

Document Pack

**Democratic Services Section
Chief Executive's Department
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS**



Friday, 5th November, 2010

MEETING OF PARKS AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

Dear Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room (Room G05), City Hall on Thursday, 11th November, 2010 at 4.30 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully

PETER McNANEY

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

1. Routine Matters
 - (a) Apologies
 - (b) Minutes
2. Boost Card: Means-Tested Benefits (Pages 1 - 4)
3. Ulster Farmers' Union (Pages 5 - 6)
4. Burial Provisions Update (Pages 7 - 10)
5. Natural Burials (Pages 11 - 14)
6. Playing Pitches Strategy (Pages 15 - 16)
7. Musgrave Park - Request for Permanent Changing Facilities (Pages 17 - 22)
8. Parks and Leisure Improvement Programme - Dog Management Pilot at Orangefield Park (Pages 23 - 26)

9. Shore Road Playing Fields (Pages 27 - 32)
10. Cliftonville Football Club (Pages 33 - 44)
11. Waterworks (Pages 45 - 50)
12. Alexandra Park (Pages 51 - 56)
13. Playground Improvement Scheme (Pages 57 - 60)
14. Leisure for Free Programme (Pages 61 - 64)
15. Fun Days in Parks (Pages 65 - 70)
16. Greater Belfast Invitational Cup - Easter 2011 (Pages 71 - 76)
17. Old Time Drive-In - Gospel Rally (Pages 77 - 78)
18. Go Belfast Awards (Pages 79 - 80)
19. Tenders Reports (Pages 81 - 82)
20. Support for Sport (Pages 83 - 88)

Extract from minutes of -

PARKS AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

14th October, 2010

“Boost Card: Means-Tested Benefits”

(Ms. C. Wilson, Policy and Business Development Manager, attended in connection with this item.)

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

‘Relevant Background Information

Since the implementation of the Boost leisure discount scheme in April 2006, Belfast residents in receipt of Means Tested Benefit (MTB) and their dependant children have availed of a flat rate discounted charge for accessing leisure services. Currently over 26,000 customers are taking advantage of the £1.25 charge in the MTB scheme.

The council agreed in 3 March 2008 to extend the scheme beyond the Belfast boundary. Approval to extend the scheme was provided by DOE on 21 March 2008 and DCAL on 6 January 2009.

Key Issues

In addition to the benefits already created by the scheme, the council has been requested to consider providing wider access to the MTB discount scheme to include participants in the Training For Success programme and asylum seekers.

A report was brought to the Parks and Leisure Committee in August 2010 outlining the case for providing wider access to the MTB discount scheme to include participants in the Training For Success programme and asylum seekers. At this meeting Members asked for confirmation of whether the proposed groups were means tested.

It has been confirmed that participants on the Training For Success programme are not means tested. The National Asylum Support (NAS) cash support payment is means tested.

- 2 -

Equality Issues

There are no equality implications in the extension of the scheme. However, as a matter of best practice an equality screening was carried out on the scheme and indicated no adverse impact on any of the Section 75 groups and therefore this can be screened out.

Resource Implications

Financial

There will be an increase in revenue but unquantifiable at present. However, MTB memberships are reported in performance reports.

Human Resources

The amount of officer time required to validate additional applications could be managed within existing structures.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. MTB criteria are extended so that the scheme can now be accessed by Asylum Seekers in receipt of payments from the Home Office National Asylum Support scheme.
2. MTB criteria does not include participants on the Training for Success programme, on the basis that it is not a means tested benefit.

Key to Abbreviations

MTB: Means Tested Benefit
DCAL: Department of Culture Arts and Leisure
DOE: Department of the Environment
NAS: National Asylum Support.'

After discussion, it was

Moved by Councillor McCann,
Seconded by Councillor C. Maskey,

That the Committee agrees that the Boost Leisure Discount Scheme be extended to include participants on the Training for Success Programme and Asylum Seekers, subject to an Equality Impact Assessment.

- 3 -

Amendment

Moved by Councillor Robinson,
Seconded by Councillor Stoker,

That the matter be considered within the review of the Boost Leisure
Discount Scheme.

On a vote by show of hands eight Members voted for the amendment and nine
against and it was accordingly declared lost.

The original proposal standing in the name of Councillor McCann and seconded
by Councillor C. Maskey was thereupon put to the meeting when nine Members voted
for and seven against and it was accordingly declared carried.”

