

Woodley Town Council

The Oakwood Centre
Headley Road
Woodley
Berkshire RG5 4JZ

To: Members of the Strategy & Resources Committee

Councillors K. Baker (Chairman); A. Chadwick; S. Brindley; J. Cheng; R.Dolinski; D. Mills; S. Rahmouni; D. Stares; M. Walker

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the Strategy & Resources Committee will be held at the Oakwood Centre at 8:00 pm on Tuesday 16 June 2015, at which your attendance is requested.

Jeborah Mander

Deborah Mander

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

Town Clerk

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive any declarations of interest from Members relating to the business of the meeting.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 APRIL 2015

To approve the minutes of the Strategy and Resources Committee held on 14 April 2015 and that they be signed by the Chairman as a correct record. (These minutes were provided in the Full Council agenda of 19 May 2015.)

4. **FINANCE**

a) **Budgetary Control**

i) To note **Report No. SR 21/15 –** 2014/15 draft year-end figures. Page 5

ii) To note **Report No. SR 22/15**. Page 6

Page 7

b) Payments

To approve the following payments as set out in **Appendix 4b**:

 Current account
 Imprest account

 March 2015
 £207,095.85
 £41,575.36

 April 2015
 £106,129.97
 £48,215.61

c) Internal Audit

To receive the internal audit report for the 2014/15 financial year, Page 12 attached at **Appendix 4c**.

d) Appointment of Internal Auditor

Lightatouch Internal Audit Services were appointed as the Council's internal auditor for one year (2014/15), following a tender process. Members are asked to consider the appointment of Lightatouch IAS as the Town Council's internal auditor for 3 years, from 2015/16 to 2017/18.

The Responsible Finance Officer considers the company to have met the requirements of the role and, as a result of their recommendations, new processes have been put into practice which have improved the management of financial procedures.

e) Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

To note information received from NALC regarding the Local Audit Page 15 and Accountability Act 2014. *Appendix 4e*

5. CATERING PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT PANEL

To note that the meeting of the Catering Partnership Management Panel scheduled for 6 March 2015 was inquorate and did not take place.

6. **URGENCY COMMITTEE**

To note the minutes of the Urgency Committee held on 22 May 2015. **Report No. SR 23/15**.

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7. **SECTION 106 PROJECT LIST**

To note that as reported in Agenda Item 6, £7,894 of Section 106 developers contributions was successfully applied for to fund the purchase and installation of a new artificial cricket wicket. The new wicket was installed on 4 June. The current Section 106 projects list is attached at **Appendix 7.**

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8. WOODFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

To consider Report No. SR 24/15.

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9. **3G PITCH PROJECT UPDATE**

To consider **Report No. SR 25/15**.

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10. TOWN CENTRE PUBLIC TOILET

To note that discussions with Wokingham Borough Council, on the matter of the preferred site for the town centre public toilet (in Crockhamwell car park), are ongoing.

11. **LODDON MEAD**

To consider **Report No. SR 26/15**.

Page 27

12. **WOODLEY BUSINESS CLUB**

To confirm that Woodley Business Club have free use of the Oakwood Centre for its annual Woodley Festival of Business. This year the event will take place in November from late afternoon to 8pm and make use of the halls, the theatre and the Brunel Room.

13. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

To consider any future agenda items for the committee to consider.

14. PUBLICITY AND WEBSITE

To consider items to be publicised.

15. **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

To resolve that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted in relation to commercial matters and personal information, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press are temporarily excluded and they are asked to withdraw for items 16 and 17 on the agenda.

16. INN ON THE PARK

To consider **Report No. 27/15**.

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17. PERSONNEL SUB COMMITTEE

To consider **Report No. SR 28/15**.

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T 2014/15 YEAR	1111 1111 1111 11111
STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE	

					Report No SR 21/15
EXPENDITURE	Budget 2014/15	Revised 2014/15	Actual Exp as at 31/03/2014	(<i>Draft</i>) Actual Exp Actual Exp as at as % of 31/03/2015 Rev Budget	Actual Exp as % of Rev Budget
Central Costs	238883	235813	225963	233342	99.0 Staff expenses, stationery $\&$ VAT partial exemption over 100% , all other costs under.
Democratic Costs	43725	48536	39559	47887	98.7 All costs either at 100% or under.
Corporate Management	261118	260240	236650	262995	101.1 NI and employer's pension costs higher than revised estimate, lower provision carried forward for accounts and audit costs.
Capital Programme	45000	45000	45000	45000	100.0 Annual contribution transferred to capital programme fund.
Grants	4000	2550	4000	2300	90.2 Grants awarded in April and November
Inn on the Park	11262	12551	10738	11677	93.0 Rates, water, Phone costs slightly over 100%, all other costs under.
Oakwood Centre	141931	148089	133303	141265	95.4 Cleaning materials, phone and waste costs over 100%, other costs under.
Maintenance HQ	7292	7305	7824	6388	87.6 All costs at or under 100%.
Capital and Projects	184940	184940	184939	184940	100.0 Loans paid in September and March - sinking fund contribution invested.

INCOME	Budget 2014/15	Revised 2014/15	Actual Inc as at 31/03/2014	(Draft) Actual Inc Actual Inc as at as % of 31/03/2015 Rev Budget	Actual Inc as % of Rev Budget
Central Costs	6647	5360	5483	6673	124.5 Investment of balances higher than anticipated.
Democratic Costs	0	0	0	0	0.0
Corporate Management	0	8623	0	8600	2.66
Capital Programme	0	0	0	0	0.0
Grants	0	0	0	0	0.0
Inn on the Park	40800	40800	40724	40800	100.0
Oakwood Centre	140646	144742	138453	144745	100.0 Room hire slightly under 100%, equipment hire
Maintenance HQ	0	0		0	0.0
Capital and Projects	0	0	0	0	0.0
TOTAL	188093	199525	184660	200818	106.8

over 100%.

