

**WARDS AFFECTED:
BILBOROUGH**

ITEM:

**WEST AREA COMMITTEE
10 January 2007**

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

BILBOROUGH BOXING CLUB

1 SUMMARY

This report seeks approval from the West Area Committee for funding to be made available to contribute to the extension to the Bilborough Boxing Club.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the West Area Committee:

- 2.1 allocate £33,605 from the Bilborough ward allocation as a contribution towards cost of extending the building housing the Boxing Club.
- 2.2 The contribution made by this committee will act as seed corn resources towards a major funding bid to be submitted.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Bilborough Boxing Club was established in 2002 as a response to concerns around anti-social behaviour caused by young people. The Local Community Safety Officer at that time also reported crime rates and youth disorder being high in the area.
- 3.2 A local resident Mr. Wigley who was responsible for running a boxing club in Bilborough in the past, donated equipment needed to set up the new club. Finances were also secured from Capital One, this area committee, sports match and the Drugs Action Team. This money was used to convert a disused Bowls Pavilion at Bilborough Park into a gym for boxing. This building was chosen because it provided the scope for further extension in the future.
- 3.3 The club is supported by a Management Committee consisting of a local ward councillor, officers of the council and representatives from the boxing club steering group. Strict monitoring procedures are in place to cover items such as coaching qualifications; coach to young person ratios; police clearing; child protection issues; insurance; equipment maintenance and use; emergency procedures operating times and security. Thus the club is very professionally run.
- 3.4 The aim of the boxing club was to attract the types of young people that would otherwise get involved in anti-social pastimes and engage people who were not accessing Youth Services. Since its formation the boxing club has been very popular with the community and regularly has approximately 70 young people per night who attend training

sessions. Nationally the club has been recognised for its role in working with disenfranchised young people.

3.5 Over the years membership of the club has grown to 400 and the steering group feel an extension to the club is required if it is to be sustained and able to cater for the increased usage. Due to the current plans being considered for the overall development of the Harvey Hadden Campus, the steering group feel now is the ideal time to identify resources for the expansion of the club.

3.6 The Area Coordinator and the Assistant Manager of Harvey Hadden Sports Centre are working to submit a detailed funding bid to a host of organisations and a contribution from the area committee can be used as match. In order to submit an application to funding bodies a development plan and a feasibility study will be required. Hence, some of the money provided by this area committee will be used to produce the two documents mentioned.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The £33,605 contribution towards the boxing Club can be met from the Bilborough Ward's current uncommitted balance of £39,605 which forms part of the overall West Area Committee uncommitted balance of £84,989. This figure does not include the effect of any other requests for allocation elsewhere on this agenda.

5 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

Many of the young people the boxing club is working with are from deprived backgrounds and excluded from mainstream provision. The boxing club enables this group to exercise regularly, raises their self esteem and confidence.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

None

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

None

8 VALUE FOR MONEY

West Area Committee aims to make a valuable contribution to the Best Value Review process and to adhere to the Best Value principles in Projects and initiatives that it supports.

9 STRATEGIC AIMS

This report contributes towards the following strategic aims:

- Improving The Health Of Local People
- Maximising Leisure And Cultural Opportunities

10 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

None.

11 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

None.

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29thNovember 2006