

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTORATE	TOURISM AND LEISURE COMMITTEE	12 JANUARY 2017	6
CAPITAL PROGRAMME SCHEMES UPDATE: PROMENADE GARDENS WATER PLAY FACILITY AND BRYNING WITH WARTON PARISH COUNCIL PLAY AREA			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

This report provides committee with an update on two capital projects under its control and recommends that a time limit is set in relation to progress with the grant to Bryning with Warton Parish Council scheme.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Tourism and Leisure Committee is requested to note the report and agree to set a deadline of 31 March 2018 for the project at Bridges Playing Field Warton. If project funding has not been secured by this date the offer of a contribution would be rescinded and returned to the capital investment reserve.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Council Minutes – 11 April 2016

Council RESOLVED to adopt the revised Capital Strategy with effect from the 2017/18 budget cycle.

Budget Council Meeting 3 March 2015

The following capital schemes were agreed for inclusion in the 2015/16 Capital Programme.

- Promenade Gardens Water Play facility £100,000
- Bryning with Warton Parish Council Play Area £50,000

Finance and Democracy Committee – 22 February 2016

Committee RESOLVED

1. To recommend to Council the inclusion of the proposed capital bid of £50k, to be funded from the Capital Investment Reserve, for the refurbishment of the recreation area at Bridges Playing Fields, Warton. The funding would only be released when all the necessary steps of the Parks Improvement Programme had been satisfactorily met, and with the Council being the accountable body; and
2. To reject the request from the Parish Council for an advance payment of £50k from the receipt of a s.106 payment due to be made by the developer of Riversleigh Farm towards the improvement of Bridges Playing Field.

Tourism and Leisure Committee – 12 November 2015

After full consideration it was RESOLVED:

1. To support the proposed capital bids for Hope Street footways and the water play area project at the Promenade Gardens, St Annes in that priority order for further consideration by the Budget Working Group; and
2. the bid relating to Bridges Playing Fields, Warton be not supported by the committee.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES	
Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services (Value for Money)	✓
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council (Clean and Green)	✓
Working with all partners (Vibrant Economy)	✓
To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live (A Great Place to Live)	✓
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit (A Great Place to Visit)	✓

REPORT

BACKGROUND

1. The Tourism and Leisure Committee at its meeting on 12 November 2015 considered capital bids for three proposed schemes that fell within its remit. After consideration the committee agreed to support the proposed capital bids for Hope Street footways and the water play area project at the Promenade Gardens, St Annes in that priority order for further consideration by the Budget Working Group; and the bid relating to Bridges Playing Fields, Warton be not supported by the committee.
2. The Finance and Democracy Committee at its meeting on 22 February 2016 considered a report in relation to the capital bid by Bryning with Warton Parish Council for funding towards its proposed project at Bridges Playing Field. The Finance and Democracy Committee had determined to consider new information which had emerged as part of their remit to lead the budget setting process. The Clerk to the Parish Council attended the meeting and came to the table to answer questions from members.
3. After a full discussion the committee resolved to recommend to Council the inclusion of the proposed capital bid of £50k, to be funded from the Capital Investment Reserve, for the refurbishment of the recreation area at Bridges Playing Fields, Warton. The funding would only be released when all the necessary steps of the Parks Improvement Programme had been satisfactorily met, and with the Council being the accountable body. The committee rejected the request from the Parish Council for an advance payment of £50k from the receipt of a s.106 payment due to be made by the developer of Riversleigh Farm towards the improvement of Bridges Playing Field.
4. In March 2016 Budget Council approved two schemes for inclusion in the capital programme. These are shown in figure 1, below.

