

To receive a report on the purchase of land at Pillmere and consider any actions and associated expenditure

Report to:

Services

Date of Report:

2 April 2026

Officer Writing the Report:

Town Clerk / RFO

Purpose of the report:

The Town Clerk to provide updated through to completion a the request of the Services Committee.

Pursuant Minute:

Services held on 12.2.26 minute nr. 110/25/26

Officer's Recommendations

Members are asked to note the update and consider whether it is appropriate for the Town Council to carry out minimal maintenance works on both sites, in order to improve their appearance for neighbouring properties, given the prolonged timescale of the land transfer.

Any such works would be subject to the transferor granting access to the site(s).

Members should note that this will result in a cost to the Town Council, comprising staff time and green waste disposal.

Report Summary

The Town Council's decision not to proceed with the acquisition of the additional parcels of land offered by the transferor has resulted in further delays to the land transfer process.

As the Town Council is no longer acquiring the entire title, the transferor is required to obtain a revised transfer plan.

This has now been arranged and is expected to be issued to Coodes Solicitors shortly. The transferor is currently liaising with their technical team and will update Coodes once this work is complete.

The Chancel Indemnity Insurance would be obtained on completion of the Transfer.

If the trees are within the red edging of the land being transferred, they will be the Town Council's responsibility. However, Coodes are still at present awaiting the transferor comments along with a revised Plan.

In the meantime, both sites have become increasingly untidy, particularly as the growing season approaches. The transferor has advised that they are not prepared to carry out any clearance or maintenance works until the land transfer has been completed.

Signature of Officer:

Town Clerk / RFO