

Report No.1

Report to Meeting of Malmesbury Town Council 21st April 2015

Flying Monk Playing Field

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. To inform the Town Council of proposals to install a larger capacity sewer across the Flying Monk Playing Field to serve the new development of 180 homes at Filands and to consider a request from the Malmesbury Victoria Football Club to liaise with the developer so as to ensure that the club is not disadvantaged.

2. Background

- 2.1. An existing sewer pipe currently runs across the playing field but does not have sufficient capacity to deal with the waste from the proposed new housing development.
- 2.2. Wessex Water proposes to abandon the old sewer and install a new one of sufficient capacity across the north east section of the playing field.
- 2.3. At the time of writing this report no approach has been made to the Town Council directly, either by the developer or Wessex Water but plans obtained by the Football Club are attached to this report and there has been a suggestion that work will commence in May 2015.

3. Proposals

- 3.1. The installation of a new sewer will cause considerable disruption to the operation of Malmesbury Victoria Football Club.
- 3.2 The developer will be required to install a temporary compound on the site to facilitate work to the sewer but the most significant impact will be the damage and disruption to the pitch caused by the work and site traffic.
- 3.3 The football pitch will require specialist treatment as part of the reinstatement process and cannot be treated as an ordinary public open space.
- 3.4 The Football Club are seeking to appoint a specialist company to draw up a detailed specification of how the work should proceed to avoid the risk of being left with an unplayable surface or settlement in a couple of years' time.
- 3.5 The Football Club are seeking support from the Town Council for them to negotiate with the developer to ensure that the club are not disadvantaged in terms of the reinstatement of the playing pitch and their financial losses incurred whilst the work is in progress.
- 3.6 The financial losses may involve the necessity to secure alternative training space, additional watering costs of the new seed and loss of club income as events will be taking place at alternative venues.

4. Financial implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications falling upon the Town Council

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 Members are requested to note the proposal and agree to support the request from the Malmesbury Victoria Football Club that they be allowed to negotiate an appropriate settlement with the developer.