

Agenda Item: 14 (B+C)

APPENDIX J

Report to: Full Council

Date: 25th June 2025

Subject: Pebsham Play Area - Update

Summary: The Committee is asked to note the update on the Pebsham Play Area.

1. Background and objective

- 1.1 The Council has resolved at the Council meeting 6th March 2024 to a draft lease to be negotiated with Rother District Council, and design specifications drawn up.

2. Purpose of the report

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to note update on Pebsham Play Area and requested addition Strategic CIL funding via the Rother District Council Infrastructure matched fund.

3. Project Update

At present Surrey Hills Solicitors is awaiting draft lease.

Rother District Council via Surrey Hills Solicitors updated as of 11th June 2025, Due to part of Pebsham Recreation Ground being unregistered it requires a Land Registry application, the Town Clerk has requested this action be expedited, due to the length of the time this project has currently taken.

A contractor was selected at a meeting of Full Council on 26th July 2024, however due to length of time to start the project, costs have increased.

The increase is circa £8,834; this is due to the increase in material costs down to general economic pressures.

Amount allocated to Pebsham play area in ear marked reserve equates to £117,323. The shortfall of the increase opens the possibility of applying to Rother District Council for strategic CIL to part fund some of the costs of this project.

At present Rother District Council has £326,284.55 allocated in the sub-fund of Bexhill Infrastructure Matched Fund.

The next round of application for the Bexhill Infrastructure Matched Fund closes in June 2025.

Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council would be in a fair position to apply for funding towards the Pebsham Play area as it does meet some of the points raised in Rother District Council Plan under Live Well Locally criteria.

4. Recommendations

4.1 To note the update on Pebsham Play Area.

4.2 To resolve to agree to submit application for Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy – Bexhill Infrastructure Matched Fund funding from Rother District Council, for £75,694.00