

## **SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **New Leases for Community Assets**

**Full Council – 20 March 2018**

#### **1. Introduction**

The first of the 99 year leases for assets has been drawn up by Swindon Borough Council and now needs to be considered by the Parish Council.

#### **2. Report Details**

- 2.1** The new lease is for the transfer of the play areas and is attached. The maps of the play areas was reviewed by the Leisure & Amenities Committee on 13 March 2018 and all of the play spaces were approved apart from 2 play areas.
- 2.2** The play area at Broadgreen has not been included because Swindon Borough Council want to discuss with the Parish Council the future of the whole site, including the play area.
- 2.3** The map for Royal Mead is only for the play area and the Ward Parish Councillors had indicated that they would like to take a lease for the whole site. The whole site comes with a financial contribution of £30K from the developer. However, the Parish Council would have to make a formal request for the whole site separately. It therefore suggested that the Parish Council go ahead with the map as provided in order not to hold up the leases for the play areas and a decision is made at the meeting to go ahead with the request for the whole site.
- 2.4** The lease has taken some time to negotiate to this stage and this has been overseen by the Chair and Vice-Chair. Swindon Borough Council has agreed to the majority of changes made by the Parish Council. It only remains for the Parish Council solicitor to look at the lease to ensure that there are no legal reasons that we should not proceed. I am still waiting to hear back from our solicitor and this confirmation should be received by the meeting.
- 2.5** It should be noted that the County Ground and Euclid Street play areas are not included as these are being retained by Swindon Borough Council.
- 2.6** Once the new lease is approved and signed, the Parish Council can start the process of drawing up a plan of the play areas to be refurbished and the priority.
- 2.7** The Parish Council has made a request to Swindon Borough Council to agree in principle to the issue of 99 year leases for Town Gardens and Queens Park. Confirmation from Swindon Borough Council should be received by the meeting.
- 2.8** Having completed the leases for the play areas, the Parish Council needs to decide the next priority of assets to be leased.

#### **3. Recommendations**

- 3.1** The Parish Council approves the 99 year lease for the play areas.
- 3.2** That the Parish Council start the negotiation of the leases for Town Gardens and Queens Park and makes a decision on the next assets to be leased.