

WEST AREA COMMITTEE – 10 MARCH 2010

Title of paper:	IMPROVEMENTS TO RADFORD BRIDGE ROAD PARK FUNDING REQUEST	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Lianne Taylor, Director Communities	Wards affected: Leen Valley and Bilborough
Contact Officer(s) and contact details:	Tim Coulson, Neighbourhood Manager, Wollaton and Lenton Abbey Tel: 0115 915 8077 email: Tim.coulson@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
Other officers who have provided input:	Asif Mohammed, Neighbourhood Manager, West Area	
Relevant Council Plan theme(s):		
World Class Nottingham		
Work in Nottingham		
Safer Nottingham		
Neighbourhood Nottingham		X
Family Nottingham		X
Healthy Nottingham		X
Serving Nottingham Better		
Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):		
Consultation over the improvement of Radford Bridge Road park has revealed that the park is used by local people, many of which come from West Area. The Wollaton and Lenton Abbey Area Committee is asking West Area Committee for funding to supplement the cost of improving the park for residents of both areas.		
Recommendation(s):		
1	That the West Area Committee allocate £5,000 to support the improvements by Wollaton and Lenton Abbey Area Committee to Radford Bridge Road park.	

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 As part of the improvement programme for Nottingham's parks, consultation was carried out in August and September 2009 on Radford Bridge Road park.
- 1.2 The Parks Team has the names of those residents who would like to be involved in helping plan the development of the park and rough ideas on what they would like to see happen. To get to a state ready for submitting proposals for the scheme that team need to have more galvanised community support, to carry out consultation on what people would like to see on site (i.e. teenage equipment, ball court, toddler / junior play equipment etc) and have any necessary additional top-up third party funding already secured.
- 1.3 At this stage the scheme might sound fairly vague but until funding is agreed it will be difficult to persuade the community that the Council is willing take the project forward.
- 1.4 Results from consultation on the park shows that residents of both Areas (Area 7 and West Area) use the park in equal numbers. The Wollaton and Lenton Abbey Area Committee is willing to consider improving the park but cannot afford the estimated £10,000 that will initiate that work and is asking West Area Committee to allocate £5,000 towards that funding pot with the rest coming from Area 7.

2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

The results from the 42 people who responded were:

- (i) there was an even spread of people wanting either Radford or Seaford playground improving (16 each) with a further 10 wanting to see both improved;
- (ii) all except one person (who thought the sites were adequate) were in favour of improving the playgrounds and parks with a variety of equipment for a range of ages and abilities, seating, bins and other improvements in line with the works that have taken place in other parks across the City.

3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

To proceed with a lesser scale of refurbishment or proceed with improvements to one park only.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY)

- 4.1 To undertake a full re-fit for the play area and wider park would cost in the region of £100,000. If the Area Committees felt teenage facilities (such as a ball court) as well as a playground were necessary this would add another £30,000, (these are estimated costs). However, neither Area Committee has this funding outright, and an option is to allocate a proportion of this funding and then work with the local community to try and get additional funding from external sources using the £10,000 to act as Third Party funding.
- 4.2 The £5,000 requested from West Area Committee can be met from the Leen Valley Ward Public Realm budget which currently stands at £8425 not including any other requests elsewhere on this agenda.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS AND EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS)

Parks provide healthy options for growing children and a diversion for young people to play games such as football, basket ball and so on. They add to community identity and cohesion particularly amongst mothers and families picnicking in summer.

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

6.1 Emails and meeting notes between Area Management and the Parks Team.

6.2 Feedback forms and letters of interest from local residents.

7 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

None.