

**REPORT OF ACTING DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD STRATEGY AND SUPPORT**

**ASPLEY BEACON FOOTBALL CLUB**

**1 SUMMARY**

This report seeks approval from the West Area Committee for funding to be made available to support the Beacon Football Club work with young people.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

IT IS RECOMMENDED that West Area Committee agrees to a one off allocation of £3,000 from the Aspley ward uncommitted balance.

**3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Beacon Football Club was founded in 1996 when a member of the Management Committee at the Aspley Youth Centre was asked to run a football team as part of the club. Initially a number of friendly games were organised but it was clear from the onset that there was considerable interest to play competitive football amongst local young people. Two local residents agreed to volunteer their time in organising friendly games up until 1998 when the club decided to enter Aspley Boys F.C. into the City Amateur leagues.
- 3.2 In 1999 the Aspley Youth Club changed management from the City Council to the YMCA with the football club now becoming a user group and required to pay hire costs for the sports hall. The club was fortunate to have received limited financial support from Matrixgrade FC who were kind enough to provide the club with equipment and assistance with hire charges. The team adopted the new name of Matrixgrade Colts. The original Colts team developed over a period of five years to become the reserve team for Matrixgrade FC.
- 3.3 The Football Team was able to develop a strong bond between the young players and the local community and concerns arose that becoming a reserve section of a club outside of Aspley will result in the splitting up of young people that had bonded well together. The original founders then decided to keep the team together by forming their own football club thus giving rise to Beacon FC.
- 3.4 Thanks to the hard work of local residents the Beacon Football Club was able to support the participation of a senior, under 13's, under 12's, under 11's, and under 10's teams into the local amateur league. The bulk of the players making up Beacon Football Club are recruited from Aspley, Bells Lane and Broxtowe.
- 3.5 Due to the level of interest being shown by local young people to join the Beacon Football Club many new volunteers have agreed to support the club in expanding the number of teams. Currently approximately 20 local volunteers who are CRB checked help the club in a variety of roles and responsibilities. The club has ambitions to become an important part of the local community and help to reduce ASB working closely with all partners.

3.6 The club is professionally run reliant solely on the contribution made by many of the residents living in Aspley. The money requested by the club will enable them to increase the number of training sessions delivered at Bells Lane, Melbourne Park, purchase much needed equipment and support in the hiring of football pitches for home games.

#### **4 PROPOSALS**

It is proposed that members agree to the request made in section 2 of this report.

#### **5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The £3,000 contribution can be met by charging the Aspley Ward uncommitted balance. The total uncommitted balance for the West Area, not including the effect of other requests for allocation elsewhere on this agenda, stands currently as follows:-

Aspley Ward	£16,712
Bilborough Ward	£21,181
Leen Valley Ward	£23,631
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>£61,524</u></b>

#### **6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

None.

#### **7 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

The work being undertaken by the Beacon Football Club provides young people from difficult social backgrounds to participate in sports and thus increase confidence and self esteem.

#### **8 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

The Beacon Football Club is at a critical stage of its development where additional resources are required to support its expansion and ability to work with a wider group of young people. If the resources from the area committee are not approved then the club will struggle to continue with its ambitions for Aspley and young people interested in football.

#### **9 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

This report will support the City Councils corporate priorities of:-

- People feeling safe in there communities
- Improve Education attainment

## **CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS**

The activities organised by the Beacon Football Club will enable people to feel safer in their community, reduce crime, fear of crime and ASB.

### **11 VALUE FOR MONEY**

The Beacon Football Club is able to offer a large number of local young people the opportunity to benefit from football coaching because it has 20 volunteers that give up their valuable time to work with the club.

### **12 List of background papers other than published works or those disclosing confidential or exempt information**

None

### **13 Published documents referred to in compiling this report**

None

**LIANNE TAYLOR**

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