APPENDIX J

OCTOBER FULL COUNCIL – ASSETS TRANSFER UPDATE

Introduction

As Cllrs will be aware, the main programme of assets transfer from RDC to the Town Council is on pause.

However, RDC are looking to proceed with a small number of Community Asset Transfers across the Rother District, including 2 in Bexhill.

The relevant paper for the RDC Cabinet Meeting on the 26th of October says the following:

'the inclusion of the Manor Barn Gardens Public Conveniences and the Galley Hill Bottom Car Park and adjoining Council-owned land (including the Bexhill Sea Angling Club building) within the Community Asset Transfer programme, with a view to their transfer to Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council, be approved in principle,'

Manor Barn Gardens Public Conveniences

When officers were told of the plan to include this site, we did express some surprise.

As Cllrs will be aware, the Town Council has recently declined the offer to transfer another derelict PC site at Cooden Sea Road to the Town Council, and so we were not expecting the next offer from RDC to be another one.

However, when this matter is brought to the Town Council to consider, Cllrs may wish to be mindful of the following:

1 There was a significant public outcry when these toilets were closed and so there does seem to be a real need for them.

2 It may be possible to apply for CIL funding to fund the necessary capital works.

This matter will be brought to Full Council in due course.

If the Council does go ahead, we will need the necessary project management and other staffing resources to be in place for such a significant capital project.

APPENDIX J

Lower Galley Hill

As Cllrs will be aware, the following motion was passed at the August Full Council meeting:

'It was RESOLVED, subject to Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council agreeing to take on responsibility for Galley Hill Lower Car Park, the Council is willing to offer an appropriate lease to Bexhill Maritime.'

So, the next step is for the Town Council to consider taking this area on so that the necessary lease can be granted to Bexhill Maritime, and we expect RDC to bring forward the necessary agreement.

It is therefore anticipated that the land offered to the Town Council be consistent with what will be needed by Bexhill Maritime and officers have ensured that RDC are aware of the land needed for the BM project.

In determining whether to pursue the Asset Transfer, there are likely to be a number of issues to consider e.g. the angling club building and the car park on site.

Our understanding is that the outcomes should match to the requirements of the Bexhill Maritime Project.

When RDC bring forward the documents, these will be brought to Full Council for consideration.