

GREEN SPACE ADOPTIONS TASK AND FINISH GROUP

Monday 24th January 2022 – 5.30pm Zoom

Present: Cllrs Mr R Flemming, Mr K Lynch, Mrs M Sherwin, Mr P Williams

In attendance: J Perry (Principal Officer)

1. TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN

There being only one nomination, it was agreed by all, Cllr Mr Lynch be elected Chairman of the Green Space Adoptions Task & Finish Group

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Mr Findlay and were noted.

3. BACKGROUND

Following a request to consider adoption of a green space which includes a sub-surface private drainage system (SuDs), the task and finish group were asked to investigate and consider the potential implications for the parish council of adopting such land in general.

Members discussed the varying documents and research that had been circulated by the Principal Officer, together with research they had conducted themselves. The Principal Officer also reported information received from Council's insurers.

Whilst members agreed that all opportunities to adopt green space when offered should be considered positively, it was agreed by all that the parish council do not have the in-house expertise and resources to undertake verification of scheme construction or to produce and implement an ongoing management plan for a SuDs system.

In this particular instance, it was felt that the SuDs scheme and potential routes for adoption had not been given adequate early consideration between the developer and the local planning authority.

4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Members wished to recommend to Council:

- That an offer of interest in principle to adopt the land be made to the developer with the condition that the developer appoints a management company to take sole responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the SuDs scheme. This undertaking to be verified to the satisfaction of Council prior to any adoption taking place.
- That an offer of interest in principle be made to the developer to manage and maintain the open green space (as a third party contractor) should the adoption be placed with a management company
- That the Green Space Adoptions Task and Finish Group together with the Principal Officer work up a draft Green Space Adoptions Policy for consideration, with the aim of guiding decision making where possible adoptions include a drainage scheme.