Month 12 -100%

NET

99.0

TOTAL

STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE BUDGETARY CONTROL 2015/16

EXPENDITIBE		Actual Evn	Actual Evn	Actival Exp
	Budget 2015/16	as at 31/05/2014	as at 31/05/2015	as % of Information Budget
Central Costs	233194	31596	28164	12.1 Training, phone, equipment costs and expenditure from the repairs and renewals over 16.7%, other costs under.
Democratic Costs	44931	6351	4309	9.6 No expenditure from the election fund budget. Civic Allowance at 61% - Civic Awards
Corporate Management	242780	75444	61105	reception. 25.2 Insurance premiums and affiliations payable at the beginning of the year, NI contributions at 18%.
Capital Programme	45000	0	0	0.0 Annual contribution to be transferred to capital programme fund.
Grants	4000	1050	1060	26.5 Grants awarded in April and November.
Inn on the Park	12426			10.1 Rates over 16.7%, all other costs under.
Oakwood Centre	149079	20378	14455	9.7 Rates, cleaning materials, repairs and maintenance contracts over 16.7%, all other
Maintenance HQ	6913	842	505	7.3 Rates and repairs over 16.7%. Other costs under at this point.
Capital and Projects	184940	80000	0	0.0 Loans paid in September and March - sinking fund contribution invested.
TOTAL	923263	217578	110848	12.0
INCOME	-	Actual Inc	Actual Inc	Actual Inc Information
	Budget 2015/16	as at 31/05/2014	as at 31/05/2015	as % of Budget
Central Costs	5140	434	531	10.3 Investment of balances income due at end of fixed period.
Democratic Costs	0	0	0	0.0
Corporate Management	9112	0	618	0.0
Capital Programme	0	0	0	0.0
Grants	0	0	0	0.0
Inn on the Park	40840	10177	10200	25.0 Management fee invoiced in advance.
Oakwood Centre	148118	24269	23114	15.6 Room hire at 19.5%
Maintenance HQ	0 0	0 0		0.0
capital and Projects	D	0		O'O
TOTAL	203210	34880	34463	17.0
NET	720053	182698	76385	

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Woodley Town Council 2014/2015

Appendix 4b

CURRENT ACCOUNT

List of Payments made between 01/03/2015 and 31/03/2015

Date Paid	Payee Name	<u>Amount</u> Paid	
13-Mar-15	Allen's Design & Print Ltd		WTCMI leaflets & posters
31-Mar-15	_		WTCMI leaflets & posters
06-Mar-15	_		Staff training
13-Mar-15			BE - fuel
06-Mar-15			BP Plus cards + admin
31-Mar-15			Tree works - Malone & Woodford Park
06-Mar-15			Cleaning supplies
13-Mar-15			Cleaning supplies Cleaning supplies
25-Mar-15			Cleaning supplies Cleaning supplies
25-Mar-15			Vending supplies
25-Mar-15			Insurance
31-Mar-15			Insurance
10-Mar-15		145.80	
16-Mar-15			Phone
	Bullseye Awards & Garments Ltd		Engraving
	Churchill Contract Services Lt		Contract cleaning WPLC - Dec 2014 - Feb 2015
	Churchill Contract Services Lt		Contract cleaning WPLC - Dec 2014 - Feb 2013 Contract cleaning WPLC March 15
	Complete Tools & Fixings Ltd Crown Gas & Power		Building supplies
	Crown Gas & Power		Gas supply Gas supply
			Bottled water
	Crown Water & Coffee		Electricity for clock tower
	EDF Energy 1 Ltd		•
	Ellis Whittam Ltd		HR and H & S services - annual
	Energy Electrical Distributors		Electrical supplies
20-Mar-15			Decorating supplies
25-Mar-15			Decorating supplies
13-Mar-15	• •		Stationery supplies
20-Mar-15	• •		Stationery supplies
25-Mar-15	• •		Stationery supplies
25-Mar-15	5		Pallet truck/boots/hose
13-Mar-15	5 ,	42.72	5
25-Mar-15	5 ,	97.10	5
25-Mar-15	•		Electrical supplies -Oakwood Theatre
20-Mar-15	•	11078.91	
06-Mar-15	Howardson Ltd	57.37	5 11
25-Mar-15	InTouch	107.97	Web maintenance
25-Mar-15	J P Lennard Ltd	162.00	Shuttlecocks - WPLC
	J P Lennard Ltd John Willis		Table tennis nets
25-Mar-15	Just Around The Corner	5667.00	Window Cleaner - Oakwood Centre
	Just In The Park CIC		
20-Mar-15	Just In The Park CIC		Charged on behalf of Just in the Park café Charged on behalf of Just in the Park café
25-Mar-15	Just Tiles Ltd		Decorating supplies
13-Mar-15	Keyline Builders Merchants Ltd		9 11
	•		Building supplies
25-Mar-15	3		Delivery charge
20-Mar-15 31-Mar-15	Lamps & Tubes Luminations Ltd		WTCMI xmas lights/ new banners Annual fire/emergency lighting maintenance
25-Mar-15	Lantec Security Ltd Lightatouch		Internal auditors
	_		
13-Mar-15 13-Mar-15	Lloyds Bank	574.80 120.06	Cardnet charges
31-Mar-15	M J & K A Collions		Salt tablets - OC
18-Mar-15			Annual franking charge
16-Mar-15			Phone
25-Mar-15		108.00	
16-Mar-15		35.23	•
10 1.101 13	i ici cilant ixcitais	33.23	Tionally curdice charge

