



# HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

## **Nicols Field**

### **BACKGROUND**

This piece of land is in Beacon Hill and the access is just off the A287 (location plan on page 2). It is owned by the Douglas and Phylis Nicol Foundation Trust and is subject to planning permission as set out below.

**31 March 2022** - Planning & highways committee offers no objection to application WA/2022/00829 (change of use to community recreation and sport including parking and associated works) – application withdrawn

**4 January 2024** - Planning & highways committee offers no objection to application WA/2023/02761 (Change of use of the field to community recreation space allotments open space and a community orchard and new vehicular access and car park). Letter to WBC confirming it supports the implementation of allotments on the site but wants condition that issues raised by Surrey Highways are met. There was an action for the clerk to contact the managing agents and inform them the Council would be interested in managing the allotments.

**15 January 2024** – email to managing agents confirming that there is interest in managing the allotments.

**9 July 2025** – application before the Waverley Planning Committee as WBC received 31 local objections. Despite the objections the application was granted.

**17 July 2025** - the planning officer at WBC contacted Cllr Davidson by email, contents below;

*“Dear Cllr. Davidson,*

*Thank you for our brief discussion on the above application after the committee meeting last Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July. We are progressing the s106 agreement with the HoTs as set out in the report which is attached for ease.*

*In our discussion you indicated Haslemere Town Council (HTC) could take on the management of the site, funded by income from the allotments. I should clarify that the allocation of the allotments would be a matter for HTC and HTC may be required to be a party to the s106 agreement for this purpose, subject to WBC legal advice.*

***I have copied Cllr. Carter from HTC and seek confirmation that HTC is amenable to manage the site in perpetuity.? I am also copying Cllr. Julian Spence for information.***

*I would appreciate a response at your earliest opportunity to progress matters on the legal agreement.”*

The same day the clerk called the planning officer to advise that no response has been received from the applicant indicating whether they want the Council involved, or not.

Unless a positive indication is given and the applicant confirms whether or not it wants the Council involved, and any financial implications are agreed, the Council cannot enter into a dialogue with WBC about becoming a party to the s106 agreement.

It would be appropriate at this stage for the committee to confirm that it would like to enter into such dialogue with the applicant



**RECOMMENDATION:** The clerk write to the applicant's agent expressing its interest in managing and/or maintaining the allotments.