

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:

2698

Author:

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Department:

Communities

Contact:

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Subject:

Improvements to Wollaton Park, Green's Mill Park, the Forest Recreation Ground and Middle Furlong Mews ("The Green") open space

Total Value:

£316,007.89 (Type: Capital)

Decision Being Taken:

1. To accept the WREN (Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd) funding totalling £189,596 for projects at Wollaton Park, Green's Mill Park and Middle Furlong Mews ("The Green") open space in the Meadows, as detailed in the table at Appendix 1;
2. To note the pending application for WREN funding of £50,000 for the Gregory Boulevard play area as set out in Appendix 1;
3. To delegate authority to the Director of Sport and Culture to sign funding agreements with WREN in relation to 1 and, if the application is successful in 2 above, to accept the funding and sign funding agreements, and issue tenders and place orders relating to the projects;
4. To approve the use of Area Capital funding totalling £32,000 approved by the relevant Area Committees for the Wollaton Park and Forest Recreation Ground projects, as set out in Appendix 1; and
5. Amend the capital programme to reflect the expenditure detailed.

Reasons for the Decision(s)

1. The Wollaton Park project aims to convert the former football pavilion adjacent to the play area into a cafe and community room with publicly accessible toilets. WREN funding of £50,000 was approved in November 2016. The section 106 funding for this project is to be approved under a separate Delegated Decision.
2. The Green's Mill Park project aims to refurbish the green space around the windmill and play area in order to ready the site for a Green Flag Award in 2017. WREN funding was approved in November 2016.
3. The Forest Recreation Ground project aims to refurbish the Gregory Boulevard play area at the north east corner of the site. The bulk of the necessary funding is to be derived from a WREN grant application, on which a decision is expected in February 2017, and if approved by WREN, those monies will be combined with Area Capital funding to accomplish the refurbishment works.
4. The Middle Furlong Mews open space (known as The Green) project in the Meadows aims to construct a play area for young children on the site. The £40,000 grant from WREN will be used for that construction, and the NET funding approved under Delegated Decision 2327 will be used for the future maintenance of the play area.
5. If the bid for WREN funding at the Forest Recreation Ground is not successful, the Area Capital earmarked for that project in Appendix 1 will be used to carry out smaller scale repairs to the play area rather than the full refurbishment.

Briefing notes documents:

Appendix 1 amended clean copy.docx

Other Options Considered:

Not using the WREN funding that has already been approved for the projects detailed was rejected as it will have to be returned to WREN.

Not bidding for further funding was rejected as it would mean the projects couldn't go ahead.

Not utilising the Area Capital funding already approved by Area Committees was rejected as it would mean smaller scale improvements.

Background Papers:

None

Published Works:

Delegated Decision 2327 - Funding for Parks, Open Spaces and Trees in Area 8 - February 2016

Affected Wards:

Arboretum, Bridge, Dales, Wollaton West

Colleague / Councillor Interests:

None

Consultations: **Date: 18/11/2015**
Area Committees: Area 4: Arboretum, Dunkirk and Lenton, Radford and Park (from May 2012), Area 7: Wollaton & Lenton Abbey
Area 4, 18 November 2015: Approval of £12,000 Area Capital to the Gregory Boulevard play area project. Area 7: 21 September 2015: Approval of £20,000 Area Capital to the Wollaton Park pavilion cafe project.

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications: **All of the proposals in this report aim to improve parks and open spaces, make them more attractive, safer and more frequently used.**

Equality: **EIA not required. Reasons: There is no proposal for new or changing policies / services / functions or financial decisions that would have a major impact on services.**

Social Value Considerations: **Not applicable**

Decision Type: **Portfolio Holder**

Subject to Call In: **Yes**

Call In Expiry date: **11/01/2017**

Advice Sought: **Legal, Finance, Procurement**

Legal Advice:

1. The decisions are within the terms of reference of the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture in the Council's Constitution.
2. The proposed expenditure within this decision which derives from s.106 is understood to be subject to separate approval by another Delegated Decision. That Delegated Decision will address the compatibility between the proposed spend and the terms of the particular section 106 agreement which secured the funding.
3. Grants may be made by WREN from its Community Fund for amenity projects within 10 miles of an FCC Environment landfill site in WREN's operating area. In the case of the projects covered by this report, that site is Eastcroft. The primary intent of the project must be the protection of the environment, the provision, maintenance or improvement of a public park or another public amenity.
4. As with all grant applications approved by WREN, the City Council as recipient will be required to enter into an agreement restricting the purpose to which the monies are to be put, delivery of progress reports, maintenance of records of income derived and provisions of documentation and expenditure details to WREN as the funded projects are implemented. The agreement will also typically contain obligations ensuring public accessibility, and repayment of funding in the event that the project is not ultimately implemented.
5. The NET team has advised that the NET funding (which is proposed to support one of the projects) is derived from internal sources without reliance on external parties and without obligations or conditions imposed by external parties. On that basis no further legal implications appear to arise additional to those set out at 1-4 above. Advice provided by Judith Irwin (Senior Solicitor) on 16/12/2016.

Finance Advice:

The Head of Parks, Open Spaces and Investment Funding will put appropriate measures in place to ensure compliance to the funding conditions.

Parks and Open Spaces to ensure that the projects are funded is as detailed in appendix 1, any deviation from the funding within appendix 1 will require further approval.

Section 106 receipt 12/03487 Minerva House (£64,411.89) is an uncommitted receipt and available to be earmarked for the scheme at Wollaton Park pavilion café & play area, which is subject to a separate Delegated Decision.

Any procurement will need to be compliant with the Council's Financial Regulations. Advice provided by Tom Straw (Senior Accountant - Capital Programmes) on 20/12/2016.

Procurement Advice:

Should any procurement(s) be required as a result of the proposals set out within the report these should be carried out in conjunction with the Procurement Team and in line with Contract Procedure Rules and the Public Contracts Regulations. Advice provided by Sue Oliver (Category Manager - Procurement) on 15/12/2016.

Signatures

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| David Trimble (Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture) |
| SIGNED and Dated: 04/01/2017 |
| Andrew Vaughan (Corporate Director Commercial and Operations) |
| SIGNED and Dated: 21/12/2016 |