

Agenda item: 16

Committee	Assets & Services Committee
Month	September 2023
Report Title	Equipment disposal and purchase
Report Author	Terry Frostick- Operations Manager
Attachments	None



Summary

Following a review of equipment held by the ground's maintenance team and consideration of future maintenance costs (recognising some equipment is quite old), the following items have been disposed of as they are no longer needed, too old or becoming expensive to maintain.

- 2005 Ransome triple 3
- 2010 Ransome Highway
- 2008 Ransome 9 gang towed mower and old broken Billy Goat
- 2009 New Holland Tractor

Using known and trusted dealers, two commonly used and reputable dealerships were contacted and asked if they would like to purchase the equipment for the 2nd hand market. A sale has been concluded, recognising an income of £29,000 ex VAT. This income can be used to offset any new capital machinery purchase.

Given the Council's commitment to wild-flowering and leaving some areas to rewild, it is necessary to purchase a new mower as the existing mowers are not capable to cutting such long grass. The appropriate machinery for cutting long grass is a Etesia mower which cuts and collects the long grass. An Etesia Hydro Mower was purchased in accordance with the Council's financial regulations in July 2023, using money set aside in the 2023 budget for such a purchase.

Council needs to additionally purchase a new Toro mower to support the Council's vehicle replacement policy and a tender has been placed on Contract Finder, inviting companies to tender for this business. This will also be purchased in accordance with the Council's financial regulations and using monies set aside in the vehicle replacement budget.

Recommendations:

1. Council is requested to note the disposal of equipment as stated above
2. To continue supporting the Council's vehicle replacement programme which seeks to ensure Council has the most appropriate and efficient equipment and machinery to complete its works.