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Extract from minutes of -

PARKS AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

14th October, 2010

“Ulster Farmers’ Union

The Director of Parks and Leisure reminded the Committee that a tier-three assessment, including hydrogeological modelling had indicated that the site at Lisleen would be suitable as a potential site for the Council’s future burial provision. In addition, he reminded the Committee that, at its meeting on 16th September, it had agreed that:

- (i) a robust business plan be developed in relation to the development of additional crematorium facilities and the extension of the Roselawn Cemetery;
- (ii) officers make arrangements for site investigations at the Dundrod sites, with priority to be given to the site offered through the expressions of interest process;
- (iii) the Nutt’s Corner site was not suitable as a potential site for a new burial cemetery;
- (iv) legal advice on the implications for potential future compulsory purchases be sought; and
- (v) an update newsletter be sent to all potentially affected landowners and other key stakeholders.

The Director stated that, throughout the process of site investigations in relation to the Lisleen site, the landowners had expressed concern regarding the implications of the burial land’s project for their land holdings. In this regard, the Ulster Farmers’ Union, on behalf of their members residing within the vicinity of the Lisleen site, had written to the Council seeking an opportunity to present their concerns to the Committee. Accordingly, he requested that the Committee consider the request which had been received from the Ulster Farmers’ Union.

After discussion, it was

Moved by Councillor Stoker,
Seconded by Councillor J. Rodgers,

That the Committee agrees to withdraw its interest in the Lisleen site as a potential location for the Council’s future burial provision.

On a vote by show of hands three Members voted for the proposal and four against and it was accordingly declared lost.

Accordingly, the Committee agreed to accede to the request which had been received from the Ulster Farmers’ Union.”

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Belfast City Council

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|---------------------------|---|
| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Update Report: acquisition of land for burials for Belfast City Council |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officer: | Claire Sullivan, Policy and Business Development Officer |

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to:

- (i) provide Members with an update on the burials land acquisition project; and
- (ii) seek the Committee's approval to undertake a site visit to both the Dundrod sites.

Relevant Background Information

Members will be aware of the ongoing project to select a site for a new cemetery for Belfast and that reports are brought to Committee on a regular basis, the last of which was in September 2010.

At that meeting Members agreed that:

- the Nutts Corner site is not suitable as a potential site for a new cemetery;
- officers make appropriate arrangements for site investigations at the Dundrod sites, with priority to be given to the site offered through the expressions of interest process;
- a robust plan be developed for the provision of additional crematorium facilities;
- legal advice be sought on potential future compulsory purchase;
- that further work should be carried out to investigate the provision of natural burials;
- burial and cremation charges should be reviewed; and
- an update newsletter is sent to all potentially affected landowners and other key stakeholders.

In bringing forward these recommendations a number of issues have arisen and these are outlined below.

Key Issues

Lisleen

Members are aware that landowners and residents at the Lisleen site have raised concerns that the lack of a decision by Council over the future of the site has impacted on their ability to sell their property or make decisions on improvements to their property. These concerns are to be articulated by the Ulster Farmers Union on behalf of Lisleen landowners at the beginning of this committee meeting.

It is anticipated that the combination of the additional land acquired at Roselawn and the development of additional crematorium facilities will meet the city's need for the next 40-50 years. Council officers are currently undertaking a statistical analysis to assess what the impact of additional crematorium facilities would have on the burial rate and the amount of burial land provision required by the council. This is based on the work undertaken by Scott Wilson earlier this year which reassessed the burial land requirement but did not take into account the impact of additional crematorium facilities. Since the completion of this piece of work we have received the economic appraisal of new crematorium facilities and officers are using both pieces of work to determine the impact. It is anticipated that we will bring the findings of the statistical analysis to committee in December 2010.

Members have agreed that the search for additional land to supplement this provision should continue but should have a North and West Belfast focus.

In addition, advice from the Assistant Chief Executive and Town Solicitor indicates that compulsory acquisition of land is a method of last resort and can only be justified where it is evident that land suitable for the project is not available to be acquired on a voluntary basis. Given the combination of the above factors it is his opinion that it is difficult to see how the Council could make an argument that there is a compelling need to acquire further land solely for burial purposes.

Therefore, despite the land at Lisleen having been demonstrated as suitable for burial provision, it is unlikely given the current position as described above that the council can demonstrate any legitimate reason for maintaining an interest in that land for the foreseeable future.