13-Mar-15	MKR Electrical Services Ltd	130.54	Electrical supplies
31-Mar-15	New Neighbours Ltd	60.00	Distribution of leaflets
31-Mar-15	Norman J Moulsley	50.00	Photo - Mayor
25-Mar-15	OCS Group UK Ltd	259.20	Refuse collection
13-Mar-15	Office Depot International (UK	41.99	Stationery supplies
20-Mar-15	P & H Snacksdirect Ltd	326.37	Vending supplies
25-Mar-15	P.A. Tree Care Ltd	420.00	Tree works - Malone Park
13-Mar-15	PDG Group Services	154.38	Cleaning supplies
25-Mar-15	PDG Group Services	32.69	Cleaning supplies
31-Mar-15	Phonographic Performance Limit	329.34	Annual charge - music licence OC
31-Mar-15	PHS Group Plc	24.00	Annual waterlogic charge WPLC
20-Mar-15	Prudential Assurance	30.00	AVC payment deducted from pay
31-Mar-15	Public Works Loan Board		Loan A/C - Public Works Loan Board repayment
24-Mar-15	Rathbones	1919.42	Investment portfolio
25-Mar-15	Regency Cleaning Services Ltd	1351.46	Contract cleaning Oakwood Centre
13-Mar-15	Rigby Taylor Ltd	1053.64	Gardening supplies
25-Mar-15	Riso (UK) Ltd	237.90	
25-Mar-15		438.00	Little family pack lifesaving - BLC
13-Mar-15			Payroll services
25-Mar-15	SGW Payroll Ltd	170.90	
25-Mar-15	Siemens Financial Services Ltd	720.00	·
06-Mar-15	SITA UK Ltd	510.76	Refuse collection
20-Mar-15	SITA UK Ltd	406.70	Refuse collection
25-Mar-15	SITA UK Ltd	393.72	Refuse collection
31-Mar-15	Southern Electric Contracting	905.22	Electricity supply
25-Mar-15	Surfacing Standards Ltd	4920.00	
25-Mar-15	Thames Valley Temperature Control	94.80	Call out - heating Oakwood Centre
20-Mar-15	The Berkshire Pension Fund		Pension - employers and employees
25-Mar-15	The BSS Group Ltd	12.48	
13-Mar-15	Token Security Solutions Ltd	19.85	
18-Mar-15	Total Gas & Power	1569.50	=
18-Mar-15	Total Gas & Power	1657.52	
13-Mar-15	Trade UK	403.83	,
13-Mar-15	Trade UK	353.20	5 11
25-Mar-15	Trade UK	617.69	
25-Mar-15	Trade UK	502.39	Building supplies
25-Mar-15	Traditional Local Cleaning Ltd		Contract cleaning
	Travis Perkins Trading Company		Building supplies
25-Mar-15	Travis Perkins Trading Company		Building supplies
25-Mar-15	TSM Copiers Ltd	32.21	•
20-Mar-15	Unison	41.90	
06-Mar-15	Virgin Media Payments Ltd	20.33	• •
25-Mar-15	Virgin Media Payments Ltd	22.72	
25-Mar-15	Vodaphone Ltd	196.99	
20-Mar-15	Warren White Carpet & Flooring	842.00	
31-Mar-15	Where Can We Go Ltd	120.00	<u> </u>
31-Mar-15	Wokingham Borough Council	3298.39	1.5
25-Mar-15	Wokingham Pools and Spas	1431.60	•
13-Mar-15	Yarnold Heating and Plumbing L	565.99	
13 1 101 13	ramora ricading and ridilibility L	303.77	Tierr radiators Tir Lo changing rooms

207095.85

CLERKS IMPREST A/C

List of Payments made between 01/03/2015 and 31/03/2015

Date Paid	Payee Name	<u>Amount</u>	
		<u>Paid</u>	
17-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	50.00	Refund deposit
24-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	9.12	Refund deposit
31-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	50.00	Refund deposit
26-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	50.00	Refund deposit
03-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	24.48	Refund deposit
31-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	50.00	Refund deposit
06-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	50.00	Refund credit union deduction
13-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	50.00	Refund deposit
24-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	5.00	Refund deposit
17-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	50.00	Refund deposit
06-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	180.00	Refund deposit
19-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	50.00	Refund deposit
19-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	24.48	Refund swim BLC tickets
10-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	150.00	Refund deposit
13-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	250.00	Refund deposit
06-Mar-15	(Personal Information)	250.00	Refund deposit
05-Mar-15	Earley Crescent Comm Assosc	84.84	Overpaid inv 2478 BLC
31-Mar-15	Lidl UK	14.96	Wine for Civic Awards
31-Mar-15	Lidl UK	19.96	Wine for Civic Awards
13-Mar-15	Lloyds Bank	31.18	Charges 10 Jan to 9 Feb 2015
26-Mar-15	Lloyds Bank	39716.23	Net March 2015 payroll
16-Mar-15	Nothing but Padlocks	112.55	WTCMI - padlocks
20-Mar-15	Nothing but Padlocks	-16.92	Credit - overcharged
17-Mar-15	PETTY CASH A/C	153.09	Topup petty cash
05-Mar-15	Pictorialmeadow.com	44.39	Flower seeds - Woodford Park
20-Mar-15	Post office Shop	6.84	Rubber bands
05-Mar-15	Reading Ramgahria Sabah	15.16	Overpaid inv 2478 BLC
19-Mar-15	Theatre Train Reading	100.00	Refund deposit

41575.36

Woodley Town Council 2015/2016

CURRENT ACCOUNT

List of Payments made between 01/04/2015 and 30/04/2015

Date Paid	Payee Name	Amount	
		Paid	
	Accounting Solutions		Accountancy services
	Accounting Solutions		Accountancy services
	Allen's Design & Print Ltd		WTCMI banners installation
	ASAP Computer Services		Annual computer maintenance charge
30/04/2015	_		Staff name badge
07/04/2015			Diesel
	BE Fuelcards		Diesel
	Berks Association of Local Councils		Annual subscription charge
	Brake Bros Foodservice Ltd		Vending supplies
17/04/2015			Electricity supply
24/04/2015			Electricity supply
17/04/2015	Brown Bag Cafe Ltd		Buffet x 10 Oakwood Centre clients
24/04/2015	Broxap Ltd		Building supplies
20/04/2015	BT Group Plc		Phone
13/04/2015	BT Retail		Phone
	Community Sports Arts & Leisur		Income/payments owing re Bulmershe LC
	Corporate Finance		Qtrly rental charge photocopier
	Crown Gas & Power		Gas supply
	Crown Gas & Power Crown Water & Coffee		Gas supply
	Crown Water & Coffee Crown Water & Coffee		Annual rental charge Bottled water
	Crown Water & Coffee Crown Water & Coffee		Bottled water
	Crown Water & Coffee Crown Water & Coffee		Bottled water
	Dejac Associates Ltd		Annual computer maintenance/support
	Earth Anchors Ltd		Garden supplies
	EDF Energy 1 Ltd		Electric for clock tower
	Fencing Products Ltd		Building supplies
	Fox Williams LLP		Legal services - BLC
	Fuel Fitness Ltd		Coaching
17/04/2015			Delivery of Herald newsletter x 3
	HM Revenue & Customs Only		PAYE & NI
17/04/2015			Monthly website charge
30/04/2015			Monthly website charge
17/04/2015			Window cleaner - Oakwood Centre
24/04/2015	Just Around The Corner	5715.50	
30/04/2015	Just In The Park CIC		Charged on behalf of Just in the Park café
	Just Tiles Ltd		Decorating supplies
	KLM Digital Office Solutions L		Service & maint photocopier
17/04/2015	Lamps & Tubes Luminations Ltd		WTCMI - town centre lights repairs
17/04/2015	Laundry Depot		Wash/press table cloths OC
16/04/2015	Lloyds Bank		Cardnet monthly service charge
17/04/2015	Lyreco UK Ltd		Stationery supplies
14/04/2015	Mainstream Digital		Phone
17/04/2015	McVeigh Parker Ltd		Rat bait pellets/station
15/04/2015	Merchant Rentals		Monthly cardnet machine charge
30/04/2015	MKR Electrical Services Ltd		Electrical supplies
17/04/2015	OCS Group UK Ltd		Refuse collection
30/04/2015	P & H Snacksdirect Ltd		Vending supplies
17/04/2015	P J Drew Ltd		Hose clips/key cut
24/04/2015	PHS Group Plc		Qtrly charge - mats OC/WPLC
01/04/2015	Pitney Bowes		Postage top up
24/04/2015	Prudential Assurance		AVC payment deducted from pay
17/04/2015	Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd		Annual bookings software charge
24/04/2015	RPT Consulting Ltd		Feasibility study - WPLC development
17/04/2015	Sentiva		WTCMI - web site support
17/04/2015	Serviceline	257.28	Call out - Café dishwasher

