

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTORATE	OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	12 JANUARY 2021	6
FRECKLETON MEMORIAL PARK LIGHTING SCHEME			

PUBLIC ITEM

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

SUMMARY

The lighting along the main footpath through the Memorial Park in Freckleton, which is owned by Freckleton Parish Council, is in a poor state of repair. The Parish Council are requesting that Fylde Council help to fund 50% of the costs for replacing the lighting heads with LED lamps. The amount requested is £4,000.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is requested to:

1. Support the request from Freckleton Parish Council to fund 50% of the costs to upgrade the lighting on Freckleton Memorial Park; and to
2. Authorise that the sum of £4,000 be allocated to Freckleton Parish Council from Fylde Council's 2020/21 Footway Lighting revenue budget for this purpose.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

None

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Economy – To create a vibrant and healthy economy	
Environment – To deliver services customers expect	✓
Efficiency – By spending money in the most efficient way	✓
Tourism – To create a great place to live and visit	✓

REPORT

BACKGROUND

1. The lighting on the Memorial Park in Freckleton, which is owned by the local Parish Council, was installed about 25 years ago. This was apparently led by Fylde Council, presumably at the request of Freckleton Parish Council.
2. The lights on the park improve safety along a frequently used footpath, particularly for the elderly, to link the South side of the Village with the Centre of the Village.

3. Until 2017 Fylde Council carried out maintenance of this lighting but, after a review of historical information, no formal agreement could be located to explain why this occurred and, with no specific budget allocated for this task, the Parish Council were advised that the Borough Council would be unable to continue with the informal arrangement. Since then the Parish Council has been responsible for the maintenance of their own lighting columns.
4. Freckleton Parish Council have recently advised that, due to their age, the lighting heads are now in a poor state of repair and require replacing.

SCHEME DETAILS

5. The lighting system comprises of 12 columns along the main footpath through the park (Appendix 1). The Parish Council wish to replace the lighting heads with LED lights. This should help to reduce the maintenance requirements and will be more energy efficient.
6. The Parish Council have advised that the cost of replacing the lighting heads will be £8,000. They wish to carry out the work as soon as possible and are requesting that the Borough Council assist by funding 50% of these costs within the current financial year.

PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES

7. Freckleton Parish Council's current capital reserves are £120k. This has been allocated as follows:
 - a. £35k for additional allotments and upgrading existing. This money was donated by United Utilities when they acquired part of the Bush lane allotments to provide a large overflow tank. The Parish Council agreed that it would be ring fenced for Allotment use. There are currently 25 people on the waiting list for allotments and the Parish Council is currently looking for additional land. The existing allotments are in need of draining.
 - b. £20K for the re-surfacing and maintenance of the Tom Croft car park. The Parish Council took over the responsibility of the car park from FBC in 2012.
 - c. £20k for the replacement of Open Spaces equipment. E.g. Tractor, Grass cutting equipment.
 - d. £25k for the maintenance of the Rawstorne Centre, AWS area and car park. They were built over 30 years ago and are in need of major repairs and re-surfacing.
 - e. £20k for the maintenance of the Parish Council owned buildings and the Cenotaph and surrounding area. Again the Parish Council owned buildings were erected a long time ago and are constantly in need of repair.

FUNDING

8. It is proposed that the request for £4,000 is met by a funded budget increase from Fylde Council's 2020/21 revenue budget for footway lighting.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	This report request approval to the allocation of £4,000 from the 2020/21 Footway Lighting revenue budget to Freckleton Parish Council to fund 50% of the costs to upgrade the lighting on Freckleton Memorial Park
Legal	None arising from this report
Community Safety	The project will help to ensure this public footpath remains illuminated
Human Rights and Equalities	None arising from this report
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	By replacing the existing lighting heads with LED lamps, the energy use will decrease.
Health & Safety and Risk Management	None arising from this report

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection

Attached documents

Appendix 1 – Plan of Freckleton Memorial Park with location of lights