

Subject:	Designate St Aubyns Playing Field, Rottingdean as Local Green Space – Petition for Debate		
Date of Meeting:	24 March 2016		
Report of:	Executive Lead for Strategy, Governance & Law (Monitoring Officer)		
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Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 Under the Council's Petition Scheme if a petition contains more than 1,250 signatures and is not a petition requesting officer evidence, it will be debated by the Full Council.
- 1.2 An e-petition has resulted in triggering a debate at the council meeting, having exceeded the threshold with a total of 1764 signatures confirmed at the time of printing the report.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the petition is noted and referred to the Economic Development & Culture Committee for consideration at its meeting on 22 September 2016.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION / CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:**3.1 The Petition**

Designate St Aubyns Playing Field, Rottingdean as Local Green Space

"We the undersigned petition Brighton & Hove Council to (a) resolve to use all reasonable endeavours to achieve the designation (or equivalent status protection) of St Aubyns Playing Field, Rottingdean as a Local Green Space at the earliest opportunity; and (b) advise SAFE (Rottingdean) whether its policies and procedures permit one of its unelected officers to procure or initiate a significant amendment to a Full City Council resolution and, if not, whether these policies and procedures were adhered to in the case of the SAFE (Rottingdean) petition to have the field designated as a Local Green Space which was passed to the Economic Development and Cultural Committee meeting on 17 September 2015."

Lead Petitioner – Lynne Moss

3.2 The options open to the council are:

- To note the petition and take no action for reasons put forward in the debate; or
- To refer the petition to the relevant Committee meeting; or
- To refer the petition to the relevant Committee meeting with recommendations.

4. PROCEDURE:

4.1 The petition will be debated at the Council meeting in accordance with the agreed protocol:

- (i) The Lead petitioner will be invited by the Mayor to present the petition and will have up to 3 minutes in which to outline the prayer of the petition and confirm the number of signatures;
- (ii) The Mayor will then open the matter up for debate by councillors for period of 15 minutes and will first call on the relevant Committee Chair to respond to the petition and move a proposed response. The Mayor will then call on those councillors who have indicated a desire to speak in the matter, before calling on the relevant Committee Chair to respond to the debate;
- (iii) Any councillor may move an amendment or recommendation, having regard to the recommendation in 2.1 above and any such proposal will need to be formally seconded;
- (iv) After the 15 minutes set aside for the debate, the Mayor will then formally put:
 - (a) Any amendments in the order in which they are moved, and
 - (b) The substantive recommendation(s) as amended (if amended).