

HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

Peel Street, Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire LU5 5EY

Town Mayor: **Cllr Clare L Copleston** Tel: 01582 708540

Town Clerk: **Clare Evans**

E-mail: info@houghtonregis.org.uk

7th March 2022

To: Members of the Environment & Leisure Committee

Cllrs: T McMahon (Chair), Y Farrell, R Morgan, A Slough, S Thorne and E Cooper, Vacancy.

(Copies to other Councillors for information)

Notice of Meeting

You are hereby summoned to a Meeting of the **Environment & Leisure Committee** to be held at the Council Offices, Peel Street on **Monday 14th March 2022 at 6.00pm.**

Due ongoing Covid concerns, members of the public who wish to attend the meeting are encouraged to do so remotely through the meeting link below. Members of the public may also attend in person and, if doing so, are requested to socially distance as much as possible.

To attend remotely through Teams please follow this link: [MEETING LINK](#)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CE', is positioned to the left of the text 'THIS MEETING MAY BE RECORDED *'.

***THIS MEETING MAY
BE RECORDED ****

**Clare Evans
Town Clerk**

Agenda

- 1. APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS**
- 2. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

In accordance with approved Standing Orders 1(e) – 1(l), members of the public may make representations, ask questions and give evidence at a meeting which they are entitled to attend in respect of the business on the agenda.

The total period of time designated for public participation at a meeting shall not exceed 15 minutes and an individual member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes unless directed by the chairman of the meeting.

**This meeting may be filmed by the Council for subsequent broadcast online and can be viewed at <http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk/minutes>*

Phones and other equipment may be used to film, audio record, tweet or blog from this meeting by an individual Council member or a member of the public. The use of images or recordings arising from this is not under the Council's control.

No part of the meeting room is exempt from public filming unless the meeting resolves to go into exempt session.

3. SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Under the Localism Act 2011 (sections 26-37 and Schedule 4) and in accordance with the Council’s Code of Conduct, Members are required to declare any interests which are not currently entered in the member’s register of interests or if he/she has not notified the Monitoring Officer of any such interest.

Members are invited to submit any requests for Dispensations for consideration.

4. TERRA CROFT LEISURE GARDENS – LAND TRANSFER

Pages 3 - 5

To enable the council to consider the land transfer associated with the allotments at Chalk Fields, Houghton Regis.

Recommendation: To authorise the signing of the land transfer associated with title number BD323949 for allotments at Chalk Fields, Houghton Regis.

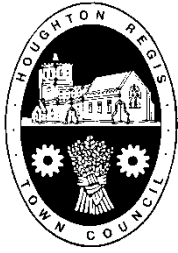
5. CREATION OF A GARDEN IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMPACT OF COVID

Pages 6 - 8

To enable the council to consider the creation of a garden to enable residents to remember loved ones lost due to covid.

Recommendation: To approve the creation of a garden in recognition of the impact of covid.

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Date: 14th March 2022

Title: **TERRA CROFT LEISURE GARDENS – LAND TRANSFER**

Purpose of the Report: **To enable the council to consider the land transfer associated with the allotments at Chalk Fields, Houghton Regis.**

Contact Officer: **Clare Evans, Town Clerk**

1. RECOMMENDATION

To authorise the signing of the land transfer associated with title number BD323949 for allotments at Chalk Fields, Houghton Regis.

2. BACKGROUND

Members are advised that work has been completed on the land transfer associated with this project.

3. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Key aspects of the land transfer include:

- Title number BD323949
- Full title guarantee
- Rights over the estate roads to access the site
- Right to connect the water connection
- There are no rights reserved in respect of services under this area of land
- Not to use the land other than as allotments

Please contact the Town Clerk if you would like to view the draft land transfer.

In accordance with Standing Order 20 all legal deeds are to be authorised by Resolution, after which any 2 councillors may sign and the Proper Officer shall witness their signature.