Crematorium

It was agreed by the Parks and Leisure Committee in September 2010 *'that a robust plan be developed in relation to the development of additional crematorium facilities'*. Officers are currently working on this plan and as part of the process have held informal discussions with a number of private providers. A paper outlining detailed options for the way forward will be brought to the committee in January 2011.

Dundrod

It was agreed by the Parks and Leisure Committee in September 2010 *'that officers make appropriate arrangements for site investigations at the Dundrod sites, with priority to be given to the site offered through the expressions of interest process'*. Since the Committee meeting several officers, with one

elected Member, have made a visit to both sites. As a result of this visit officers have concerns around the accessibility of both sites due to access to the sites being by 'B' roads, the lack of public transport on the route and potential driving difficulties in wintry conditions. It is recommended therefore that Members undertake a site visit to both the Dundrod sites before site investigations commence.

Resource Implications

Financial

There is provision of £13.9 M in the Council's capital programme for new cemetery provision for Belfast City Council.

Human Resources

There are no human resource implications at this stage.

Asset and Other Implications

None at this stage, although the final phases of the project will inevitably increase the Council's land ownership and associated liabilities.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee agree to:

- (i) note the contents of this report;
- (ii) indicate that, given the council's changed policy position, it has no intention of pursuing the development of new cemetery provision on the site at Lisleen for the foreseeable future; and
- (iii) undertake a site visit to both the Dundrod sites.

Decision Tracking

The next update report on the new cemetery process will be brought to Committee in December 2010 by the Policy and Business Development Officer.

A paper outlining detailed options for new crematorium facilities will be brought to Committee in January 2010 by the Director of Parks and Leisure.

Key to abbreviations

None.

Documents attached

None.

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Belfast City Council

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|---------------------------|--|
| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Natural Burials |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officer: | Claire Sullivan, Policy and Business Development Officer |

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to:

- (i) provide Members with information on natural burials;
- (ii) seek the Committee's approval to further investigate natural burials at Roselawn and develop a feasibility study; and
- (iii) seek the Committee's approval to procure technical engineering and feasibility study consultancy support.

Relevant Background Information

Members will be aware that the Cemeteries Working Group on 9th August 2010 recommended that further work was undertaken to investigate the possibility of a natural (woodland) burial site and that this was agreed at the Parks and Leisure Committee on 16 September 2010.

Members will be aware that a member of the public has recently sent a letter to Councillors asking that the Council consider providing the option of natural burials (also known as woodland burials) and that the Council's decision to agree to investigate the possibility of a natural burial site has received media coverage. The Council has also received emails of support for the provision of natural burials from The Woodland Trust and Friends of Earth Northern Ireland.

Natural burial is when the body of the deceased is returned to the earth to recycle naturally in an environmentally sustainable way. The first natural burial site opened in the UK in 1993 and there are now over 250 around the UK, although there are currently none in Northern Ireland. There is a Natural Death Centre which established the Association of Natural Burial Grounds in 1994. The Association has a code of conduct for members including requirements around flora and fauna conservation, the use of biodegradable coffins and financial matters.

In a natural burial area graves are usually dug to a single depth and the body (preferably not embalmed) is buried in a bio-degradable coffin. Following an

interment, the ground would be allowed to settle and would then be grassed over and a small native species tree planted in it. The area would over time become a woodland, under planted with wild flowers and would be managed for the benefit of wildlife. The area would not have the appearance of a traditional cemetery although irregular winding paths are included to allow for visitor access. Graves are marked with a wooden marker and no other form of marker or memorial would be allowed. Fresh cuts flowers would be accepted but without any wrappings or ribbons nor as an arrangement in a container.

Key Issues

Development of natural burial ground at Roselawn

One of the options open to the Council is to develop a natural burial ground within the site at Roselawn. Roselawn Cemetery is the largest (268 acres) and busiest cemetery in Northern Ireland, carrying out 840 burials in 2009. The Council purchased an additional 10 acres in the 1980s and more recently a further 28 acres. This land is collectively called Section Y and plans are currently being drawn up to develop this as new burial ground.

Within this area provision could be made for a natural burial ground which is currently pasture/meadow green fields with mature trees and hedgerows. Tests could be carried out to determine if there is a particular area that is unsuitable for 'traditional' burial but could be used for a single depth natural burial thus maximising the use of this new land.

