

# NON KEY DECISION: REPORT TO CABINET PORTFOLIO MEMBER

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY: Councillor Nick Robins: Cabinet member for Retail and Visitor economy

REPORT AUTHOR: Paul Stokes – Corporate Operations Lead

REPORT NO. FM0010

DATE: 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019

<b>SUBJECT OF NON KEY DECISION:</b>	<b>Grantham, Wyndham Park. Application for Centenary Fields status</b>
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<b>PRIORITY THEME:</b>	Cultural Services	
<b>CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS:</b>	None	
<b>FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT IMPLICATIONS:</b>	This report is publicly available via the Your Council and Democracy link on the Council's website: <a href="http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk">www.southkesteven.gov.uk</a>	
<b>INITIAL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>Carried out and appended to report?</b>  N/A	<b>Full impact assessment required?</b>  N/A
<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS:</b>	N/A	

**(1) PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To obtain consent to complete registration of Wyndham Park as a Centenary Field – under the national Fields in Trust scheme.

**(2) RECOMMENDATION(S)**

It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Retail and Visitor Economy approves the registration of Wyndham Park as a Centenary Field and authorises the completion of the Deed of Dedication.

### **(3) REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### Background

The Centenary Fields programme was launched in 2014 by Fields in Trust President HRH The Duke of Cambridge.

The Centenary Fields programme aims to protect at least one green space in every local authority area across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland to commemorate the centenary of World War I (WWI). Protected sites could be war memorial parks or recreation grounds, memorial gardens, parks and recreation grounds that contain war memorials or other valued green spaces. Safeguarding these sites will create a living UK-wide legacy in commemoration of the sacrifice made by those who lost their lives in WWI.

Landowners across the UK are being encouraged to dedicate a recreational space as a Centenary Field. Suitable spaces include war memorial playing fields and recreation grounds, memorial gardens, parks or recreation grounds that contain a war memorial and other valued green spaces that have some significance to WWI, either existing or planned.

Wyndham Park with its unique heritage features including Post WW1 memorial buildings became the Town War Memorial ground during 1924.

With the capital works element of our Heritage Lottery Funded improvement project delivered during 2018, registration of the site as a Centenary Field is a natural progression, endorsed by the Wyndham Park Forum.

By dedicating land through the Centenary Fields programme we can ensure that Wyndham Park is protected as a living remembrance to those who fought and lost their lives in World War I.

#### Benefits

Dedicating a Centenary Field is a fitting way for landowners to mark the centenary of WWI by commemorating the sacrifice of those who lost their lives in the conflict and ensuring that their communities benefit now and in the future from protected green spaces.

On completion of the registration we will receive a commemorative plaque to display at Wyndham Park.

#### Costs

The costs are as follows:

- As the bulk of the legal costs are covered by Fields in Trust the cost of installing the commemorative plaque – which will be provided free of charge.
- The cost of registering the resulting restrictions with the Land Registry - currently £80 for up to three titles.

### Risks, restrictions and safeguards

Fields in Trust acknowledge that on rare occasions communities change and land use changes accordingly. Parts of sites, or very rarely, whole sites can therefore be disposed of provided the disposal is of clear advantage to, and in the best interests of, the community from a recreational perspective. The criteria which Fields in Trust applies to replacement facilities are that they should be of:

- at least equal size
- better quality
- serving the same community in terms of catchment area

Additionally, and very importantly, any disposal should apply as much of the proceeds as necessary to replacement sport, recreation and/or play facilities, with priority given to outdoor before indoor facilities.

### Process

Application for Centenary Fields status was made during 2015 and a draft Deed of Dedication has been prepared in anticipation of consent to proceed with registration.

### Other points to note

Fields in Trust and the Green Flag award scheme work together to safeguard green spaces and ensure that they are fit for purpose.

Membership of Fields in Trust at £95.00 per annum is optional.

Wyndham Park is situated within the Grantham St Anne's conservation area. Application for protection under the scheme was proposed by the Wyndham Park Forum during 2015.

## **(4) COMMENTS OF FINANCIAL SERVICES**

Costs will need to be met from existing revenue budgets.

## **(5) COMMENTS OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

To dedicate land requires the completion of the Deed of Dedication referred to in this report. The conditions imposed by the Deed of Dedication are set out at clause 3 of the Deed. The conditions restrict future use. The Council must ensure that all its activities to be carried out in the future will comply with these conditions. The consent of the National Playing Fields Association will be required for any disposal of any of the land dedicated in this way. Once completed, the Deed of Dedication would be registered at HM Land Registry with a restriction as set out in the Deed of Dedication.

**(6) OFFICER CONTACT**

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**(7) DATE DECISION EFFECTIVE:**

**If decision taken on Monday 14 January the date that the decision will be effective will be Wednesday 23 January 2019 subject to no call-in being received.**