

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Charity Trustee Committee

Date of meeting: 27 March 2025

Title: Update on the former Tregaron County School – sub-group

Purpose of the report: To receive an update on the former Tregaron County School - subgroup and decide on next steps

For: Decision

BACKGROUND

The former Tregaron School was held in trust as a County School (under the wider Cardiganshire Intermediate and Technical Education Fund) and subsequently the purpose was amended by a Charity Commission Scheme in 2019 so that a sale could be achieved and a new purpose given for the trust being '***the advancement of education for pre-school and school-age children in Tregaron***'.

During its meeting held on 8 July 2021, Members of the Charity Trustee Committee resolved to accept the offer to sell the former Tregaron School and to create a sub-group with delegation, post-sale of the property, to consider recommendations in relation to how any capital and income held by the charity should be utilised to fulfil the charity's objects, and that any recommendations of the sub-group shall be reported to a CTC meeting for final consideration and decision.

During a meeting of the sub-group held on 10 March 2025, members noted that the condition of the Ysgol Henry Richard playing fields had deteriorated significantly as a result of increase community use, which had led to a number of recent cancellations. As such, it was noted that the preferred option of the sub-group would be to earmark the funding towards the development of an astro-turf pitch which would be suitable for competitive football up to 16 years of age, hockey and training for all sports. It was noted that whilst 3G or 4G would facilitate competitive football and rugby at senior level, this would not be suitable for hockey.

It was noted that the cost of establishing an astro-turf pitch would be circa £750K - £800k, which would require resurfacing in around 7 – 10 years at a cost of £7k - £8k. Members asked whether Ceredigion County Council officers could support the local community in submitting applications for grant and match-funding, and it was noted that subject to approval by the Charity Trustee Committee, a working group involving local sports clubs in Tregaron would be established to move the project forward.

It was unanimously agreed by members of the sub-group to recommend to the Charity Trustee Committee that the trust fund held here of just under £180,000 is

earmarked towards the development of an astroturf pitch on the site of the Ysgol Henry Richard playing fields.

Following the meeting, Officers contacted the Corporate Manager for the Wellbeing Centres in Ceredigion, and they have agreed to help and advise the school in their aspirations.

Recommendation(s):

- a) **That the Charity Trustee Committee resolved to approve: That the trust monies held would be earmarked in principle towards the development of an astroturf pitch on the site of the Ysgol Henry Richard playing fields in Tregaron;**
- b) **That updates are provided to the Charity Trustee Committee / or that progress is reviewed by the Charity Trustee Committee in 12 months if no updates are forthcoming during that time.**

Reasons for decision: To further the object of the charitable trust

Appendices:

Head of Service: Elin Prysor - CLO Legal & Governance Services

Reporting Officer: Louise Harries – Senior Lawyer – Non-contentious (Property)

Date: 10/03/2025