To comply with the Department of the Environment legislation, the ground that is selected at Roselawn Cemetery for a natural burial ground must not be located within certain distances of specific types of water; these are

- at least 10 metres from any 'dry' ditch or field drain
- at least 30 metres from any spring or any running or standing water
- at least 50 metres from any well, borehole or spring that supplies water for use.

The Council currently operate a woodland copse at the Roselawn site for cremated remains. This is an area of birch trees underplanted with naturalising bulbs such as bluebells and wood anemones which has been planned to specifically create a traditional woodland environment and to encourage fauna and wildlife. Chemical weed control is not used and in order to keep this area as natural as possible no floral tributes, plaques or any form of memorialisation can be left in the woodland copse. Cremated remains may be buried (poured into the ground or buried in a biodegradable urn) or scattered in the woodland copse. This area has been in operation since 1993 and to date 157 cremated remains have been laid to rest in this area.

Use of a private provider

In the period since the issue of natural burials was brought to the Cemeteries Working Group (August 2010), a natural burial ground has been opened in Co Wexford by The Green Graveyard Company Limited. This company is based in Co Donegal and it is currently exploring options to open a natural burial ground in Northern Ireland. The owner has expressed an interest in operating a natural burial ground on behalf of the council although no formal discussions have taken

place. If the Council were to pursue this option it would only be workable at a new site which was used exclusively for natural burials.

Next steps

It is recommended that the next step in this process is a feasibility study which will investigate the options of providing a natural burial ground at the Roselawn site. Due to the specialised nature of this topic it is recommended that the Council become a provisional member of the Association of Natural Burial Grounds to avail of their knowledge and experience. It may also be necessary to commission external support for the feasibility study and officers will endeavour to keep this to the minimum level.

It is proposed that the feasibility study will examine a range of issues related to natural burials including:

Demand for Natural Burials

Work needs to be undertaken to assess the potential demand for natural burial in Belfast. The Natural Death Centre estimate that 4% of all burials in Great Britain are natural burials and that there is a 30% growth per annum.

Impact on other provision

We will be required to assess the potential impact that providing the option of a natural burial will have on our traditional burial service and cremation and the implications that providing single use graves will have on our future burial land requirements.

Location of Natural Burial Ground

Further boreholes tests need to be undertaken within the Roselawn site to determine the rock profile and soil conditions. This will allow us to identify areas that are not suitable for traditional burials but in which we could bury one body thus maximising the use of land. Technical engineering support will be required for this element.

Costs and charges

An initial search via the internet of the charges for natural burial grounds elsewhere show that these range from £450 for a single plot to £5000 for a double plot. All of the sites looked at had an additional charge for grave digging. The charges for the new natural burial ground in Co Wexford range from €715.05 for a single plot to €2497 for a family plot. We do not currently have any information on the costs of providing natural burials and further work needs to be carried out to determine these costs and what the Council should charge for this service.

Size of plots

Another issue that needs to be considered as part of the development of the feasibility study is whether the council wishes to provide single, double or larger plots. The practice elsewhere varies with some sites providing only single plots while others also provide the option of a double plot. Initial investigations would suggest that the natural burial ground in Co Wexford is the only site to provide plots for 3 and 4 people.

Terms and conditions

As part of the development of a feasibility study terms and conditions will be

drawn up, these will include conditions relating to what is permissible on graves and the types of coffins that we will allow for this type of burial. These will be based on guidance from the Association of Natural Burial Grounds and best practice from other natural burial grounds.

Other issues may arise through the process and these will be addressed in the feasibility study.

Resource Implications

Financial

Technical engineering support - it is estimated this will be in the region of £20,000.

Feasibility study support - it is estimated that this will be in the region of £10,000 and will include the £75 membership fee for the Association of Natural Burial Grounds.

Human Resources

The feasibility study will be met through existing resources.

Asset and Other Implications

N/A

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- (i) agree that council officers further investigate the feasibility of providing a natural burial ground at Roselawn and produce a feasibility study; and
- (ii) agree that council officers procure technical engineering and feasibility study consultancy support as required.

Decision Tracking

A detailed feasibility study for the provision of natural burials at Roselawn will be brought to Committee in March 2011 by the Policy and Business Officer.



Belfast City Council

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| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Playing Pitch Strategy |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek permission from the Committee for a special meeting on the draft playing pitch strategy.

