

**WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**EXECUTIVE (ACTING AS TRUSTEES OF JOSEPH EWART BEQUEST)**

**1 MARCH 2016**

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**Title:**

**PARKING IMPROVEMENTS AT COLLEGE GARDENS, FARNHAM**

**[Portfolio Holder: Councillor Carole King]**

**[Wards Affected: Farnham Castle]**

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**Summary and purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Joseph Ewart Bequest Trust to improve the parking provision for the tenants of College Gardens, Farnham.

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**Financial Implications**

At the end of the 2014-15 financial year, the Bequest held unrestricted funds of £1.1m. Sufficient funds should always be held in reserve to cover capital expenditure, the costs of any required major repairs or major items of unforeseen expenditure.

**Legal Implications**

Trust funds must be spent within the boundary of the Trust and for the benefit of the Trust's tenants. The Council shall seek the Charity Commission's approval for expenditure of the funds where necessary. The Trustees should therefore seek independent legal advice that the proposed expenditure is within the boundary of the Trust.

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**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Waverley Borough Council is the sole trustee of the Joseph Ewart Bequest, a registered charity with the objective of providing small bungalow cottages suitable as homes for the elderly people with limited financial resources who have lived in the former Farnham Urban District area for at least five years. The charity owns 19 properties for elderly people in Farnham, including 16 bungalows at College Gardens and three bungalows at Arthur Road, Farnham
- 1.2 The unrestricted funds which are available to the trustees for the general purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document, with approval from the Charities Commission, are currently in excess of £1m.

**2. Proposal to improve parking facilities for tenants at College Gardens**

- 2.1 It is proposed that 18 parking spaces are constructed on the scheme using the funds from the Bequest.

- 2.2 The proposal has been developed through extensive consultation with the tenants, and local ward members.
- 2.3 The Portfolio Holder and the Head of Housing Operations have been involved in the consultation process.
- 2.4 The estimated cost of providing the parking spaces is £85,000. The project will include the removal of trees and the renewal of the drainage in the proposed area for the spaces. Planning permission will be required for the project and further consultation will be undertaken with tenants on the management of the spaces.

### **3. Charity Commission Requirements**

- 3.1 Waverley Borough Council is the sole Trustee of the Joseph Ewart Bequest which is a registered charity: 237580. Charity Commission's approval is not required for improvements to the parking provision at College Gardens.

### **4. Conclusion**

- 4.1 The provision of additional parking spaces for the tenants (only) at College Gardens will contribute to improving their quality of life.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Executive acting as Trustees of the Joseph Ewart Bequest

1. give approval to progressing the car parking improvements at College Gardens including the procurement and the management of the works within a budget of £85,000; and
2. delegate authority to officers to seek planning permission for the proposed projects if and when required.

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### **Background Papers**

There are no background papers (as defined by Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) relating to this report.

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### **CONTACT OFFICER:**

**Name:** Jane Abraham

**Telephone:** 01483 523096

**E-mail:** [jane.abraham@waverley.gov.uk](mailto:jane.abraham@waverley.gov.uk)