



Lighthouse Hill Car Park & Amenity Space

Potential Adoption by Portreath Parish Council

Project Update

1.0 Update

The Parish Council received the following email from the Cornwall Council Officer we have been working with since the inception of the project (please note that I have redacted personal information from the email).

Dear

At our last meeting I was charged with reporting back to you on the governance of the disposal and to that end conversations have been had with the Service Director and Portfolio holder about your proposal. As there is no public service being devolved to the parish in this case (such as public toilets or a library) it would therefore be considered to be a transfer at undervalue. As you can imagine there is less enthusiasm for such transactions where the Council is effectively foregoing a capital receipt to release an asset especially bearing in mind the revenue and capital pressures on this Council

We do consider the property has commercial value and would sell reasonably well at auction and I regret to say our instructions are therefore to proceed to offer it for sale by auction. The PC is obviously very welcome to bid for the land when it is listed and I hope you will consider doing so.

Kind regards

This email is at odds with all previous conversations which is naturally both disappointing and frustrating given the time, cost, energy and engagement with parishioners that has taken place on this project to date.

2.0 Next Steps and Recommendations

CC Dave Crabtree is picking this up in the first instance to see if the position can revert to how it has been since the start of this project.

As there has not as yet been any further clarification or communication, a decision was made to cancel the workshop due to take place on the 28th January. The workshop was planned to determine the enthusiasm and commitment of parishioners to establish a 'friends' group to take the site and its ongoing management forward.

If the position of Cornwall Council reverts to its previous position, it is proposed to re-organise the workshop and bring the business case with the output from the workshop to a future meeting of the Parish Council for a formal decision to proceed with the acquisition, or not.

If the position remains as stated in the email, it is proposed that the project is stopped for the following reasons:

- parishioners at all stages of consultation have caveated that the Parish Council should take on the site if there is no cost of transfer. This is I believe fully in line with the views of parish councillors;
- on a practical basis the Parish Council does not have the budget to bid for the site on a commercial basis. There is concern enough amongst councillors at the potential risks and costs should the site transfer to the council.

The Parish Council is asked to endorse the position outlined above and to receive an update at the next meeting.

Simon Goodwin

Chairman

Portreath Parish Council