

WOLLATON AND LENTON ABBEY AREA COMMITTEE (AREA 7) - 9th July 2009

Title of paper:	<u>'PATHFINDER' PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME FOR 2009/10</u>	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Hugh White Sport, Leisure and Parks	Wards affected: Wollaton West and Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey
Contact Officer(s) and contact details:	Eddie Curry Head of Parks and Open Spaces 0115 9152784	
Other officers who have provided input:	Martin Harris – Park Development Officer. Geoff Walker – Strategic Finance Manager	
Relevant Council Plan theme(s):		
Choose Nottingham		
Respect for Nottingham		
Transforming Nottingham's Neighbourhoods		✓
Supporting Nottingham People		
Serving Nottingham Better		✓
Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):		
<p>This report presents the results of initial consultation held on Rushford Drive / Fernwood Crescent park on Saturday 2nd May – regarding assessing local need for playground provision on the site and potential use of Pathfinder funding for playground improvements.</p> <p>The report details a proposed financial plan for the spend of current time limited Pathfinder funding and seeks a contribution of Area Capital funding to match the Pathfinder Funding. The report will also, after further consultation, highlight future aspirations for other sites within the Wollaton and Lenton Abbey area.</p>		
Recommendation(s):		
1	Secure a decision following on from the above consultation to assign the allocation of 'Pathfinder' funding (£50,000) to Fernwood / Rushford park.	
2	Approve an allocation of up to £47,000 of 'Environmental' Area Capital funding for Area 7 to Fernwood / Rushford park to match fund the 'Pathfinder funding to carry out improvements during 2009/10.	
3	Undertake further consultation with local residents, officers and members in order to priorities future play area and park improvements for Seaford, Radford Bridge and Sutton Passeys specifically, with wider discussions to cover improvements that could be made to other small playground / parks sites in Area 7.	

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 £80,000 of funding has been allocated to improve playgrounds within Area 7, as a result of the City being awarded Pathfinder status for the play improvement programme. This funding has come from a bid put forward by both Parks and Open Spaces and Children's Services, from the Department of Children, Schools and Families (DCSF).
- 1.2 Lenton Abbey Park was allocated £30,000 'Pathfinder' funding, with a match contribution of £30,000 coming from Parks Section to improve the playground. This site is nearing completion and had a successful launch on the 28th May. A further £50,000 has been allocated to improve an additional play area site during 2009/10.
- 1.3 Following previous Committee / sub Committee reports, consultation was held on Rushford Drive park to identify potential need and support in the local area.
 - Responses were received both on the day and through phone and emails from around 30 people including a mix of adults and children.
 - All people asked were in favour of the park and playground being improved. This included the provision of new equipment, bin and benches / picnic tables.
 - The retention of the main grassed area (for informal recreation), small woodland grove and other isolated trees were given a high priority.
 - Support was also forthcoming for the provision a 'community garden' facility and close liaison with the local school to use the site as an educational resource.
 - Potential issues were raised over locking the park / site security, though there was support for residents becoming key holders.

2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 Following an informal consultation with local residents to Fernwood / Rushford Park on site on Saturday 2nd May and through contact made by residents outside of this, around 30 people expressed an opinion of the site with both adults and children present in equal measure.
- 2.2 All residents responded that they would like to see improvements take place to the site, such as to play equipment and the wider park and provision for older children. There were no residents against undertaking works to the site.
- 2.3 Further works are required to identify options for other playground / park sites in Area 7, including proposals for smaller scale remedial works that can improve sites outside of major capital funding.

3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Non use of Pathfinder funding – this would mean that residents and children within Area 7 lose out on an improved play space.
- 3.2 Allocation of funding to another site - wider discussions need to be held over potential sites such as Radford Bridge / Seaford Avenue especially due to their location and potential future use.
- 3.3 Use of only 'Pathfinder' funding for the chosen site and allocate Area Capital funding to another site – this would have limited impact as separately, there is insufficient funding

to adequately replace existing playgrounds or carry out wider improvements on two sites.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY)

4.1 Once approved, the allocation of funding for the playground / park improvements would be used specifically for that site, with improvements taking place, to be complete by the end of March 2010.

4.2 All works will be procured in accordance with contract procedural rules contained within financial regulations to obtain best value for money. The costs are based on reasonable estimates of cost and the design of the project will be governed by the funding available to the project.

4.3 The funding for the proposed playground, as outlined below, will be achieved through a contribution of £47,000 from Area Capital funds and an allocation of £50,000 of funding secured from the 'Pathfinder' programme of playground improvements.

