



Report to: Meeting of the Trustees of the Gilstrap and WE Knight Charities 27 February 2024

Clerk to the Trustees: Sue Bearman, Assistant Director Legal & Democratic Services, Monitoring Officer

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Report Summary	
Report Title	Land off Cedar Avenue/Lincoln Road Newark - Update
Purpose of Report	To update the Trustee Board on progress since the Board's last meeting on 11 January 2023.
Recommendations	That the report is noted.
Reason for Recommendations	To keep the Board appropriately updated on progress, no further action is required at this time.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 On 4 March 2021 the Trustee Board considered future options for the land owned by the Gilstrap Charity at Cedar Avenue/Lincoln Road, Newark (the Land). The Board resolved to seek to have the Land designated as public open space and to approach the District and Town Councils for expressions of interest in acquiring the Land.
- 1.2 On 19 October 2021 a valuation of £45,000, based on the Land being sold as public open space, was reported to the Trustee Board.
- 1.3 The Trustee Board was provided with a verbal update on 11 January 2022. This confirmed that Newark Town Council had approved, in principle, the purchase of the Land. Further, that charities law advice regarding the potential land disposal was being obtained on behalf of the Council as Trustee to the Charity.
- 1.4 At the Board's meeting on 5 May 2022 Members resolved for a submission to be made to the Charity Commission (the Commission) in respect of the potential disposal of Land off Cedar Avenue/Lincoln Road, and that that discussions with the Town Council continue in the meantime.

1.5 At the Board's meeting on 11 January 2023 it was reported that the Commission submission had been finalised and that further updates would be brought to the Board when available.

2.0 Update

2.1 The Commission confirmed in September 2023 that the matter was being considered. In November 2023 the Commission requested further information regarding whether the Council as Trustee has power of sale, and how any conflicts of interests (that may have arisen where Board Members are also Town Councillors) have been managed. Information has been provided to the Board's external solicitors, who are corresponding with the Commission.

2.2 The Commission has been asked for a likely timescale for its decision. A verbal update will be provided at the meeting if available.

3.0 Implications

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection; Digital & Cyber Security; Equality & Diversity; Financial; Human Resources; Human Rights; Legal; Safeguarding & Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[11 January 2023 report to the Trustee Board – Land off Cedar Aveue/Lincoln Road Newark - update](#)

[5 May 2022 report to the Trustee Board – Land off Cedar Avenue/Lincoln Road Newark - update](#)