Scheme title	2016/17 £000	2017/18 £000	Description
Promenade Gardens Water Play Facility	0	100	The project involves the creation of an interactive water play area e.g. water jet plaza with ornamental features (including lighting) and a variety of interactive play facilities performing a range of play functions. The area will have an anti-slip surface, and be self-draining, therefore not holding standing water. It will be accessible by all, which will mean alterations to the structure of the pool, to allow access. The equipment will be modern, safe and colourful and provide a range of play activities for children of all ages. The total scheme cost is estimated at £200,000 with the remaining funding to be sourced through external funding bids and the use of s106 planning agreement monies.
Bryning with Warton Parish Council Play Area	50	0	This scheme was initiated by a request on behalf of the Parish Council concerning Bridges Playing Fields, Canberraway, Warton. The Parish Council have requested a £50,000 donation toward the refurbishment of the site due to the significant importance the grounds have both as a sports ground and community recreational facility within the Borough. The scheme is divided into a number of phases with the cost of the total works being in the region of £300,000. The remaining funding to be sourced through a combination of external funding bids, the use of s106 planning agreement monies and a contribution from the Parish Council.

Figure 1 – Summary of two capital schemes approved by Budget Council 2 March 2016

5. This report provides a progress update on both projects.

PROMENADE GARDENS WATER PLAY FACILITY

6. The project is intended to create an interactive water play area on the site of the former paddling pool in the Promenade Gardens, St Annes.
7. The water feature could include a variety of water themed play including opportunities for paddling, with; jets, fountains, mist, coloured surfaces, and lights that are motion and / or time activated for wet play. If possible the feature will be available for use during daylight and twilight hours. Twilight use would be as a water display with feature lighting.
8. The facility includes a pump/power house. It is proposed the facility will be fully accessible and the option of changing facilities and a concessionary Kiosk are being discussed and considered. The preliminary name given to this project is the Promenade Gardens Water Plaza.
9. The project is being backed by a local friends group, The Promenade Gardens Friends (PGF). The group is fully constituted and made up of volunteers from the local community and includes residents, hoteliers and small business owners. They are supported by Fylde Council officers.
10. The scheme is a two year project with work in the first year to work up and agree the scheme and in year 2 seek funding and deliver the project.
11. The Friends group have held very successful initial consultations with the public to assess appetite for the project. Over 300 surveys have been completed with 98% of respondents agreeing to the renovation of the Paddling Pool.
12. A project timetable has been agreed with officers and Friends which is set out in figure 2 below.
13. The Council's contribution of £100k is intended to attract additional match-funding from other sources. Possible options have been identified with Lancashire Environmental Fund, Coastal Communities Fund and Veolia bids are being prepared with the aim of securing funds by late 2017. S106 funds of £55K have been ringfenced to this project and a successful grant of £6K has been secured from LCC.

Date	Progress stage
Early December 2016	FBC presented 2 concept designs at last meeting (6/12/16)
January/February 2017	Friends group to organise a second round of public consultations through public awareness events using the 2 agreed concept plans
March 2017	Focus groups to discuss the plans. These groups will be made up from a cross section of people who have expressed a desire to be further involved. This group can discuss issues that are harder to unpick using the questionnaire format Hold fundraising opportunity to promote public interest for the project
End of March 2017	Feedback will be used by FBC to form the Masterplan together with the Bill of Quantities for costing of the project prior to funding applications
August 2017	Outcome of the funding applications should be known and funding in place. Project goes to tender
October 2017	Contractor selected
October/November 2017	Project presented to Tourism & Leisure and Finance & Democracy committees for approval
Dec 2017/Jan 2018	Project build commences
March 2018	Facility completed

Figure 2 – Key milestones for delivery of the Promenade Gardens Water Plaza

14. The scheme will require ongoing maintenance and management. The budget agreed also provides for ongoing revenue costs which are shown below in figure 3.

Scheme title	2016/17 £000	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000	Description
Capital Scheme - Promenade Gardens Water Play Facility - on-going Revenue Costs	8	16	16	16	Additional revenue requirement arising from the approval of the capital scheme considered by Tourism and Leisure Committee are estimated at up to £16k per annum, comprising additional costs relating to electricity, water and purification chemicals.

