



Neo Georghiou
Estates Surveyor
Rother District Council
Town Hall
Bexhill
East Sussex TN39 3JX

7th June 2019

Dear Mr Georghiou,

B032/Town Salts

The Rye Conservation Society wish to object to the proposed let by Rother of the old bowling green on the Salts on a 25 year peppercorn lease to the Rye Amenity CIC which proposes to create a wild life meadow on the Site.

Whilst the initial concept may be superficially attractive we have grave concerns as to the practicality and suitability of the proposal for the following reasons.

- 1. An area of unmown grass meadow in the middle of a flat grass playing field will look inappropriate.*
- 2. Visitors will wonder why that 'bit hasn't been cut'.*
- 3. Does the Rye Amenity CIC have the expertise and the day-to-day and long-term personal with commitment to maintain such a project.*
- 4. Neither the Town Council nor interested bodies such as the Bowls Club, have been consulted about this project which will be a prominent feature in a highly visible part of the setting of the historic core of Rye.*
- 5. Details of the proposed leasehold arrangements have not been made public together with any conditions relating to future use of the property and its up keep.*
- 6. How will there be control of weeds and seeds contaminating adjacent green open spaces.*
- 7. How will access to the area by locals and visitors be controlled/affected.*

We are concerned that this disposal albeit on a lease to a third party sets a precedent for future sale and carving up of the Salts into separately owned plots for all sorts of activities. We

believe that any change to the Salts is a matter for the whole community which in this instance has not been adequately consulted.

Finally I am having to write this in a hurry because of the very short time scale that we have been given to respond to the notice and we have had to discuss the matter at committee level before coming to these conclusions.

Yours Sincerely

David Bookless
Chairman, Rye Conservation Society