30/04/2015	Shaw & Sons Limited	144.00	Declaration of acceptance book
17/04/2015	SITA UK Ltd	614.11	Refuse collection
24/04/2015	SLCC Enterprises Ltd	222.00	Staff training
30/04/2015	South East Employers	678.00	Annual subscription charge
17/04/2015	Southern Electric	527.46	Electricity supply
13/04/2015	Thames Water	465.14	Water rates
24/04/2015	The Berkshire Pension Fund	13000.53	Pension - employers and employees
30/04/2015	TLM Estate & Garden Maintenace	4768.80	Installation high duex fence - bowling green
17/04/2015	Token Security Solutions Ltd	19.85	Building security cover
24/04/2015	Total Gas & Power	1439.91	Gas supply
24/04/2015	Total Gas & Power	1744.91	Gas supply
17/04/2015	Traditional Local Cleaning Ltd	1861.39	Contract cleaning
24/04/2015	Travis Perkins Trading Company	38.32	Building supplies
17/04/2015	Trinity Mirror Publishing Ltd	216.00	WTCMI advertising
30/04/2015	Ukactive	546.00	Annual subscription charge
24/04/2015	Unison	41.90	Union fees deducted from pay
30/04/2015	Virgin Media Payments Ltd	18.91	Phone
17/04/2015	Vodaphone Ltd	192.91	Phone
01/04/2015	Wokingham BC	43.80	Rates
01/04/2015	Wokingham BC	162.00	Rates
01/04/2015	Wokingham BC	354.00	Rates
01/04/2015	Wokingham BC	891.00	Rates
01/04/2015	Wokingham BC	1846.50	Rates

106129.97

CLERKS IMPREST A/C

List of Payments made between 01/04/2015 and 30/04/2015

Date Paid	Payee Name	Amount	
22/04/2015	(D T. ()	Paid	Defendances
23/04/2015	•		Refund deposit
09/04/2015	(Personal Information)		Refund deposit
22/04/2015	(Personal Information)		Net pay April 2015 o/s
29/04/2015	(Personal Information)		Refund deposit
02/04/2015	•		Flowers - Civic Awards
30/04/2015	,		Refund deposit
22/04/2015	(Personal Information)		Net pay April 2015 o/s
29/04/2015	` ,		Refund deposit
30/04/2015	•		Cancelled WPLC course
	(Personal Information)		Refund deposit
10/04/2015	•		Refund part rent - Allotments
	Allpas.co.uk	141.90	Screen - Bowling Club
17/04/2015	AO Retail Ltd	358.98	Chapel Hall-Cooker/Fridge
01/04/2015	Fiesta Catering Hire	92.70	Glasses hire - Civic Awards
01/04/2015	Lidl UK	39.12	Wine - Civic Awards
01/04/2015	Lidl UK	18.46	Wine - Civic Awards
10/04/2015	Lloyds Bank	25.56	Charges 10 Feb to 9 Mar 2015
22/04/2015	Lloyds Bank	43066.12	Net pay April 2015
08/04/2015	Makro Self Service	113.31	Banquet rolls/sugar/cups - Kwik Cricket
10/04/2015	Mayor's Charity Account	20.00	Tickets - Mayor's Charity
21/04/2015	Normans Office.co.uk	96.84	Foolscap Docbox storage
15/04/2015	PCWB Telesales	1184.97	WTCMI - Laptop & set up services
20/04/2015	PCWB Telesales	20.00	WTCMI-Back up service
22/04/2015	PETTY CASH A/C		Top up petty cash
15/04/2015	Reading Roadrunners	150.00	Refund deposit
29/04/2015	Scotia Binding supplies		Green plastic combs
29/04/2015	Woodley Netball Club		Overpayment of invoice
	•		• •

48215.61

Appendix 4c



Tim Light – trading as LIGHTATOUCH INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES

7 Hodder Close, Chandlers Ford, Hants, SO53 4QD. Tel: (023) 8026 3791 Email: Tim.Light1@hotmail.co.uk

10 June, 2015

The Town Clerk
Woodley Town Council
The Oakwood Centre
Headley Road
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 4JZ

Dear Ms Mander

End of Year Internal Audit Report for Woodley Town 2014/15

In accordance with the Accounts and Audit Arrangements introduced from 1st April 2002 (lighter touch audit) this requires all Town and Parish Councils to implement an independent internal audit examination of their Accounts and Accounting processes annually.

The Council have complied with the requirements in terms of independence from the Council decision making process in 2014/2015 by appointing Lightatouch Internal Audit Services to undertake the work from 1 April 2014.

We visited on five occasions to check that the Town Council adheres to the requirements set out in the National Association of Local Councils Accountability and Governance Manual Appendix 9 to ensure that compliance is maintained.

This final visit also checked the end of year procedures and the information recorded in Section 1 of the Annual Return was accurate and the completion of the Section 4 to confirm that the controls systems are adequate.

During the course of the internal audit visits during 2014/15 a separate financial risk assessment has been carried out and this was reported separately to the Town Clerk in April 2015.

An Internal Audit testing strategy is set out in the current NALC Accountability & Governance manual. This covers a "suggested approach to internal audit testing" covering 10 aspects ranging from Proper bookkeeping right through to Year-end procedures. Our Internal Audit testing is based on this approach.

Our Initial discussion with the Town Clerk/Finance Officer established any system/procedure changes to the internal controls from the previous period. A series of . . .

independent audit tests were then undertaken using the various financial records, vouchers, documents, minutes, pervious audit reports, insurance etc. to ascertain the efficiency and effectiveness of these internal controls.

As part of the Internal Audit Reviews we checked that:

Bank Reconciliations

- The financial totals as at 31 March 2014 had been brought forward accurately in each Cashbook.
- All un-presented cheques and un-banked income at up to 31 March 2015 were checked to bank statements to verify these were banked during the period.
- All direct debits, standing orders, and sweep transactions were checked and accounted for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.
- All banks paying in slips were banked and agreed to bank statements for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.
- Bank reconciliations for all bank accounts had been carried out between 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015, and totals agreed to those shown in all the appropriate cash books.

Petty Cash

- The Petty Cash totals for the Clerks Imprest were agreed to the cash in hand as at 31 March 2015.
- A series of tests to agree the reimbursements from Cash Book 2 Clerks Imprest Account to Cash Book 4 Petty Cash between, 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.
- A series of payment vouchers were checked and agreed, and Cash Book 4 was cross cast up to 31 March 2015.

Income and Expenditure

 All un-presented cheques and un-banked income information at as 31 March 2015 and confirmed that the details are accurate to the records held by Town Council.

VAT

- The totals of VAT shown on the reimbursement claims for the periods up to the 31 December 2014 had been received and the correct sums are shown in the bank account. A further check was made to ensure a VAT reimbursement claim had been submitted for the periods between 1 January 2015 – 31 March 2015.
- The VAT summary totals shown in Cashbook 1, 2 and 4 from April 2014 to March 2015 agree to the entries detailed on the VAT claim.

Cardnet

 All transactions shown on the Cardnet statements for the period 1 April - 31 March 2015 were accurately recorded in the financial ledger and that all the transactions could be traced to the bank statements.

Purchases Day Book

- A sample of payment vouchers for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015 were checked from the purchase order to the invoice to agree that the original order matched to the invoice paid, and each payment voucher had a remittance advice attached for the correct payment amount.
- A further sample of payment vouchers were checked to ensure that the VAT element had been extracted correctly and entered in on the Purchases Day Book and then subsequently on the VAT claim for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.

Sales Day Book

A sample of sales invoice entries shown on the Sales Day Book were checked to
ensure the VAT element had been extracted correctly and entered in on the VAT
claim for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.

Town Council Minutes

 We checked the details of Town Council minutes from April 2014 to March 2015 for any financial approval or decision that affected the budget of the Town Council and to ensure that details were correctly shown in the Financial Ledger.

End of Year Procedures 2014/15

- Full check was carried out on the end of year documentation provided by the Town Clerk to confirm the accuracy of the details to be submitted to the External Auditor. This also included the validation of any variances of totals between 2013/14 and 2014/15 shown on the Annual Return in Section 1 as required by the External Auditor that are over 10%.
- We are satisfied that the information provided confirms the accuracy of the details to be shown in Section 1 of the Annual Return and therefore have signed Section 4 of the Annual Return.
- All of the internal control statements shown in Section 4 of the Annual Return have been completed to show our opinion that there are adequate internal control systems for the Town Council.

Therefore I am pleased to report that the various records and procedures in place for the Council provide a good standard of control. All minor queries were resolved during the course of the audit, and therefore no formal recommendations have been made for the period April 2014 to March 2015 for these various transactional elements.

Yours sincerely,

Tim Light FMAAT and Paul Reynolds FMAAT Internal Auditors



Appendix 4 e Financial Topic Note

F03-15 14th April 2015

Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 Commencement Orders

INTRODUCTION

The latest in a series of Commencement Orders (No 7) was promulgated last month. For all practical purposes, the provisions of the Act are now fully in force as affecting local town, parish and community councils.

CURRENT POSITION

Under the Act, despite the abolition of the Audit Commission on 31st March 2015, all existing external audit arrangements and appointments continue until the end of the Financial Year 2016/17. Annual Returns will continue to be issued to Local Councils by their present external auditors and should be returned to them as previously.

FUTURE CHANGES

The majority of changes to external audit arrangements and appointments will change with effect from the Financial Year 2017/18 (commencing 1st April 2017), although the Act does provide for the extension of existing external audit contracts in the event that the new arrangements are not implantable in accordance with the timetable envisaged. This is unlikely to be necessary, but cannot be totally ruled out.

The new (post 1/4/18) appointments will be made, in accordance with the ACT, by a new Audit Appointments body (currently referred to as the Sector Led Body - SLB). This is currently being worked up by NALC and SLCC in association with the Association of Drainage Authorities and other (small authorities) representative bodies.

Briefly, all local authorities will be contacted by the SLB during 2016 to confirm (or otherwise) their wish to be part of the central appointment arrangements or (as allowed under the Act) whether they wish to opt out and make their own external audit appointments. These arrangements apply to all Local Councils with Income or Expenditure less than £6.5 million p.a.

Local Councils with Income or Expenditure (whichever is the higher) less than £25K p.a. will be exempt from external auditor (but will still have an external auditor appointed for the purpose of the exercise of electors' rights. All other councils will experience little or no change to their external audit arrangements, save only that their external auditor may change as a result of the new audit contracts under the SLB arrangements.



Financial Topic Note

F03-15 14th April 2015

Smaller Authorities

Smaller authorities (those under £25K) should note that their **entitlement to exemption from external audit does not commence until F Y 2017/18**, but in the meantime they are (from 1st April 2015) subject to the mandatory publishing requirements of the Transparency Code.

To ease the financial effects of this additional burden on smaller authorities, government have recently signed off on the establishment of a **Transparency Fund** (worth £4.7 million), to be administered by NALC through its County Associations. The precise mechanics as to the eligibility and disbursement of the fund will be widely publicised as soon as they have been finalised.

This briefing was issued by Derek Kemp, NALC's Audit and Accounts Advisor

@ NALC 2015

Woodley Town Council

Minutes of the Urgency Committee - Friday 22 May 2015

1. ARTIFICIAL CRICKET WICKET - WOODFORD PARK

Councillors Baker, Mills, Smith and Soane were contacted by email on 21 May 2015 and provided with the agenda and a report setting out the matter for the Committee's consideration (attached to these minutes).

Councillors Baker, Mills and Smith responded by email to the Town Clerk by midday on 22 May 2015 in favour of the recommendations set out in the report. It was therefore

RESOLVED:

- ♦ To approve the use of Section 106 funds of £7,894 for the supply and installation of a new artificial cricket wicket at Woodford Park and that these works be commissioned as soon as possible.
- ♦ That, subject to agreement of the above, to approve the forward funding of the costs of the supply and installation of the artificial cricket wicket, should this be necessary.

Woodley Town Council

ARTIFICIAL CRICKET WICKET – WOODFORD PARK

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Purpose of report

To inform Members of the situation regarding the artificial cricket wicket at Woodford Park and seek approval for Section 106 funds, that have been confirmed by Wokingham Borough Council to be available for this purpose, to be drawn down.

Background

In November 2014 the artificial cricket wicket at Woodford Park was identified as being past its useful life and the Leisure Services Manager was asked to identify possible external sources of funding to pay for a replacement.

Information

At the Leisure Services Committee meeting on 6 January 2015 two potential sources of funding were reported. They were developers contributions (Section 106 funding) and grant funding available through the English Cricket Board (ECB). At the following committee meeting on 24 March 2015 the Leisure Services Manager reported that funding was being applied for from the ECB through the Last Man Stands, a cricket grassroots organisation which was likely to be successful in obtaining a grant. The three quotes received had been passed to Last Man Stands to make the application in anticipation that this would be agreed and the pitch installed before the start of the 2015 season in April.

Unfortunately, a technicality relating to the application requirements in respect of planning permission, has meant that the ECB would not consider the application. The Council had established with Wokingham BC that installing a replacement wicket did not require planning permission, the ECB insisted that this be applied for. This issue meant that it was not going to be possible for the grant funding to be available in time for the 2015 season.

In the meantime the old wicket had been removed in anticipation of a new one being in place before the start of the season. This has meant that the Last Man Stands' 2 - 3 bookings a week for the artificial wicket through the season are not able to be met. Their games cannot all be moved to a grass wicket because it would not be practicable to prepare grass wickets for this series of bookings as well as the other scheduled matches. It is likely that Last Man Stands will cancel their bookings if they cannot all be catered for.

A further problem has arisen regarding the games scheduled to be played on the grass wicket which sits to one side of the cricket field. The umpires for the highest division in the league consider the area where the artificial wicket has been removed to be unsafe and a hazard because the lower level of the artificial wicket area could cause injury. There is little that can be done as a temporary measure to level this area and therefore it seems likely that forthcoming top division league matches will have to be reorganised. Long term this will affect income and cause disruption for the clubs involved.

Given the urgency of the situation, and with the Town Clerk's approval, the Leisure Services Manager has followed up on the availability of Section 106 funds for this purpose and provided information on potential costs to Wokingham BC in the form of an application. It has just been confirmed that Section 106 funds of £7,894 have been approved by Wokingham BC for the purchase and installation of a new artificial wicket by the Town Council.

The Leisure Services Manager has confirmed that the preferred supplier is able to install a new pitch by 5 June 2015, subject to the order being confirmed by 5pm on Friday 22 May 2015.

Resources

The total quoted cost of the supply and installation of a new artificial cricket wicket by the preferred supplier is £7,894 plus VAT. This would be funded from Section 106 funds allocated by Wokingham BC and no additional costs to the Town Council are anticipated.

The Last Man Stands bookings on the artificial wicket are worth £700, most of which would be additional income to the cricket budget head. Day time matches on the grass wicket are charged at £105 per match, although it is likely that these are block booked and therefore non vatable, which would mean an income of £84 per match.

Members are asked to consider the information in this report and respond, by email to the Town Clerk, stating their agreement or otherwise to the following recommendations. Please respond by mid day on Friday 22 May.

Recommendations:

- ♦ That Members approve the use of Section 106 funds of £7,894 for the supply and installation of a new artificial cricket wicket at Woodford Park and that these works be commissioned as soon as possible.
- ◆ That, subject to agreement of the above, Members agree to forward fund the costs of the supply and installation of the artificial cricket wicket, should this be necessary.

APPENDIX 7

List A Replacement of equipment in existing play areas due to increase in the number of Woodley residents

List B Upgrading of existing sports and leisure facilities due to the increase in the number of Woodley residents

List C Additional sports and leisure facilities due to the increase in the number of Woodley residents

List D Improvements to facilities in Woodley due to the increase in the number of Woodley residents

List E Infrastructure projects to be suggested to and carried out by Wokingham Borough Council (highways/lighting etc)

Active Application submitted to Wokingham

C			1		Application
Kep	lacement of equipment in	Replacement of equipment in existing play areas due to increase in the number of Woodley residents	odiey residents	IIST	submitted
4	A Current Project List				
ID	ID Site	Project/item	Estimated cost		
1a	1a Malone Park	Upgrade Play Equipment	000′05		
2а	2a Memorial Ground	Upgrade Play Equipment	20,000		
3a	3a Wheble Drive	Upgrade Play Equipment	20,000		

Upgrading of existing sports and leisure facilities due to the increase in the number of Woodley residents listBCurrent Project ListProject/itemEstimated cost1DSiteEstimated cost1DWoodford Park LeisureUpgrade of the football/cricket changing wing10,000					Approval to Application	Application
rent Project List Project/item Estimated control of the football/cricket changing wing	Upc	rading of existing sports and I	leisure facilities due to the increase in the number of Wo	odley residents	list	submitted
Project/item Project/item Estimated codford Park Leisure Upgrade of the football/cricket changing wing Estimated code in the football cricket changing wing Estimated code in the football code	8	Current Project List				
of the football/cricket changing wing	ID	Site		imated cost		
Centre	1b	Woodford Park Leisure Upgra	ade of the football/cricket changing wing	10,000		
		Centre				

6,200		10,000	30,000		
Soft play centre for under 5s – inflatable activity	centre, mats, soft play shapes, climbing equipment	Improvements to Hard Surface Area	Convert games room and tea room into a modern	community facility with a kitchen for community groups	and social events
Woodford Park Leisure	Centre	0b Woodford Park	. <mark>4b</mark> Woodford Park Leisure Convert	Centre	
q9		10b	14b		

