)

Councillor C.R. Maynard  
Leader of the Council