	2009/10 £m
Income	
'Pathfinder' funding	-0.050
Area Capital Funding	-0.047
Expenditure	
Play equipment, landscaping, bins, benches signage etc.	0.097

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

5.1 **Funding is not utilised** – Area 7 loses out on funding for refurbishment of a park / playground that would be difficult to replace.

5.2 **Match funding for playgrounds is not achieved** – playground and park improvements cannot take place in totality and leads to a poorer overall scheme, whilst also failing to meet DCSF criteria;

5.3 **Time specific funding for the works** – the programme falls behind schedule and funding may have to be returned to DCSF;

5.4 **The programme is not properly managed** – the programme will be directly managed by the Parks Development team;

5.5 **Anti Social Behaviour upon completion of works** – close working with residents, Police, Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) and Community Protect Officers (CPO's) should help minimise the impact of this along with residents potentially becoming key holders,

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

6.1 NONE

7 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

7.1 Executive Board report – Play Pathfinder - 20 May 2008.

7.2 'PATHFINDER' PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME FOR 2008/09 AND 2009/10 – Area 7 Committee Report 8th January 2009

7.3 'PATHFINDER' PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME ROR 2008/09 AND 2009/10 – Area 7 sub Committee Report 12th February 2009.

Example of playgrounds / sites at around £50,000

Mosswood Crescent
Nottingham City Council

Issue No: 16/76225 Date: 03/03/2009 Note: THIS IS AN ARTIST'S ILLUSTRATION ONLY

WICKSTEED
playscapes

PLEASE NOTE: EXISTING FENCE TO BE RE-PAINTED AS PER OUR QUOTATION 16/76225

Scale: 1:500 @ A3

RISE PARK PLAY AREA - OPTION 2 NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

LEGEND					
KEY	CODE	DESCRIPTION	FHF	FALLING SPACE	SURFACING AREA
1	RP162	SWINGMASTER 2 SEAT (CRADLES)	FHF=1.20m	FS=5.80mX2.90m	SURFACING=18.00m ² @ 40mm THICK WEIPOUR
2	RP182	SWINGMASTER 2 SEAT (PLATS)	FHF=1.60m	FS=6.85mX2.90m	SURFACING=21.00m ² @ 50mm THICK WEIPOUR
3	RP132	NEBULA VENTURER ALL STEEL	FHF=1.25m	FS=7.88mX5.78m	
4	RP270	GULLINGWING SEESAW	FHF=1.10m	FS=5.46m X 3.16m	
5	RP417	WALTZER ROUNDABOUT	FHF=0.45m	FS=05.50m	TOTAL SURFACING AREA = 115.00m ²
6	RP249	BUTTERFLY SPRINGER	FHF=0.55m	FS=02.80m	SURFACING=80.00m ² @ 40mm THICK WEIPOUR
7	RP274	4 WAY SPRINGER	FHF=0.47m	FS=03.08m	SURFACING=35.00m ² @ 50mm THICK WEIPOUR
8	RP267	RACING CAR SPRINGER	FHF=0.55m	FS=02.80m	
9	RP322	ABBY SEAT (S No.)			
10	RP326	CATHEDRAL LITTER BIN (2 No.)			

REQUIRES 75.00 METRES OF 1.0m HIGH BOW TOP FENCING WITH 2 No. RP370 PEDESTRIAN ACCESS GATES

RECORD R55
Bringing Play to Life

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Scale @ A3 Date 1:100 16/05/07
Drawn by JTF Rev No. 021318 Rev No.

UKAS
API

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Lenton Abbey Play Ranch

A Jerome Play Unit 5662705 - pg39

B Double Swing with Toddler Seats 5550635 - pg290

C Horse Spring Rocker 5672240 - pg322

D Litter Bin 5550635 - pg290

E Bench 072 5672240 - pg322

F Crawling Tunnel 5583160/70 - pg284

G Tree Trunks 7116940uk

H Boulders 7116870uk

I Climbing Pyramid 5662685 - pg363

J Three-spring Rocker 5591550 - pg336

K Stand-Up Seesaw & western Kit 5551945 & 5553510 - pg341 & 339

L Dodge City 5662695 - pg40

Scale 1:100 On A1 Paper

BESA

Lenton Abbey Park

Path Finder

EN1176 & EN1177

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Example of playgrounds / sites at around £100,000

Breckswood Play Area

WICKSTEED playscapes

Breckswood Play Area
Nottingham City Council

Issue 1: 16/04/08 Date: 26/11/08
Name: Heidi and Anthony Bussell-THORNTON with 10 Years Rock artists

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