Adc	Additional sports and leisure facilitie	facilities due to the increase in the number of Woodley residents		Approval to list	Application submitted
U	C Current Project List				
ID	ID Site	Project/item	Estimated cost		
10	1c Southlake Crescent	Multi use gym project for residents in Southlake	16,000		
	Amenity project	Crescent/Hearn Koad area			
2c	2c Woodford Park	Installation of 3G pitch	395,000		29.9.10 1/4/14
32	3c Woodford Park	New crazy golf area at Woodford Park LC	0008		
4c	4c Kingfisher Drive	Outdoor fitness equipment for open ground adjacent to	0000		
		play area at Kingfisher Drive	16000		
ပ္တ	6c Woodford Park Leisure	Installation of Gym facility	200,000(est)		
	Centre				
7	7c Woodford Park Leisure Health	Health Legacy Hub – mobile gym kit to use at sites	15,000		
	Centre	around the town and at leisure centres – to promote			
		fitness			
ထ	Woodford Park Leisure	8c Woodford Park Leisure Sport stadia – mobile sports arena which can be used	15,000		
	centre	with clubs at the leisure centres and at sites around the			
		town			
9	9c Woodford Park Leisure	Cyber coach interactive dance and dance mats	6,000 - 15,000		
	Centre				
110	11c Woodford Park	Development of Youth area in Woodford Park	not known		

Imp	provements to facilities in	Improvements to facilities in Woodley due to the increase in the number of Woodley residents		Approval to Application list	Application submitted
	D Current Project List				
ID	ID Site	Project/item Es	Estimated cost		
11	1d Woodford Park Lake	Lake refurbishment project – desilting, planting - can be	150,000		
		phased			
2 q	5d Woodford Park	Lighting, refurbishment of pathways, entrance/access	20,000		
		improvements			
p9	6d Woodford Park	Improvements to surfacing of access road from Western Not Known	ot Known		
	Entrance	Avenue		Not owned by WTC	· WTC
				Approval to Application	Application
Infi	rastructure projects to be	Infrastructure projects to be suggested to and carried out by Wokingham Borough Council		list	submitted
Ц					

				Approval to Application	Application
Infr	astructure projects to be	Infrastructure projects to be suggested to and carried out by Wokingham Borough Council	uncil	list	submitted
Е	E Current Project List				
П	ID Site	Project/item	Estimated cost		
1e	1e Spitfire Way		20,000		
		to cross road for Drs, schools and shops			
2e	2e Headley Road	Pedestrian crossing installation or equivalent outside the	20,000		
		Oakwood Centre			
36	3e Howth Drive	Pedestrian crossing installation as near as possible to	20,000		
		Bader Court			
4e	4e Colemans Moor Road	Traffic calming	Not known		
5e	5e Howth Drive	Remove ruined grass verges and replace them with	Not known		
		large parking bays			
ee e	Kingfisher Drive	Remove ruined grass verges and replace them with	Not known		
		large parking bays			
7e	7e Woodwaye	Improved lighting. This is used as a cut through at	Not known		
		night, residents have asked for better lighting which			
		would make them feel safer			
8e	8e Ashenbury Park	BMX track	Not known		

GREEN - Active Application submitted to Wokingham

Notes

Date Completed

Completed/in progress Projects

	Woodley Town Centre	Refurbishment of North end of precinct	60,000		Ir	In progress
	Woodford Park LC	Purchase & Installation of artificial grass cricket wicket	7,894	04/06/2015	A	Agreed by Urgency Con
4d	4d Woodley Town Centre	Public Toilets on Woodley Town Centre	100,000		Ir	In progress
2d	2d Memorial Ground	War Memorial, Flag Pole, seating, entrance	000'89			
		improvements, Civic Space Project		Nov-14		
1a	Malone Park		13,800	Jul-14		Remain on list for futui
	Woodford Park LC	Basketball court & Cricket nets	6322	01/04/2014		
	Bulmershe Leisure					
	Centre	Sanding/sealing/remarking sportshall floor	866	Jan-13		
2b	Bulmershe Leisure					
	Centre	Installation of cricket nets	4500	Jan-13		
12b	<mark>12b</mark> Bulmershe Leisure	Replacement flooring in small hall.	000'9		<u>ᆔ</u>	Funded from 2011/12
	Centre			Feb-12	B	BLC budget
11b	<mark>11b</mark> Woodford Park	Remove and install new outdoor play equipment.	28,000	Sep-12		
39	3d Reading Road	Replacement Fencing	2,000			
	Allotments			Apr-12	F	Funded from tenant cor
	Woodford Park Lake	Tree Works / thinning of vegetation	23,000	Mar-11		
	Woodford Park					
	Paddling Pool		26,000	Mar-10		
	Woodford Park Skate Sp	Woodford Park Skate SpInstallation of skate spot	25,000	Aug-11		

Woodley Town Council

WOODFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE - DEVELOPMENT

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide an update on the potential project to develop activities at Woodford Park Leisure Centre, including provision of the feasibility report and presentation slides commissioned by the Council from Alliance Leisure and RPT Consulting. To propose that Members consider the future activities to be provided at the centre before commissioning works to identify the potential for building refurbishments.

BACKGROUND

In September 2014 Members agreed to commission Alliance Leisure to carry out and independent feasibility study on potential new activities at the centre and the associated capital costs and income. This work had been undertaken following discussions with Badminton England and Bulmershe Gym Club who were looking for additional space for their sports.

INFORMATION

The final report was presented at a meeting of the Leisure Services Committee on 24 March 2015. The report and the presentation slides (both confidential documents) are **enclosed** for Members' information. The Leisure Services Committee discussed the report findings and the possible building works that may be required and recommended that this Committee allocate funds of £5,000 from the special projects earmarked reserve to fund work to establish more accurate costings and the viability of extending and refurbishing Woodford Park Leisure Centre. This Committee agreed to allocate these funds at its meeting on 14 April 2015 (Min no. 115).

Alliance Leisure has provided a quote for the initial works to develop a scheme to 'cost confidence'. The works include site surveys, outline scheme design and costs plans, structural and mechanical & engineering sketch designs as well as initial consultations with planning and building control. This quote is higher than the funds allocated by the Council for this purpose.

At present the Council has not had any detailed discussions about the proposed new activities identified in the feasibility report, including which of these could be delivered at the centre, and would therefore need to be accommodated in the building. It is proposed that the Council have these discussions before commissioning works to identify the potential for the building to be refurbished. This would enable the Council to provide a more specific brief for such work to be carried out, rather than investigating items that may not be required. The funds allocated to an earmarked reserve for this purpose can remain there to be available once the Council wishes to proceed with this stage of the project.

Members are asked to consider this proposal and how they wish to proceed in this matter.

RECOMMENDATION:

- ♦ That Members suspend the decision to fund works to develop a scheme at Woodford Park Leisure Centre to 'cost confidence'.
- ♦ That Members consider further the future activities to be provided at Woodford Park Leisure Centre and the process for this exercise.

