

WEST AREA COMMITTEE – 5TH DECEMBER 2012

Title of paper:	Parks & Open Spaces in West Area	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	John Kelly, Corporate Director, Communities	Wards affected: Aspley Bilborough Leen Valley
Report author(s) and contact details:	Eddie Curry, Head of Parks & Open Spaces 015 876 4982 James Dymond, Parks Development Manager 0115 876 4983	
Other colleagues who have provided input:		
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority: (you must mark X in the relevant boxes below)		
World Class Nottingham		
Work in Nottingham		
Safer Nottingham		X
Neighbourhood Nottingham		X
Family Nottingham		X
Healthy Nottingham		X
Leading Nottingham		
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):		
The report summarises the major investments made to the Area's parks, open spaces & playgrounds so far and considers where future investments are to be made.		
Recommendation(s):		
1	That the Committee notes the contents of the report and the improvements made to parks & open spaces in the Area.	
2	That the Committee approves the sites for future investment in the Area.	
3	That the Committee notes the GreenPlaces Fund and its ability to attract funding for the improvement of parks & open spaces.	

1. BACKGROUND

The City Council has made significant investment in parks, open spaces and children's play areas across the City in recent years. This report summarises the main projects and seeks confirmation of where future investment in the Area will and could take place.

Aspley

Site	Completed	Future Plans
Broxtowe Country Park	Westleigh Road entrance improvements 2011 Cycle path through woodland and across the park 2011/12	BMX track – see separate report to Area Committee.

Quarry Holes	Work by Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust to open up and improve woodland and meadow.	
Woodfield Road park	Creation of wildflower swathes. Planting of trees and bulbs, November 2012.	Installation of play equipment for older children and teenagers – funding required.

Bilborough

Site	Completed	Future Plans
Old Park Farm & Edgeway allotments		New gates, security fencing and access improvements needed - funding required.
Birchover park	New children's play area and fitness equipment 2010	
Strelley Recreation Ground	Wildflower meadows and tree sculptures installed. Green Flag award winning site.	New playground proposed to replace old playgrounds at Moor Road and Lancaster Way – funding bid to be made in early 2013.

Leen Valley

Site	Completed	Future Plans
Allotment sites: Melbourne Road, Mill, Moorfield & Windmill		Funding required for improvements to security & access.
King George V recreation ground	New playgrounds installed 2009-2011. Wildflower meadows created.	Additional piece of play equipment added to existing play area.
Melbourne Park	New site furniture (bins) installed.	Funding required for works to pavilion and main access paths.

The GreenPlaces Fund

The GreenPlaces Fund is a new initiative run by charity GreenSpace and being implemented in Nottingham as a pilot authority.

The Fund has a vision to develop a national mechanism for green space giving that can support parks and green spaces. It aims to attract donations, funding and commitment from both businesses and individuals that will:

- Entitle everyone in the UK to have easy, safe and close access to quality parks and green spaces where they live.
- Encourage collaboration between businesses, local authorities and communities to work in partnership to improve and sustain their local parks and green spaces.
- Inspire communities to recognise the value of green space and boost usage to improve their health and quality of life.

The GreenPlaces Fund seeks to create a new town or citywide partnership between communities, local authorities, business and NGOs aimed at improving and sustaining parks and green space.

The fund will select projects to support in Nottingham, including park and open space improvements, community activities and biodiversity projects.

<http://www.greenplacesfund.org.uk>

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

Funding is required for parks, open spaces & allotment sites as per the table above.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

None.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

No new Section 106 funding is available in the Area at present.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS)

None.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Has the equality impact been assessed?

Not needed (report does not contain proposals or financial decisions)

No

Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

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

None.

8. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

None.