

Social Value Report on Community Asset Transfer

Overview

Clutton Parish Council aims to enhance community engagement and improve local amenities by taking ownership of Burchill Close Play Area and the Village Green. The transfer will allow the Parish Council to maintain and develop these areas to better serve the residents of Clutton.

Social Value Calculation

The social value of this community asset transfer can be calculated by considering the following factors:

1. Community Engagement and Well-being

- **Village Green:** The Village Green is a central hub for community activities such as carol singing, the annual plant sale, and the display of the village Christmas tree. By taking ownership, the Parish Council can ensure regular maintenance and enhance its aesthetic appeal with flower planters maintained by the Clutton Horticultural Society.
- **Burchill Close Play Area:** The play area, initially created as a mitigation measure for housing development, has seen its equipment removed due to safety concerns. The Parish Council plans to consult with residents to install new play equipment, ensuring the area remains a valuable recreational space for children.

2. Maintenance and Upkeep

- The Parish Council intends to include the Village Green in the village maintenance program, ensuring the grass is cut every two weeks during the summer, aligning with other village areas.
- For Burchill Close Play Area, the Parish Council will seek funding through grants or loans to install new play equipment and maintain the area.

3. Governance and Community Support

- The Parish Council operates under the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, ensuring transparent and accountable governance.
- Community consultation will be conducted to gather resident support and input on the future of the play area.

Social Value Metrics

The social value can be quantified using the following metrics:

- **Increased Community Participation:** Number of community events held at the Village Green and the number of participants.

- **Enhanced Recreational Facilities:** Number of children using the new play equipment at Burchill Close Play Area.
- **Improved Aesthetic and Environmental Quality:** Frequency of maintenance activities and community feedback on the appearance of the Village Green.
- **Community Satisfaction:** Results from resident consultations and surveys regarding the improvements and maintenance of the transferred assets.

Additional Social Value Generated

1. Community Engagement and Participation

- **Events and Activities:** The Village Green will host events such as the annual carol service and the Horticultural Society's plant sale, which are freely accessible to all residents. These events foster community spirit and provide opportunities for social interaction.
- **Public Amenities:** The installation and maintenance of benches and planters by the Parish Council will enhance the aesthetic appeal and usability of the space, encouraging more residents to spend time outdoors.

2. Health and Well-being

- **Outdoor Seating:** The benches provide a place for residents to rest and enjoy the outdoors, promoting physical activity and mental well-being.
- **Green Space Maintenance:** Regular maintenance by the Village Operative ensures a clean and safe environment, contributing to the overall health of the community.
- **New Play Equipment:** increased use by children and parents will improve physical activity levels with additional mental health benefits.

3. Environmental Benefits

- **Sustainable Practices:** The use of reputable contractors and the requirement for three quotations for any work ensures that the project adheres to sustainable and cost-effective practices.
- **Biodiversity:** The maintenance of planters and green spaces supports local biodiversity and contributes to the ecological health of the area.

4. Economic Impact

- **Local Employment:** The project provides employment opportunities for local contractors and the Village Operative, supporting the local economy.

- **Cost Savings:** By transferring the maintenance responsibility from BANES to the Parish Council, the project potentially reduces costs for the council.

Calculation of Social Value

The social value of the community asset transfer should be calculated using a combination of qualitative and quantitative measures:

1. Qualitative Measures

- **Community Feedback:** Regular feedback from residents during Parish Council meetings and through other communication channels helps gauge the community's satisfaction and the perceived benefits of the project.
- **Event Participation:** The number of participants in events such as the carol service and plant sale provide an indication of community engagement, and the social value generated.

2. Quantitative Measures

- **Health Metrics:** Surveys and health data can be used to measure improvements in physical and mental well-being among residents who use the green space.
- **Environmental Impact:** Metrics such as the number of plants maintained, and the biodiversity index can quantify the environmental benefits.
- **Economic Analysis:** The cost savings for BANES and the economic impact of local employment can be calculated to provide a monetary value of the social benefits.

Conclusion

These community asset transfers are expected to boost social value by enhancing engagement, health, sustainability, and economic benefits. The social value will be calculated based on increased participation, better recreational facilities, improved aesthetics, and overall satisfaction. This calculation includes both qualitative and quantitative measures for a thorough assessment.