4. COUNCIL VISION

Aspirations

- A5 To ensure the **council** is fit for purpose and efficient in its delivery of services

Objective 1: Grow your own

- 1.3 Establish allotments within new housing developments
1.4 Encourage healthy eating and food awareness
1.5 To increase edible planting
1.6 Enhance biodiversity and support wildlife

Objective 4: Our community

- 4.1 To create or enhance community facilities which support community development and cohesion
4.3 To provide activities for young people, families and older people

5. IMPLICATIONS

Corporate Implications

- Policy implications - Standing Order 20 all legal deeds are to be authorised by Resolution, after which any 2 councillors may sign and the Proper Officer shall witness their signature.

Legal Implications

- This land transfer has been overseen by the council's solicitor

Financial Implications

- Budget – the cost of the transfer, up to £1000 is being met by the developer. If it should exceed this amount the cost will be charged to EMR Allotments if in 2021/22 or to 273-4059 if in 2022/23

Risk Implications

- Service delivery – the land transfer needs to be completed prior to the occupation of the site

Equalities Implications

Houghton Regis Town Council has a duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and foster good relations in respect of nine protected characteristics; age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

This project / issue does not discriminate.

Press Contact

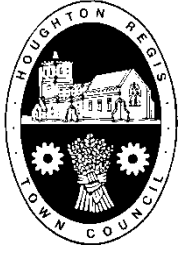
There are no press implications arising from the recommendations

6. CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

The draft transfer has been reviewed and where necessary adjusted by the council's solicitor. It is presented to members as suitable for the requirements of the council.

7. APPENDICES

None



Date:	14th March 2022
Title:	CREATION OF A GARDEN IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMPACT OF COVID
Purpose of the Report:	To enable the council to consider the creation of a garden to enable residents to remember loved ones lost due to covid.
Contact Officer:	Clare Evans, Town Clerk

1. RECOMMENDATION

To approve the creation of a garden in recognition of the impact of covid.

2. BACKGROUND

It is suggested that a garden be created to enable residents to remember loved ones lost due to covid and to reflect on the impact of the pandemic.

3. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

The pandemic had an extensive and far reaching impact on the lives of all. As the virus becomes incorporated into everyday lives it is suggested that a garden be created which will allow residents to remember those they have lost and to reflect on the impact of the virus.

It is suggested that the old part of the cemetery be used to create this garden. This area is maintained by the grounds team but it has scope to host such a garden. It is envisaged that the garden would incorporate planting beds offering year round attraction, a bench with a plaque and a feature allowing residents to recognise specifically those they have lost (perhaps based on the rainbow as associated with covid).

It may be possible to further enhance the periphery of this area with wild flowers come autumn.

Due to the extra funding secured from CBC for planting it is feasible for this project to be delivered for minimal cost.

If members are supportive of this idea, it is requested that consideration be given to the name for this area. The following suggestions are made and other suggestions are welcome:

Dignity Garden
Tranquillity Garden
Reflection Garden
Commemoration Garden
Tribute Garden
Reminiscence Garden
Memorial Garden

4. COUNCIL VISION

Aspirations

A2 To effectively and proactively **represent** our community

Objective 4: Our community

- 4.1 To create or enhance community facilities which support community development and cohesion
- 4.2 To enhance existing facilities to enable improved community use and accessibility
- 4.5 To provide high quality green spaces for leisure and recreation, healthier living, urban attractiveness, improved air quality

5. IMPLICATIONS

Corporate Implications

- Staff implications – work to be completed in-house

Legal Implications

- There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations

Financial Implications

- Budget available – CBC grant funding available. Additional funding may be required for features and ad hoc materials. If required code 271-4020 will be used.

Risk Implications

- There are no risk implications arising from the recommendations

Equalities Implications

Houghton Regis Town Council has a duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and foster good relations in respect of nine protected characteristics; age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

This project / issue does not discriminate.

Press Contact

The decision relating to this agenda item will be communicated to the press, via the website and social media.

6. CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

This project would create a peaceful and tranquil area for people to visit to remember those they have lost and to reflect on the impact of covid.

7. APPENDICES

None