

Environment & Assets Committee

Title:	Iseki SXG 326+ Mower
Date:	15 July 2025
Contact Officer	Andrea Oughton, Operations Manager

Purpose of the Report

1. To agree to purchase the Iseki Cut and Collect Mower currently on lease.

Background

2. In spring 2021, the Town Council agreed to change the grass cutting regime on identified sites within the parish to cultivate greener / wildflower meadow areas. Since 2021 grass cuts on these sites have taken place twice a year in March and September.
3. For wilding areas to flourish, the arisings from both the spring and late summer cuts need to be removed from site. In 2021 the Town Council agreed to lease an Iseki SXG 326+ mower that was able to collect arisings from the site, until then the Town Council had not owned a piece of equipment capable of doing this. The lease was taken over 48 months and expires on 4 August 2025.

Quotations

4. The company that currently provides the mower on a lease arrangement have provided quotations to:
 - a) Purchase a new cut and collect mower – SXG 327R at a cost of £17,500 excl. vat
 - b) Lease the new cut and collect mower – at £446.36 per month over 48 months (including annual service)
 - c) Purchase the cut and collect mower currently being leased at £7,500 excl. vat.
5. For comparison another supplier has been approached and provided the following quotations:
 - a) Purchase a new cut and collect mower – G231 at a cost of £18,350 excl. vat
 - b) Lease a new cut and collect mower – at £275.40 per month over 48 months (excluding annual service)

Resource Appraisal

6. Given the current Iseki has performed well, is reliable and easy to use and only has 71.4 hrs on the clock, it is recommended that the Town Council purchase the current mower using funds held within Ear Marked Reserves.
7. Over the four years since leasing the mower the Operations Manager has been approached by other parish councils / biodiversity groups about hiring the mower. Due to the terms of

the lease this has not been possible. Purchasing the mower will provide an opportunity for the Town Council to lend / hire the mower to other groups provided appropriate insurance, risk assessments and other associated documentation is submitted to the Town Council by the hirer.

Risk Assessment

8. Without the necessary equipment It will not be possible to manage the identified areas to cultivate wildflower meadows.

Legal Powers

- The Local Government Act 1972, s101.

Recommendation:

- i) To approve purchasing the Iseki SXG 326+ ride on cut and collect mower when the lease expires on 4 August 2025 at a cost of £7,500.00 excluding vat to be funded from funds held within Ear Marked Reserves.*