



PUTTING GREEN

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 12/13

18 FEBRUARY 2013

The purpose of this report is to seek Members' in-principle approval of proposals for the management of the Putting Green for the calendar years 2014-16.

No. DETAIL

1) BACKGROUND

- a) In 2011 the Isle of Wight Council proposed to take back management of the Putting Green – which it owns – and advertise for an operator for the years 2012 and 2013. Following discussions, the Town Council accepted the new arrangements given the commitment from the Isle of Wight Council that the Town Council would continue to receive the first £1,600 received rent each year.
 - b) Their recruitment process resulted in the appointment of an operator who although was able to begin the arrangements for the 2012 season then became too ill to continue.
 - c) In these circumstances, Sue and Chris Cooper, who had been responsible for the facility on the Town Council's behalf for the previous 5 years, offered to return to it on the same terms as their previous arrangement. The Isle of Wight Council accepted the change and, subsequently, extended their acceptance for the full two year period of their original award.
 - d) Consequently, the Town Council took on responsibility for the management of the facility, delivered by Sue and Chris Cooper to their established high standards of care, for both 2012 and 2013.
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2) PROPOSALS FOR 2014-16

- a) The Clerks have now had the opportunity for further discussions with Sue and Chris Cooper about their willingness to commit to continuing to operate the facility if some investment is made available and a longer than year-on-year appointment can be agreed.
 - b) The investment they believe the facility to need if it is to continue to retain its current regular client base and extend it further consists of two priority items: a decking area to hold the tables and chairs that currently rest uneasily on the grassed area and new tables and chairs
 - c) Those items are currently being costed. If they are affordable within the rent receivable over the three year period of 2014-16, it would then be possible to approach the Isle of Wight Council with a view to their acceptance of such an arrangement.
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3) RECOMMENDATION

The Town Council is recommended to consider in-principle acceptance of the proposals above and to delegate to the Town Clerk authority to assess the financial viability of them, engage in discussions with the appropriate Isle of Wight Council officers and report the outcomes to a future Town Council meeting.