Figure 3 – Ongoing approved revenue budgets for Promenade Gardens Water Plaza

15. A report will be presented to the Tourism and Leisure Committee and the Finance and Democracy Committee at the appropriate time to agree the scheme and the inclusion of the total cost of the scheme (including external contributions) within the capital programme and to seek authorisation to commencement of the works as and when the additional funding has been secured.

BRYNING WITH WARTON PARISH COUNCIL PLAY AREA

16. The capital programme scheme is to provide a £50,000 grant towards a potential £300,000 overall scheme to refurbish and improve Bridge's Playing Fields in Warton.

17. A condition of the grant recommended to Council by the Finance and Democracy Committee was that the monies would only be released when all the necessary steps of the Parks Improvement Programme had been satisfactorily met, and with the Council being the accountable body.

18. The Parks Improvement Programme contains ten steps, which ensures that proposed development/improvement follows a logical sequence of events with sufficient preparation being undertaken to ensure any scheme is fully developed and has the support of the local community. This also includes a key stage to ensure that all external sources of grant funding are fully explored prior to any approach to Fylde Council for assistance.

The Parks Improvement Programme

1. Set up a supporters group (Friends group with a constitution)
2. Apply to LCC for support officer from the Environmental Projects Team to assist with:
 - Comprehensive consultation exercises
 - External funding grant assistance
3. Initial consultation with the group, local residents and users to produce a design brief based on community need
4. Produce 3 concept drawings based on the design brief
5. Consult / agree / produce a final Masterplan for the scheme
6. Cost the project up in sections (Bill of Quantities and specifications)
7. Prepare a funding strategy
8. Tender and evaluation (with community)
9. Project Management
10. Open Event / Future use /Maintenance

Figure 4 – The Parks Improvement Programme

19. [Council on 11 April](#) considered a revised Capital Strategy to include additional guidance in respect of bids for recreational facilities on non-council land. The report clarified that parks schemes would be considered eligible to bid for capital funding, once the project had reached stage 7 of the 10 stage process. Council resolved to adopt the revised Capital Strategy with effect from the 2017/18 budget cycle.
20. Officers are working with the Friends Group and are taking account of the results of the consultation by the Town Council. Alongside the data collected from the Local Neighbourhood Plan, officers have agreed with the Friends group to pursue additional, detailed information from further public consultations. Two concept plans have been prepared and presented to the group and a consultation event held. The Friends Group are also taking the plans into local schools to gain more data and reach more people.
21. The project at Bridges Playing Field is at stage 4 of the Parks Improvement Process. Once there is sufficient feedback collated a masterplan will be drawn up and costed to identify appropriate funding streams. A report will be presented to the Tourism and Leisure Committee prior to any expenditure being incurred. It is proposed that the scheme will be re-phased into 2017/18 as it is now unlikely to be delivered in 2016/17.
22. It is important that the Friends Group and Parish Council devote enough time towards the project in the near future to ensure the project does not lose momentum and that the ideas and aspirations of the local community are harnessed and delivered within a reasonable timescale.

23. When the council approved a grant to the Freckleton Memorial Gardens Community Project in 2015 a time limit of two years was placed on securing the total project funding and that if the project funding had not been secured within the time limit the contribution would be rescinded and returned to the capital investment reserve. No such condition is in place for the grant to Bryning with Warton Parish Council and so it is recommended that a time limit of two years be placed on this grant offer which would expire on 31 March 2018.

IMPLICATIONS			
Finance	None arising directly from this report		
Legal	None		
Community Safety	None		
Human Rights and Equalities	None		
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	None		
Health & Safety and Risk Management	None		
LEAD AUTHOR	TEL	DATE	DOC ID
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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Council agenda & minutes	11 April 2016	www.fylde.gov.uk
Budget Council agenda & minutes	2 March 2016	CMIS > Meetings Calendar
Finance & Democracy Committee agenda & minutes	22 February 2016	CMIS > Meetings Calendar
Tourism and Leisure Committee agenda & minutes	12 November 2015	www.fylde.gov.uk