

**REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF SPORT, LEISURE AND PARKS**

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

**1 SUMMARY**

The Committee is being asked to approve the release of section 106 (of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990) money to match fund for improvement works on open space within the area.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the West Area Committee approve the release of section 106 funding, as part of the long term strategic plans for the development of open space in the west of the city. A breakdown of this funding can be found in sections 6 and 8.

**3 BACKGROUND**

We are requesting the release of these monies to form part of a funding package, together with Cleaner Greener, Insurance funds and WREN (Waste Recycling Environmental Limited) bids to carry out a co-ordinated 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 review schemes to assist in applications for future funding bids for the site.

Further to the request made by Councillor Wood at the 6 June 2007 Committee meeting the Parks and Open Space Development Section have undertaken detailed consultation to prioritise the projects planned in the west area of the city. The projects within this report appear on that list as follows:-

- First - Broxtowe Country Park;
- the Phoenix Adventure Centre playground is second and will be progressed jointly between the Parks and Open Space Development team and Integrated Children's Services;
- the Kennington road project that was prioritised third has recently been completed;
- Fourth - King George V;
- Fifth - Melbourne Park;

Further to the request made by Councillor Long at the 6 June 2007 Committee meeting that the procedure for spending section 106 funding be clarified, the Parks and Open Space Development Section can confirm that the manner in which the section 106 money has been allocated and the works on which it is to be spent is within the current guidelines for section 106 funding and is in line with the agreed planning conditions.

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 Development 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 Space 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.

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 31 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;

£42,250 from Section 106 for Footpaths - requires Area Committee 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: £148,000

### Melbourne Park

£2,000 from Cleaner Greener Fund for development of a Management Plan - secured;

£28,341 from Section 106 for Pavilion Improvements - requires Area Committee approval;

£10,000 from Cleaner Greener Fund for Landscape Improvements - secured;

£30,000 from Cleaner Greener Fund for Footpaths - secured

Total: £70,000

There will also be investment in 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	100,000
S.106	74,041
WREN	40,000
	<b>239,041</b>

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

The section106 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
	<b>74,041</b>

In 2007/8 the Council has been awarded £320,000 under the Cleaner, Greener fund. It is proposed to use £100,000 to part fund the cost of the above works. All maintenance costs will be contained within existing budgets.

## **9 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

Equality and Diversity 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 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 regenerating 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.

## **13 VALUE FOR MONEY**

Value for money will be sought at all times.

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

None

**15 Published documents referred to in compiling this report**

None

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