

Nottingham City Council

Project Brief

Project Title: Radford Recreation Ground (Phase 1 development)

Lead Department: Nottingham City Council Parks and Open Spaces



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DOCUMENT CONTROL

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1.0 PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

The Radford Recreation Ground Project will look to bring about a series of design improvements to this historic open space, working with a number of partners to achieve this and identifying a group of local residents who can support the proposals and remain involved with this work over the next few years.

Project to be developed in 2 phases

- **Phase 1** (£100k approx.) – series of upgrades including planting, seating, signage and removal of the Pavilion foundations. Submit Green Flag bid. Develop Friends Group and plan activity (September/October).
- **Phase 2** (Sandfield monies) – potential redesign of main entrances on Ilkeston Road and Ashburnham Avenue to link in with development of Green Corridor route.

In working with local residents and partner organisations the City Council will push for this site to achieve Green Flag Status and as part of this an application will be submitted later this year. The project also runs alongside the Green Corridor Project which will use the regeneration at the Sandfield site (UK Regeneration) and Lenton flats (Nottingham City Homes) as a catalyst for focussed environmental and safety improvements to benefit cyclists and pedestrians.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The purpose of this project is to identify a series of improvements which can be made to the Radford Recreation Ground to enable it to achieve Green Flag Status as well as ensuring its longer term viability as an important open space for use by the local community.

The strategic links that support this Project are:-

Cohesion strategy – reducing inequalities, increasing community engagement and increasing interaction between people. Improved links between Lenton and Radford areas.

Local Transport Plan – economic, environmental and health benefits – specifically improvements to infrastructure supporting cyclists and pedestrians.

Breathing Spaces Strategy - improving quality of open spaces.

Stakeholders will also be looking at how to integrate student communities given the high density of student housing in this area

3.0 PROJECT DEFINITION

3.1 Project Scope

- Develop and involve local residents through a Friends Group, initially to support a community event in October where ideas and plans to date can be showcased.
- A design brief capable of supporting the Green Flag bid.
- An open space more accessible to the wider community inclusive, in particular, of the local student community and the organisations / businesses operating from within the park and close by.
- Improvement work / development schemes to commence from Winter 2014/15

3.2 Project Objectives

1. To agree a series of design improvements as part of a phased redevelopment of Radford Recreation Ground. This has been prioritised based on consultation carried out during summer 2014 and ideas from an initial scoping meeting in May with Councillors, Parks team and Locality Management included –

Highlighted issue	Priority / timescale	Estimated cost.
Remove Pavilion foundations – Health and Safety requirement	High / within 3 months	£9,890
Improve lighting on site to encourage greater usage and reduce Anti-Social Behaviour.	Medium – Possible phase 2 depending on greenway location	£20,000-£30,000
Improve opportunities relating to towards walking, jogging, dog walking and general fitness.	High / within 3 months	£1,500 – walking route
Improve planting on site to improve the visual appeal of the site	High / within 5 months	£3,000
Improve the Play area to encourage greater use for a wide range of ages and abilities.	Medium / 1-2 years - full refurbishment High / within 5 months - additional items	Up to £100,000 £15,000
Creation of fitness trail / area (outdoor gym type equipment)	High / within 5 months	£25,000
Create more seating (picnic benches)	High / within 5 months	£4,000
Improve the site for wider community use and	High / Curry in the Park event, October 112014	£2,000
Improve signage (directional and on site)	High / within 5 months	£3,500
Reduce Litter (primarily after busy weekends / holidays)	Medium / over next year. Look at provision of bins and rotas.	N/A Review staffing and Short Term bin provision
Asian youth – cricket possibilities / refurbish cricket net and possible new all weather surface.	Medium / 1-2 years	Up to £15,000

Students – attracting greater usage, potentially more female students	High / Curry in the Park event Oct 2014	£2,000
University of Nottingham undergraduates involvement	High / Curry in the Park event Oct 2014	£2,000
Opening up of entrances – new entrance design (possible Phase 2)	Low – Possible phase 2 depending on greenway location	£20,000-£40,000

2. To involve key stakeholders in the area – specifically drawing in the local student community.
3. To work with local faith groups – St Pauls and St Mary’s Catholic Church, Muslim Women’s Group, Lenton Mosque and All Souls Church and Community Centre. (adopting plant beds, use of sites for events etc)
4. To be mindful of longer term site maintenance and resource implications
5. To work with the local neighbourhood particularly properties bordering the site along the site boundaries of Ilkeston Road, Ashburnham Avenue, Rothesay Avenue and Lenton Boulevard.

3.3 Project Benefits

- Reduced levels of anti - social behaviour due to increased use of park by families and young people
- Supporting the wider regeneration agenda – Radford Mill site and new local NCH schemes in Radford and Lenton
- New opportunities to involve students and other local residents in the development and future use of this recreational space.
- Improve community cohesion via use of the site for events and regular engagement opportunities between Students and long term residents.
- Improve Health of local population by encouraging walking, use of outdoor gyms etc.

3.4 Project Constraints

- The final release of Section 106 funds to support the project (Phase 2) - any delay on the Sandfield site might restrict some of the work around the Ashburnham entrance and the Green Corridor route at that location
- Other City Council Parks initiatives which might divert time / resources away from this project
- Selection of scheme content for Phase 1 and the prioritising of longer term phase 2 proposals

3.5 Project Interfaces / Dependencies

Planning permission and subsequent development by UK Regeneration of the Sandfield site for later phases along with Green Corridor which will have an impact on lighting, highways and entrance redesigns.

3.6 Project Assumptions

- That Councillors approve the Project Plan and allow use of Section 106 funding for the Ward to be spent on this scheme.
- That there will be planning permission for the Sandfield site and therefore sufficient funding to support the design scheme for later phases
- That this site will be given priority in terms of its push for Green Flag status – supported by an application process in Winter 2014/15.

4.0 PROJECT APPROACH (PROCUREMENT)

All works to comply with NCC financial regulations.

5.0 PROJECT ORGANISATION

The following structure is proposed –

- Project Sponsor – Cllr Dave Trimble
- Project Managers – James Dymond / Martin Harris
- Senior users – Friends Group
- Project Support – Ward Councillors, Rob Gabbitas (NCC), Melanie Futer (University of Nottingham), Fiona Corbett (Dunkirk Lenton Forum)

6.0 PROJECT CONTROLS

6.1 Project Plan

1. Group to approve Project Brief by 18 July 2014
2. To complete consultation feedback analysis by 31 July 2014
3. Report to Area 4 Chairs Briefing (3 September) and Area Committee (17 September) – to approve Phase 1 budget
4. Friends Group event on Radford Rec – 11 October 2014
5. Commence Phase 1 works – Autumn 2014
6. Submit Green Flag bid management plan - January 2015

6.2 Financial Management

Income	
S106 (Portfolio holder Decision 632)	£15,000

S106 Radford Boulevard	£55,143 – report to Sept Area Cttee
S106 Oxford Street	£15,945 – report to Sept Area Cttee
Area Capital contribution	£20,000
Provisional total	£106,088
Expenditure to date	£5984
Remaining budget	£100,104

6.3 Risk Management

- The community needs analysis does not match current budgetary limits for Phase 1 intentions
- City Council budgetary position for 2015/16 and beyond
- Uncertainty over Sandfield site progress which will impact on future development phases
- Green Corridor progress and not being able to deliver all elements of proposed scheme.