

Cobtree Manor Estate Committee

23rd September
2015

Is the final decision on the recommendations in this report to be made at this meeting?

Yes

Cobtree Estate Progress Report

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Final Decision-Maker | Cobtree Manor Estate Committee |
| Lead Director or Head of Service | Head of Commercial and Economic Development |
| Lead Officer and Report Author | Cobtree Officer |
| Classification | Non-exempt |
| Wards affected | Boxley |

This report makes the following recommendations to the final decision-maker:

1. To note the contents of the report attached at **Appendix A**.

This report relates to the following corporate priorities:

Keeping Maidstone an attractive place for all: Ensuring that there are good leisure and cultural facilities

Timetable

| <i>Meeting</i> | <i>Date</i> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Cobtree Manor Estate Committee | 23 rd September 2015 |

Cobtree Estate Progress Report

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The information in the report is intended to give the Committee an understanding of the day to day work of the estate and the issues that affect its management. It also provides a record of all that is achieved across the different parts of the estate.
 - 1.2 The work of the estate for the winter, spring and summer period is set out in Appendix I.
-

2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Cobtree Manor Estate covers a large area of land left in Trust to the people of Maidstone. The Cobtree Trust hold the freehold to the estate whilst the Cobtree Manor Estate Trust (CMET) have a 999 year lease. The land is administered on behalf of CMET by Maidstone Borough Council.

Governing Object

The governing object of the Charity remains that defined in the lease of the Cobtree Estate dated 13 July 1971 between the Cobtree Charity Trust Limited (the lessor) and the Maidstone Borough Council (the lessee). The governing object is stated as:

“To hold Cobtree Manor and Cobtree Manor Estate for the benefit of the inhabitants of Maidstone and other members of the general public in one or other or all of the following ways:

- i) By maintaining the Cobtree Manor Estate as an open space as defined by the Open Spaces Act 1906 and if the lessees think fit providing thereat facilities for organised games and other sports”.
 - ii) With the consent of ...[the Cobtree Charity Trust Limited and the Kent County Council]... in such other way for the benefit of the inhabitants of Maidstone and other members of the general public as the Council shall from time to time think appropriate.”
- 2.2 No actions are recommended to the committee other than noting the report, it is for information only.
-

3. PREFERRED OPTION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the information in the appendix to the report is noted, in order to ensure an accurate record of work across the estate is maintained.
-

4. CONSULTATION RESULTS AND PREVIOUS COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

- 4.1 The Committee has previously resolved to receive regular updates on the ongoing work across the estate.
-

5. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND IMPLICATIONS

| Issue | Implications | Sign-off |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Impact on Corporate Priorities and Charity Objects | No implications | Head of Commercial and Economic Development |
| Risk Management | No implications | N/a |
| Financial | No additional implications – normal ongoing works | Cobtree Accountant |
| Staffing | No implications | N/a |
| Legal | No additional implications – normal ongoing works | Legal team |
| Equality Impact Needs Assessment | No implications | N/a |
| Environmental/Sustainable Development | No implications | N/a |
| Community Safety | No implications | N/a |
| Human Rights Act | No implications | N/a |
| Procurement | No implications | N/a |
| Asset Management | No implications - normal ongoing works | Parks and Leisure Manager |

6. REPORT APPENDICES

- Appendix I: Cobtree Estate Progress Report September 2015
-

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are none.