

1. REPORT SUMMARY

To seek Full Council's support, in principle, for the development of an extension to Old Sarum & Longhedge Community Centre to facilitate an expansion of nursery provision within the parish.

2. BACKGROUND

The Parish Council owns Old Sarum & Longhedge Community Centre, which is leased on full repairing terms to the charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) Old Sarum Community Centre. The current lease expires on 30 April 2035.

One of the Centre's long-term hirers is Old Sarum Nursery, a non-profit charitable organisation providing early years childcare from the building.

Parish Council Officers have held preliminary discussions with representatives of the nursery and Wiltshire Council regarding opportunities to increase the availability of nursery places within the parish through the extension of the existing community centre building. From a commercial standpoint, the desired outcome is to secure the nursery's hiring of space within OSCC for the longer term.

3. SUMMARY

Wiltshire Council currently holds developer contributions totalling £72,649 arising from the Westside Close development (Planning Application PL/2021/09567). These monies were secured specifically for early years provision.

Officers have held discussions with Wiltshire Council's Commissioning Officer, School-aged Childcare Lead, regarding the potential use of these funds to support an extension project at Old Sarum & Longhedge Community Centre.

Whilst a formal business case and expression of interest will be required, officers have been advised that there have currently been no competing demands upon these funds and that a proposal from the Parish Council and its partners would be welcomed for consideration

4. RECOMMENDATION

That Full Council:

- a. Supports, in principle, the exploration of proposals to extend Old Sarum & Longhedge Community Centre.
- b. Notes that any detailed scheme, funding commitments, lease variations or legal agreements will be subject to a future decision of Full Council.