

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTORATE	FINANCE AND DEMOCRACY COMMITTEE	25 SEPTEMBER 2017	9
PROMENADE GARDENS WATER PLAY FACILITY PROJECT			

PUBLIC ITEM

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

SUMMARY

At the Budget Council meeting of March 2016, approval was confirmed for a capital growth item in the sum of £100,000 in respect of a new water play facility on the Promenade Gardens. The total scheme cost was estimated at that time as £200,000, with the remainder of the funding to be sourced through external funding bids and the use of s106 planning agreement monies.

A comprehensive consultation exercise has been undertaken, in addition to detailed technical research to provide this type of facility, and the capital cost to deliver a scheme of this nature, and one that meets the aims of the community, is now estimated at £250,000.

The project team continue to seek external funding opportunities and are awaiting decisions on various external grants, which if successful would achieve a funding level for the scheme of £200,000.

This report presents an update on the progress to date on the water play project scheme, including potential project options, current funding position and estimated timescales.

The Tourism and Leisure Committee at the meeting of 7th September 2017, considered the 3 options detailed in section 20 of this report and support option 3, which is to recommend to the Finance and Democracy Committee approval of a fully-funded budget increase for the scheme within the Capital Programme for 2017/18 in the sum of £50,000 to achieve the project budget of £250,000, with the additional £50,000 to be met from the Capital Investment Reserve.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Finance and Democracy Committee are requested to:

1. Note the preference expressed by the Tourism and Leisure Committee at the meeting of 7th September 2017 to support Option 3 of the alternatives as detailed in section 20 of this report in respect of the delivery of the a new water play facility on the Promenade Gardens; and
2. Approve a fully-funded budget increase for the Water Play scheme within the Capital Programme for 2017/18 in the sum of £50,000 to be met from the Capital Investment Reserve.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Full Council meeting in 16 March 2016:

1. To approve and adopt the recommendations of the Finance and Democracy Committee as follows:
 - (c) The updated Five Year Capital Programme including the changes proposed by the Budget Working Group, as set out in Appendix G,

Tourism and Leisure Committee 7 September 2017

Following consideration of this matter the committee RESOLVED:

1. To note the current position with regard to the water play project;
2. To support the re-circulatory system of recirculating the water of the new water play facility as set out in the report.
3. To agree Option 3 as set out in the report which recommends to the Finance and Democracy Committee approval of a fully funded budget increase for the scheme within the Capital Programme for 2017/18 in the sum of £50,000 to achieve the project budget of £250,000 with the additional £50,000 to be met from the Capital Investment Reserve.

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)	✓

BACKGROUND

1. At the Budget Council meeting of March 2016, approval was confirmed for a capital growth item in the sum of £100,000 in respect of a new water play facility on the Promenade Gardens. The total scheme cost was estimated at that time as £200,000, with the remainder of the funding to be sourced through external funding bids and the use of s106 planning agreement monies.
2. Officers from the parks development team are taking the project through the 10 stage Community Parks Improvement Process shown below:
 1. Set up a supporters group (Friends group with constitution)
 2. Apply to LCC for support officer from the Environmental Projects Team to assist with:
 - Comprehensive consultation exercise
 - External funding
 3. Initial consultation with 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 final Masterplan
 6. Cost the project up in sections (produce B of Q and specifications)
 7. Prepare funding strategy
 8. Tender and evaluation (with community)
 9. Project Management
 10. Open Event / Future use /Maintenance
3. The Friends of Promenade Gardens was set up in April 2016 and includes around 12 members including representatives from local businesses and residents. The group meets on a regular basis and have been integral in leading on a range of consultation exercises to involve wider audiences, to ensure that any proposal meets the needs and ambition of local residents and visitors.
4. A comprehensive range of consultation exercises have been undertaken including design workshops at several key events such as the St. Annes Kite Festival and St. Annes Carnival, and at several key locations around St. Annes including Ashton Gardens, Sainsbury's, St. Annes Town Hall and the Island Leisure Complex. This has resulted in 333 completed questionnaires regarding the project.

5. Further to public consultation and further detailed technical research, a preferred style of water play facility has now been established, that is most suitable to the location, maintenance/management and community need. It must be noted that water play facilities are technically complicated due to their nature, therefore the consultation has focused on concept designs as opposed to detailed designs. A detailed design will be requested from Tenderers and will form part of the procurement process and evaluation.
6. As part of the wider consultation and research process, officers have visited facilities of a similar nature around Lancashire to establish the alternative types of water play provision including infrastructure options, variety of equipment, operating costs and any other potential issues.

