MEETING REPORT

Meeting: Policy & Resources, 19th February 2024

Agenda item: PR23/062

Report subject: Erme Playing Fields – Upfront costs

Report author: K Elliott-Turner, Town Clerk

Background

Minute PR20/045 (December 2020) refers to the Erme Playing Field, clubhouse, etc project.

This council's involvement in any such project was withdrawn in 2023, following legal and financial advice, relating to VAT implications for the council.

The committee minutes PR20/045 stated:

'Support the allocation of up to £10,000 upfront fees for the project, which will be reimbursed in due course from section 106 money'

To date, a total of £4,196 has been spent on professional fees relating to this project.

A response is awaited from the S106 Officer as to whether council may still be able to claim back money spent.

Current situation

An enquiry has been made by the Football Club as to whether there are still funds available for them to spend to pursue the project themselves.

The proposal for this meeting will depend on the response from the Section 106 Officer, which will be advised at the meeting:

- to consider whether we wish to continue to assist the Football Club with funding, as per minute PR20/045, or that we can no longer assist due to our withdrawal from the project
- ii) (if unable to claim back already spent from S106 money) to confirm that this council will meet the £4,196 already spent
- iii) (if able to claim back) to confirm that this council will claim back the £4,196 already spent (and subject to i) above, will claim back any additional funding offered to the Football Club