

COMMITTEE:	Cabinet
DATE:	13th March 2003
SUBJECT:	Transfer of land from Bishop Bell Church of England School to Eastbourne Borough Council
REPORT OF:	Director of Tourism and Leisure
Ward(s):	St. Anthony's
Purpose:	To authorise the transfer of land, by licence, from East Sussex County Council to Eastbourne Borough Council to enable a new fence to be erected between The Bishop Bell Church of England School and Priory Road Allotments.
Contact:	Gareth Williams, Parks and Gardens Manager, Tel: 01323 415281 or internally an extension 5281.
Recommendations:	That authority is granted for an area of land to be transferred from East Sussex County Council to Eastbourne Borough Council subject to a licence being agreed between the parties involved.

1.0	<u>Introduction</u>
1.1	The existing fence is in poor condition and is in need of replacement.
1.2	As the boundary to the site has well established maintained allotment plots, sheds and also vegetation growing against the existing fence, it is not practical to replace the fence from the allotments side.

1.3	The most effective and economic method of creating a fenced boundary is to erect a new fenceline 150 mm inside the school boundary for the entire length of the adjoining boundary (see attached plan).
2.0	<u>Background</u>
2.1	The Priory Road allotment site is managed by the Eastbourne Gardens and Allotments Society (EAGS) as agents on behalf of Eastbourne Borough Council and they wish to strengthen the boundary to reduce the risk of trespass from the school.
2.2	The Business Manager of The Bishop Bell Church of England School has expressed the need for the fencing works to be programmed during school holidays so there is minimum disruption to the school. The earliest time the work could be programmed for will be in the Easter holidays.
3.0	<u>Consultations</u>
3.1	The parties involved are Eastbourne Borough Council, East Sussex County Council, The Bishop Bell Church of England School and the Eastbourne Allotments and Gardens Society (EAGS). All have agreed the proposal in principle subject to Cabinet approval, planning permission and a licence being agreed.
3.2	The new fence would provide benefits to The Bishop Bell Church of England School and the EAGS managed Priory Road Allotments by providing a secure boundary between the two areas of land.
3.3	The erection of the new fence will be arranged through the EAGS.
3.4	A licence will need to be prepared between the East Sussex County Council and Eastbourne Borough Council with the Trustees probably included as agents acting on behalf of the Council.
4.0	<u>Financial Implications</u>

4.1	The replacement fence will be joint funded between the Eastbourne Allotments and Gardens Society and The Bishop Bell Church of England School.
4.2	As Eastbourne Borough Council retains ownership of the allotments, although they are managed by the EAGS Trustees, it will be beneficial for a new fence to be erected that has external funding.
5.0	<u>Human Resource Implications</u>
5.1	The ongoing management of the allotment sites is arranged through the EAGS so there will be no additional resources required.
6.0	<u>Youth Implications</u>
6.1	The new fence will make it less possible to trespass from the school site and safer for the pupils.
7.0	<u>Conclusion</u>
7.1	That authority is granted to enter into a licence agreement to transfer the periphery of the school playing fields to enable a robust fenced boundary to be erected.
Gareth Williams Parks and Gardens Manager	
Background Papers: The Background Papers used in compiling this report are as follows: (1) Correspondence between Eastbourne Borough Council, East Sussex County Council, Trustees of Eastbourne Allotments and Gardens Society and The Bishop Bell Church of England School To inspect or obtain copies of background papers please refer to the contact officer listed above.	