

**NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL
DECISION**

DECISION OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HUMAN RESOURCES
ASSET MANAGEMENT & FINANCE WITH ADVICE FROM THE
SECTION 151 OFFICER OF THE COUNCIL

**DECISION NO: CSD109**

SUBJECT: Glassworks site, High Street, Nailsea

BACKGROUND:

The Nailsea Glass Works site is located at the eastern end of Nailsea High Street with the total site of approximately, 0.5 ha (1.24 ac) being split into two ownerships. The eastern part as shown edged red the plan, which is approximately 0.22 ha (0.54 ac), is owned by North Somerset Council whilst the western part is held privately by Hobbs Properties Ltd.

The combined site is a small part of the original Nailsea Glass Works site and consists of partially buried remains of a stone glass cone footing with associated airways, storage rooms and other structures surviving mainly as below ground archaeological features. The national importance of the site is recognised by the fact that it has been scheduled as an Ancient Monument by English Heritage.

Lengthy discussions have taken place between the Council, Nailsea Town Council, English Heritage and Hobbs Properties Ltd over many years during which various Option Appraisals were produced to examine the long term future of the site.

Any form of built development on the site was effectively ruled out following updated archaeological survey work leaving the most appropriate option for the site to be based on a community orientated scheme with the archaeology buried and preserved below ground and the site to be made available as an area of public open space. Having reached this decision Nailsea Town Council has led on progressing proposals including scoping and designing a scheme and obtaining Scheduled Ancient Monument Consent. The scheme has been costed at an estimated £250,000 - £300,000 to include fees, which the Town Council would fund.

To enable the Town Council to proceed with the implementation of the scheme it is proposed that North Somerset Council's part of the site be transferred to Nailsea Town Council for a nominal sum subject to covenants restricting its future use. The Town Council with separate arrangements with Hobbs Properties Ltd regarding the western part of the site.

DECISION:

That the area of land shown edged red on the attached plan be transferred to Nailsea Town Council for £1 subject to restrictive covenants for the land to be used as a scheduled ancient monument and public open space

Reasons:

To facilitate the long term protection of the scheduled ancient monument and bring the site into beneficial public use as open space

Other Alternatives Considered:

Various options have been considered from development for commercial purposes to leaving the site as it is. The proposed option is the most beneficial both financially and for community benefit

Financial Implications:

None

Implications for Future Years:

None

Signed:
Section 151 Officer, North Somerset Council

Dated:

Signed:
Councillor Lake
Executive Member for Human Resources,
Asset Management & Finance

Dated: