

Committee: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 13 September 2017

Subject:	E-Petition in respect of keeping the tennis courts at Molesey Hurst Recreation Ground free of charge to use
Lead Officer:	Ian Burrows, Head of Leisure and Cultural Services
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Mrs. J.R. Turner, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture
Link to Council Priorities:	All
Exempt information:	None
Delegated status:	For resolution
Key Decision:	No

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

To consider an E-petition in respect of keeping the tennis courts at Molesey Hurst Recreation Ground free of charge to use.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Cabinet is recommended to consider the E-petition.

REPORT:

1. In accordance with the provisions within the Council's Constitution, an E-petition containing 186 online signatures has been submitted for consideration by Cabinet. The petition contains the following wording:

“We the undersigned petition Elmbridge Borough Council to: Keep the tennis courts at Molesey Hurst Recreation Ground free of charge to use.

We feel that the tennis booking system should not be implemented for the tennis courts at Molesey Hurst Recreation Ground.

These courts are regularly used, but still readily available. Fitting the gates will discourage people from playing tennis here, especially children. It's somewhere to meet up with friends and play sport, rather than be sat in front of a screen.

There are plenty of clubs in the area for those who are willing to pay at a more serious/social level. We believe that casual tennis in our parks should remain free and accessible for all.

The Council will use any income to maintain its tennis facilities. However, we feel that the Molesey Recreation Ground tennis courts are already well maintained and responsibly used. There is no history of the courts being vandalised, so there seems no need to 'protect' the facilities.

We feel that the costs involved are a misuse of Council funds for unnecessary changes which will make the facilities less accessible to local residents.”

Financial implications:

None for the purposes of this report.

Environmental/Sustainability Implications:

None for the purposes of this report.

Legal implications:

None for the purposes of this report.

Equality Implications:

None for the purposes of this report.

Risk Implications:

None for the purposes of this report.

Community Safety Implications:

None for the purposes of this report.

Principal Consultees:

None for the purposes of this report.

Background papers:

None.

Enclosures/Appendices:

None.

Contact details:

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