CURRENT POSITION

7. The preferred option for the Promenade Gardens is a re-circulatory system which recirculates the water as opposed to a 'one use' system that needs refilling with fresh water at each operation. The capital costs for this type of system are higher, but the operating costs are much lower compared to 'one use' systems and prove to be more environmentally and financially sustainable, as a large percentage of the water will be retained in the system and recycled. The revised cost for the project, incorporating this design feature is estimated at £250,000.
8. Officers and the Friends group have been working on external grant applications and fund raising initiatives to achieve the necessary £250,000 to deliver the preferred scheme.
9. The group have been successful with fund raising with local businesses, charities and Lancashire County Council, and have submitted two external funding grant applications to Veolia and Lancashire Environmental Fund.
10. Subsequently, the grant application of £40,000 to Veolia has been unsuccessful due to a very recent change to the geographical range of the funding criteria. A decision on the Lancashire Environmental Fund application will be given in October 2017.
11. The current funding strategy is shown below:

Funding Body	Amount (£)	Status
Fylde Borough Council Capital Grant	£100,000	Secured
Friends of Promenade Gardens Fundraising	£1,550	Secured
LCC Member Grant	£500	Secured
Lancashire County Council	£6,000	Secured
Fylde Council S106 Contributions from Promenade, St. Annes development	£55,745	Secured
Lancashire Environmental Fund	£27,000	Awaiting decision October 2017
Lytham St. Annes Lions	£3,300	Secured
Friends of Promenade Gardens further miscellaneous funding	£6,000	Unsecured
Total	£200,095	

SCHEME DETAILS

12. The new water play area will be housed in the 'paddling pool' area on the Promenade Gardens. Any proposal needs to be sympathetic to the heritage and of the Edwardian Gardens and be accessible by all. Officers from the Planning and Regeneration teams have been consulted on these specific issues. The Regeneration Manager will form part of any future tender evaluation panel to ensure heritage, planning and environmental compliance.

13. The budget will be used to install a range of water play equipment with suitable surfacing in addition to providing all the relevant operational plant and equipment, to run the facility that will be housed in a suitably designed plant room on the Promenade Gardens.
14. Further works will include improvements to the pool infrastructure, resurfacing of paths and improved landscaping in addition to signage and furniture. The original structure of the paddling pool and seating area will be repaired and retained.
15. The proposed masterplan is shown in Appendix 1. The changing facility and kiosk shown on the plan will not form part of the project at this stage, but have been designed into the masterplan in case a phase two scheme is progressed.
16. The annual maintenance costs of the water play facility will depend on the final design proposal which will be submitted on a design and build basis by tenderers. It is proposed that future maintenance costs form part of the quality evaluation criteria, to encourage financial sustainable designs.

PROCUREMENT

17. The procurement of the project will depend on the grant application decision from the Lancashire Environmental Fund in October 2017, and the decision from the Tourism and Leisure Committee September 2017.
18. The original deadline to deliver the project was March 2018. Due to the funding bid failure to Veolia, it was considered appropriate to allow Members the opportunity to review the current position of the project in terms of funding options and delivery timescales. If options A or C are supported set out in section 20 of this report, the project can still be completed within the original deadline of March 2018. If option B is supported, officers will continue to seek external funding which may lead to a delay of the project delivery.
19. Once the funding strategy has been agreed, it is proposed to advertise an Open Tender for the project, based on the available budget. The tender will be on a design and build basis based on the masterplan due to the specialist nature of the facilities, and will include a 60%/40% quality/cost evaluation.

CONCLUSIONS AND DELIVERY OPTIONS

20. The Tourism and Leisure Committee at its meeting of 7 September 2017 was requested to note the current position regarding the project and the financing secured to date as detailed above, and to select a preferred course of action to achieve delivery of the scheme from the options below:
 - Option A:** To proceed with a reduced scheme using the currently available funding of £200,000 to be delivered within the original project timeframe of 2017/18;
 - Option B:** That officers continue to seek the £50,000 budget shortfall to complete the preferred scheme via external funding grant applications, in an attempt to achieve a project budget of £250,000;
 - Option C:** To recommend to the Finance and Democracy Committee approval of a fully-funded budget increase for the scheme within the Capital Programme for 2017/18 in the sum of £50,000 to achieve the project budget of £250,000, with the additional £50,000 to be met from the Capital Investment Reserve.
21. The Tourism and Leisure Committee agreed to support option 3 and consequently this report requests the necessary approval from the Finance and Democracy Committee in that regard.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	The Committee are recommended to approve a fully-funded addition of the proposed scheme in the sum of £50,000 to the Capital Programme for 2017/18, to be fully funded from the Capital Investment Reserve.
Legal	None arising from this report.
Community Safety	Improving the quality and range of open space facilities provides an opportunity to increase public use and reduce nuisance behaviour.
Human Rights and Equalities	None arising from this report.
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	None arising from this report.
Health & Safety and Risk Management	None arising from this report.