3G ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCH PROJECT UPDATE

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK AND SERVICE SUPPORT MANAGER

Purpose of Report

To provide a project update to Members.

Background

Following consideration of feasibility and business case reports from consultants Sports Solutions on a project to install a 3rd Generation Artificial Grass Pitch at Woodford Park, the Council agreed to proceed with a planning application for the project and make an application for a grant for 50% of the estimated costs of £510,000 from the Premier League and FA Facilities Fund, administered by the Football Foundation and any other appropriate funders for projects of this nature (S & R Committee 30/4/13 Min no. 92). The Council also agreed to seek borrowing approval from the Department of Communities and Local Government for 50% of cost of the project, in line with the grant funding body's conditions (Full Council 13/5/14 Min No 17), and this was approved in December 2014.

The project includes the installation of a 9 v 9 3G pitch, the refurbishment of one tennis/netball court, an additional 59 parking spaces and the resurfacing of the roadway up to the leisure centre and the main car park. Planning permission for the project was granted in February 2015, and included amendments made to the application after consultation with residents living near to the proposed pitch. The amendments included the installation of an acoustic board along the southern side of the pitch, and some adjustments to the lighting and proposed opening hours.

Throughout the consideration and planning of this project the Town Council has worked closely with local football clubs, the Berks and Bucks Football Association and other interested parties to ensure that the project will meet their requirements and have the support of these bodies.

At the Council meeting on 19 May 2015 Members agreed to accept the grant offered in a letter from the Football Foundation dated 14 May along with the associated terms and conditions. It also agreed to fund pre construction costs from the loan funds once they were drawn down and to elect to treat income from the pitch and the tennis/netball court as VATable. Officers will liaise with the Leader of the Council and the Chairman of the Leisure Services committee on the project's progress. (Full Council 19/5/2015 Min no. 22)

Information

Formal acceptance of the grant offer has been made and Shared Legal Solutions have been appointed to carry out the legal work in respect of the title to the property and entering into a deed of dedication. The requirement for this to be completed before construction can be more flexible, depending on the complexities and time taken to achieve this. Confirmation has been given to the Football Foundation's solicitors that the Council will pay their costs for this work.

Arrangements have been made with the Public Works Loan Board to draw down the approved loan sum of £255,000 and this is expected to be paid into the Council's bank account before the end of the month.

Officers have met with the Football Foundation's Technical Officer, who is overseeing the project. In terms of the timetable it is likely that the tenders (for all elements of the project) will be sent out in 4-6 weeks' time. The tendering process will take a further 4 weeks. A construction start date in September is probable and, with an anticipated 12 week construction period (depending on weather) the pitch could be ready for use in January 2016.

Discussions with the Technical Officer included the siting of the bunds. After further consideration of the placement of the bunds in terms of future maintenance, how they will sit in the park and be used and maintaining access for the Grounds equipment to all areas of the park, officers will be working with the contractor, once appointed, to confirm where these will be placed. Some further work may need to be carried out beforehand to establish the planning authority's requirements in this matter. It will be the appointed contractor's role to submit the final plans for landscaping to the planning authority. These are required to be approved by the planning authority before construction can begin.

Officers have also visited the new 3G pitch at The Piggott School and were able to come away with good contacts in terms of the practicalities of managing the pitch, arrangements for the service level agreements with partner clubs as well as some tips on the placement of the bunds around the pitch.

Resources

The 2015/16 budget estimates do not include any costs or income relating to the pitch. At the time the budget was prepared the Council had no confirmation that the project would go ahead.

The drawing down of the loan from the Public Works Loan Board in June will mean that the half year loan payment due in September 2015 will require funding from the general reserve. Members are asked to approve the use of funds from the general reserve for this purpose. The estimated cost is £11,000, the exact sum will depend on the interest rate charged by the Public Works Loan Board on the day the loan is drawn down.

Given the provisional timing of the project the 2016/17 budget setting process, which includes setting revised estimates for this year, will include estimates for pitch costs (including the March loan payment) and income.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- ♦ That Members note the contents of the report.
- ♦ That Members approve the allocation of funds (estimated £11,000) from the general reserve to make the loan payment in respect of the 3G pitch project due in September 2015.

Woodley Town Council

LODDON MEAD

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To inform Members of proposed joint project with Wokingham Borough Council and other agencies to develop a project for the use of the land at Loddon Mead and the adjacent area underneath the A3290 for youth provision and to seek approval to recommend this to Council.

BACKGROUND

The land at Loddon Mead and the area fronting the river Loddon were transferred to the Town Council by Berkshire County Council in 1977 and 1980 respectively. The land has the following covenants placed on it in 1997:

- The Transferee (the Town Council) hereby covenants that the land transferred will remain as open amenity space and no building shall be erected thereon.
- The Transferor (Berkshire County Council now succeeded by Wokingham Borough Council) reserves the right to enter upon the land transferred for all purposes in connection with the use and maintenance of the bridge adjoining the transferred property.

A plan showing Loddon Mead, at the south end of Loddon Bridge Road, is attached at **Appendix A**. The small open space slopes down to the river and has trees and overgrown areas at the edges.

INFORMATION

At the most recent Community Youth Partnership (CYP) meeting officers from Wokingham Borough Council's Strategic Assets and the Youth Service presented a proposal for a joint project to make provision for youth activities in the adjacent areas owned by the Town and the Borough Council - Loddon Mead and the area under the A3290. The proposal included an invitation to young people to submit their ideas and suggestions for the use of this area to a panel which would then consider these. The Community Youth Partnership (made up of town councillors and representatives from the voluntary sector) agreed to progress this and has set up a panel to work on the proposal. The minutes of the CYP meeting at which this was discussed are provided in the Community Services Committee agenda papers for the meeting of 9 June 2015.

Approval by Full Council will be required for any change in use of the land as open amenity space and this will depend on the outcome of the successful submission to the panel. In the meantime, Members are asked to consider recommending to Council that the land at Loddon Mead be included in the joint project, subject to the final details and implications being presented for approval to Council for consideration, once they are known.

RESOURCES

At this point there are no identifiable financial costs. Should the proposed use of the land change from being an open amenity space there are likely to be legal costs. Some officer time will be needed to support the project.

RECOMMENDATION

♦ That Members recommend to Council that the land at Loddon Mead be included in the proposed project with Wokingham Borough Council and other agencies to develop youth provision, subject to final details and implications being presented to Council, once they are known.





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27 May 2015

1:1250 @ A4