

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Culture and Tourism
2.	Date:	12th March, 2013
3.	Title:	Receipt of two e-petitions in relation to Herringthorpe Playing Field.
4.	Programme Area:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

This report presents a summary of two e-petitions, hosted by the Council's Democratic Services Team, that raise issues in respect of the Council's proposal to lease land at Herringthorpe Playing Fields to Rotherham Rugby Club Limited.

6. Recommendations

1. That the Cabinet Member notes the petitions and that the issues raised in both are included in a report that will be taken to Cabinet in the near future to feedback comments received as part of the process of advertising the land for lease.
2. That it be noted that the petitions were reported to the Council meeting held on 6th March, 2013.

7. Proposals and Details

This report presents a summary of two e-petitions, hosted by the Council's Democratic Services Team, which raise issues in respect of the Council's proposal to lease land at Herringthorpe Playing Fields to Rotherham Rugby Club Limited.

The first e-petition states:

'We the undersigned petition the council to refuse to lease and/or dispose of land on Herringthorpe Playing Fields to Rotherham Rugby Club Ltd Herringthorpe Playing Fields were opened by the Right Honourable George Lansbury M.P, where in declaring the fields open for ever, he paid tribute to the Council for bringing to the services of the community all the amenities that a community needs.....'

The fields were devoted to the service of all, and he had great pleasure in declaring them open for ever."

This e-petition ran from 13/11/2012 to 31/01/2013 and contains the names of 28 people

The second e-petition states:

'We the undersigned urge the council to approve the proposed lease with Rotherham Rugby Club Ltd to provide decent facilities to be developed for amateur rugby. Rotherham Rugby Club Ltd want to provide decent facilities at no cost to the council. Please support us and help the club develop facilities that the entire town can be proud of.'

This e-petition ran from 07/12/2012 to 31/01/2013 and contains the names of 187 people.

It is proposed that the issues raised in both petitions are included in a report that will be taken to Cabinet in the near future to feedback comments received as part of the process of advertising the land for lease.

8. Finance

N/A

9. Risks and Uncertainties

N/A

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Both petitions relate to the Cabinet decision for officers to enter into discussions with Rotherham Rugby Club Ltd in respect of a lease agreement for a section of land at Herringthorpe Playing Fields.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Report to Cabinet, 23rd March 2011, Rotherham Rugby Club Ltd.

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