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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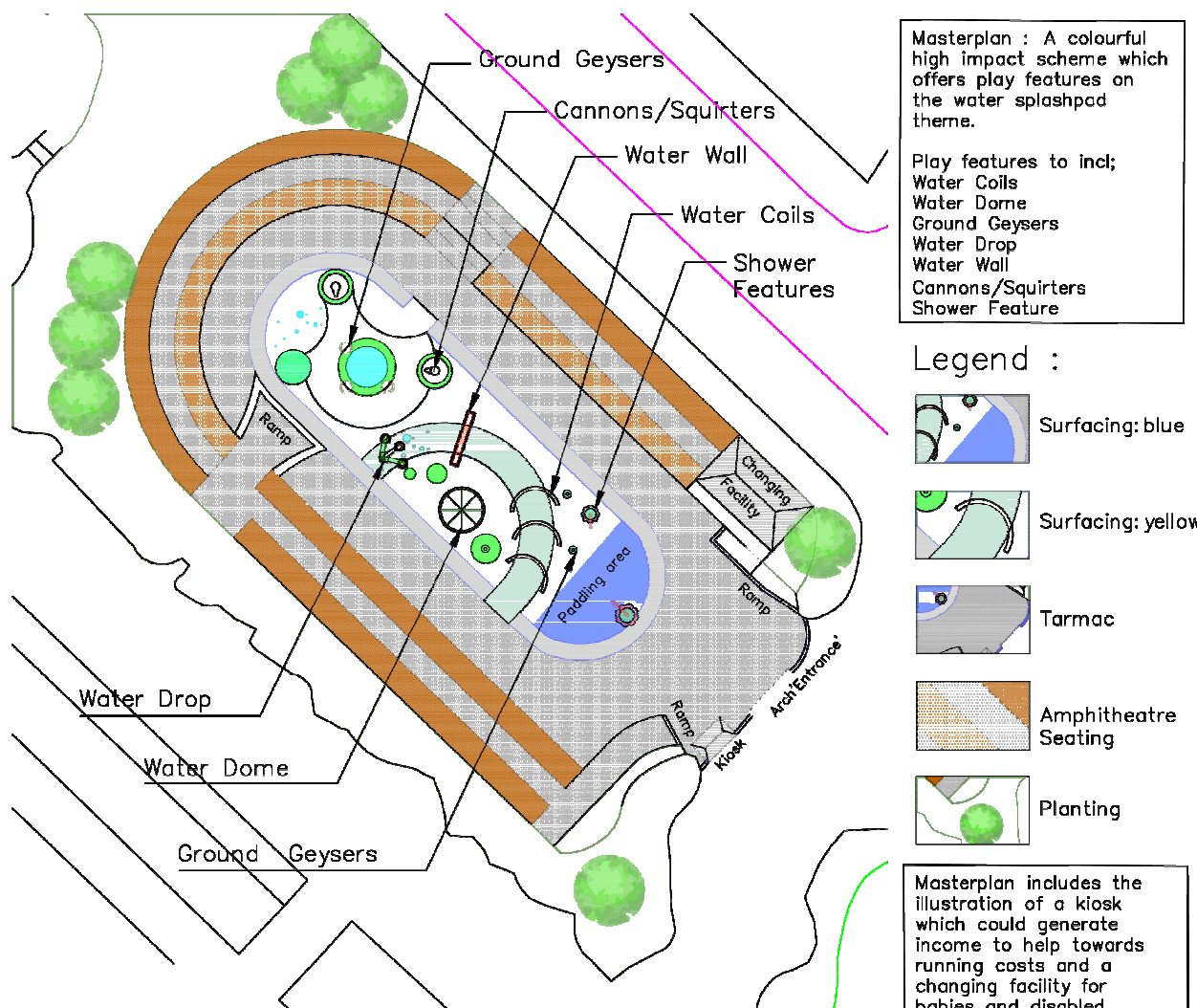
BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Minutes of Tourism & Leisure Committee	7/9/17	Minutes of Tourism & Leisure Committee

Attached documents

Appendix 1.

Promenade Water Play Masterplan

Promenade Gardens Water Play : Splash Zone : MASTERPLAN



Generic Water Play Features to inc. in order of preference:



1. Water Coils



2. Water Dome



3. Ground Geyser

It is thought that these would form part of a second phase with a secondary discrete grant being considered. It does not form part of the initial funding being sought.

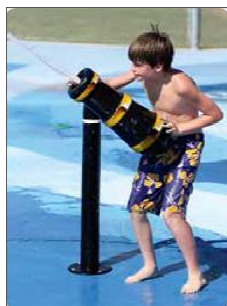
Facilities will be specified for the use of ages 3-14yrs



4. Water Drop



5. Water Wall



6. Cannon/Squirter



7. Shower Feature

Promenade Gardens Friends : PGF
 in association with:

