



NORTH STREET PLAYGROUND

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 65/19

12 AUGUST 2019

The purpose of this Report is to provide Members with an update on the possibility of the Town Council taking ownership of the Playground.

No. DETAILS

1) BACKGROUND

- a) Minute 84/19 of the Town Council meeting of 8 July 2019 included a requirement for the Town Clerk *to initiate discussions with the Isle of Wight Council about its willingness to transfer responsibility for the Playground to the Town Council and the basis for any agreed transfer.*
- b) Those discussions have taken place in the form of two telephone conversations with the Isle of Wight Council's Strategic Manager Recreation and Open Spaces Lee Matthews.
- c) The Friday 2 August edition of the *County Press* included an item on the replacement of the swings in the Playground and asserted that the Town Council has already taken over its ownership.

2) ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL

- a) The Isle of Wight Council has initiated an Island-wide assessment of the provision and ownership of children's Playgrounds.
- b) Once it has established the distribution of Playgrounds within Town and Parish Councils it will take a view on the potential for transferring ownership or management of them to those Councils.
- c) In the context of that decision, detailed discussions of individual Playgrounds will then take place with individual Town and Parish Councils.

3) RECOMMENDATION

The Town Council is recommended to note this process and to authorise engagement with it once the Isle of Wight Council's decisions are known.