

REPORT OF SERVICES DIRECTOR SPORT, LEISURE AND PARKS

PARKS DEVELOPMENT - APPLICATION FOR RELEASE OF SECTION 106 FUNDS TO MATCH FUND FOR IMPROVEMENT WORKS ON OPEN SPACE

1 SUMMARY

We are requesting the release of these monies to form part of a funding package, together with Cleaner Greener, Insurance funds and WREN bids to carry out a coordinated programme of improvements, specifically: -

- The repair and relay of footpaths on several parks.
- The pavilion improvements to Melbourne park.
- Landscape improvements to several parks.
- The installation of Recreation Zones.
- The development of children's play areas.
- The development of further strategic consultation and reviews schemes to assist in applications for future funding bids for the site.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that: -

The West Area Committee approves the release of this funding, as part of the long term strategic plans for the development of open space in the west of the city.

3 BACKGROUND

With the identification of available section 106 funding within the West Area for Open Space improvement and the presence of adequate matched funding from the Cleaner Greener Fund, the Parks and Open Space Section has formulated a strategy to improve a number of open spaces within the West Area. In line with the Breathing Spaces Strategy the intention is to raise the standard of all Nottingham's parks to Green Flag standard in readiness for future application for the award.

4 PROPOSALS

King George V will see major investment in new footpaths, landscaping improvements and the creation of a recreation zone. There will be a master plan created that is linked to Breathing Spaces Strategy for future development onsite and a management plan written in anticipation of a Green Flag Award entry in future years. Subject to a WREN bid there will also be development of a new Children's Play Ground.

At Melbourne Park a management plan will be created and major pavilion improvement undertaken on the interior of the building. There will be landscaping

improvements across the site, including improvements to the football pitches and further development of the footpath network to encourage park visitors to make use of the whole site.

Broxtowe Country Park will receive funding for a master plan that incorporates the Breathing Spaces Strategy and the Estates Transformation Programme. NECTA will receive funding for landscape improvements to begin reclamation of the open space for development in subsequent years.

Strelley Recreation Ground will receive investment through the Green Flag Budget and the Cleaner Greener fund to update the management plan and make necessary improvements for Green Flag Award entry in 2008/2009.

5 TIMESCALE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PROPOSALS

The funding of the works set out will be spent through the 2007/2008 financial year and be completed by 31st March 2008.

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is proposed that West Area Committee approve the allocation of the funds to the above spend plan for this financial year 2007/08. Other additional funding has been agreed from Cleaner Greener One Nottingham funding and Insurance funds held following the burning down of the old Bowls Pavilion on King George V Park. Additional funding will be sort through a WREN bid for Children's Play Ground improvements.

The total package of funding will be distributed as follows:-

King George V Park

£ 6,000 from Bowls Pavilion Insurance for the development of a Master Plan. Secured

£ 2,000 from Bowls Pavilion Insurance for the development of a Management Plan. Secured

£30,000 from Cleaner Greener Fund for Development of Recreation Zone. Secured

£42,000 from Section 106 for Footpaths. Requires Area Approval

£8,000 from Cleaner Greener Fund for Footpaths. Secured

£20,000 from Cleaner Greener Fund for Landscape improvements. Secured

£40,000 from WREN for Children's Play Ground Phase 1, application pending

Total: £188,000

Melbourne Park

£2,000 from Cleaner Greener Fund for development of a Management Plan. Secured

£28,000 from Section 106 for Pavilion Improvements. Requires Area Approval

£10,000 from Cleaner Greener Fund for Landscape Improvements. Secured

£30,000 from Cleaner Greener Fund for Footpaths. Secured

Total: £85,000

Broxtowe Country Park

£20,000 from Cleaner Greener Fund for development of a Master Plan. Secured

£8,723 from Section 106 for NECTA landscape improvements. Requires Area Approval

Strelley Recreation Ground
 £2,000 from Green Flag budget to fund Management Plan Update. Secured
 £15,000 from Green Flag Budget for various Green Flag improvements. Secured

There will also be investment in Kennington Road Children's Play Ground, Woodfield Road Park and Beechdale Mews Open Space over the course of the year.

7 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None

8 OBSERVATIONS OF THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

The schemes outlined above total an estimated cost of £318,000, the works for which will be carried out in 2007/8. In total, it is estimated the works will be financed as follows:

	£
Insurance	8,000
Cleaner Greener fund	90,000
S.106	78,723
WREN	40,000
Green Flag Budget	17,000
	233,723

The funding is secured except for WREN. Approval is now sought from this Committee for the use of S.106 monies. Until all funding is in place it will not be possible to complete all the works as outlined above.

The S.106 funds for which approval is now sought are as follows:-

	£
05/00283/PFUL3 Cocked Hat, Broxtowe Lane	42,250
04/02848/PFUL3 Melbourne Court	28,341
98/00321/PFUL3 Harwill Crescent	3,450
01/01947/PFUL3 Plantation Side	3,117
Various	1,565
	78,723

In 2007/8 the Council has been awarded £320,000 under the Cleaner, Greener fund. It is proposed to use £177,000 to part fund the cost of the above works. All maintenance costs will be contained within existing budgets.

9 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

Equal Opportunities procedures will be followed in relation to the tendering, management, employment practice and delivery of any contracts resulting from the above plans.

10 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Risk assessments will be completed where applicable.

11 CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS

Issues relating to community safety will be dealt with in accordance with relevant Policies and procedures

12 HEALTH INEQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

Parks and Open spaces have a demonstrable positive impact on the physical and mental well-being of the local communities.

13 LINKS WITH OTHER REGENERATION PROJECTS IN WEST AREA

There are no direct links to other re-generation projects, other than Neighbourhood Management and The Broxtowe Partnership Trust on Broxtowe Country Park and Woodfield Road.

14 STRATEGIC AIMS

Strategic Priorities addressed:

Choose Nottingham, by Strengthening the Nottingham offer and Promoting Nottingham locally.

Respect for Nottingham, by securing a safer Nottingham, Delivering a cleaner, greener Nottingham and by developing cohesive communities and a strong sense of citizenship.

Transforming Neighbourhoods, by Physical transformation of neighbourhoods and offering support to Neighbourhood Management.

Serving Nottingham better, by improving performance and customer focus.

Supporting Nottingham people, by improving services for children and young people and increasing levels of activity and improved health in Nottingham.

The proposals contained in this report will contribute to the Council's strategic aim of developing neighbourhood focus. This will be achieved through re-generating the use of a local asset for local people, supporting Health and Safety by removing defined hazard, and thereby encouraging the inclusion and participation of local community groups, organisations and businesses.

The projects are being carried out in the context of Breathing Space but in advance of the production of prioritised improvement plan for the city. However given the current high level of anti social behaviour on the sites and the need to prevent any further damage the proposals have been prioritised for investment.

15 VALUE FOR MONEY

Value for money will be sought at all times.

16 List of background papers other than published works or those disclosing confidential or exempt information

None

17 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

None

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