Relevant Background Information

Strategic Leisure was asked by the council in December 2008 to develop a playing pitch strategy. Members considered the findings of this report at committee in December 2009 and during a subsequent series of party group briefings held in April/May and August this year.

The committee is reminded that it has agreed a multi-layered approach which will ensure that the council provides and enables the provision of high-quality, accessible, well-planned outdoor provision. It will address 3 key areas of action:

- Capital assets
Includes proposals on: addressing deficiencies (e.g. acquisition of new pitches, improving access to alternative venues); protecting existing provision (e.g. rolling programme of upgrades); and enhancing existing provision (e.g. improved changing facilities).
- Programming and sports development
Includes proposals on: inclusion programme (e.g. increasing access for women and those with disabilities); increasing connectivity and shared space; and supporting new teams.
- Management
Includes proposals on: reviewing community management models; reviewing pricing policy; engaging in joint asset management with statutory partners.

A full strategy has now been drafted, including a prioritisation matrix and consultation process, and is ready for presentation to committee. In order to provide sufficient opportunity for discussion, it is proposed that a special

meeting of the Parks and Leisure Committee is convened at the earliest opportunity.

Following this, the intention is to issue the draft strategy for public consultation and presentation of the final strategy to committee by April 2011.

Resource Implications

None.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee agree to convene a special meeting for the purposes of considering the playing pitch strategy.

Decision Tracking

The actions will be completed by the Director by 10 December 2010.

Key to abbreviations

None.

Documents Attached

None.



Belfast City Council

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|---------------------------|--|
| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Request for permanent changing facilities at Musgrave Park |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officer: | Stephen Walker, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager |

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of a request from St Bridget's GAC for the provision of permanent changing facilities at Musgrave Park and to agree a way forward.

Relevant Background Information

The Committee will be aware that St Bridget's GAC attracted funding to provide a full size GAA pitch and smaller training area on the site of Musgrave Park. As a condition of grant the Council agreed to enter into a 21 year management agreement with the club which still has approximately 17 years to run. The pitches have been a great success and are well used. However, as members will be aware there are no changing facilities on the site and this provision was not part of the original plan / funding application.

Officers from the Council have met with officials from the Club on a number of occasions to consider the possibility of the provision of changing facilities. The discussions focused around possible locations for changing facilities. Appendix 1 identifies 6 possible locations. Realistically, only options 1, 2, 5, and 6 as indicated are practical and each has advantages and disadvantages.

During discussions the working assumption had been that the club would seek external funding to provide the changing facilities and that the Council would enter into a revised management or lease arrangement.

Current context

The committee is asked to note the following points:

1. At a recent meeting with representatives from the Club and attended by several elected members, the matter was discussed and the position of the Club now is that they are not in a position to fund the provision of permanent changing facilities. The Club has therefore requested that the Council initiate a process with the aim of providing the necessary facilities;
2. Members will be aware that Officers are preparing a Pitches strategy and that a strand of that strategy will relate to the provision of ancillary structures such as changing facilities.

Key Issues

The Committee is asked to take note of the following key points:

1. St Bridgets secured significant external funding to provide the playing fields at Musgrave Park;
2. The Club has a long term management arrangement in place with the Council in respect of the playing fields;
3. The pitches are well used;
4. The Club has indicated that it is unable to attract the necessary external funding at this time;
5. The Club has requested that the Council agree to undertake the provision of changing facilities;
6. The Council is currently preparing a Pitches Strategy which will include consideration of ancillary provision including changing facilities.

The Committee at this meeting will be giving consideration to the holding of a special meeting to consider the Playing Pitch Strategy and the process for prioritisation of investment in pitches and other facilities.

Therefore, while officers will continue to work with St. Bridget's GAC to define their need and to work up proposals it would be premature to make any decision in relation to the provision of additional facilities in advance of the wider consideration of the Playing Pitch Strategy.

Resource Implications

Financial

There are no financial implications at this time, however the provision of changing facilities will have both capital and revenue implications.

Human Resources

There are no additional human resource implications other than officer time.

Asset and Other Implications

The provision of changing facilities will greatly enhance the existing playing field provision.

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| Recommendations |
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| It is recommended that the Committee note the request and agree that it should be considered following the agreement of the Playing Pitch Strategy and prioritisation process. |
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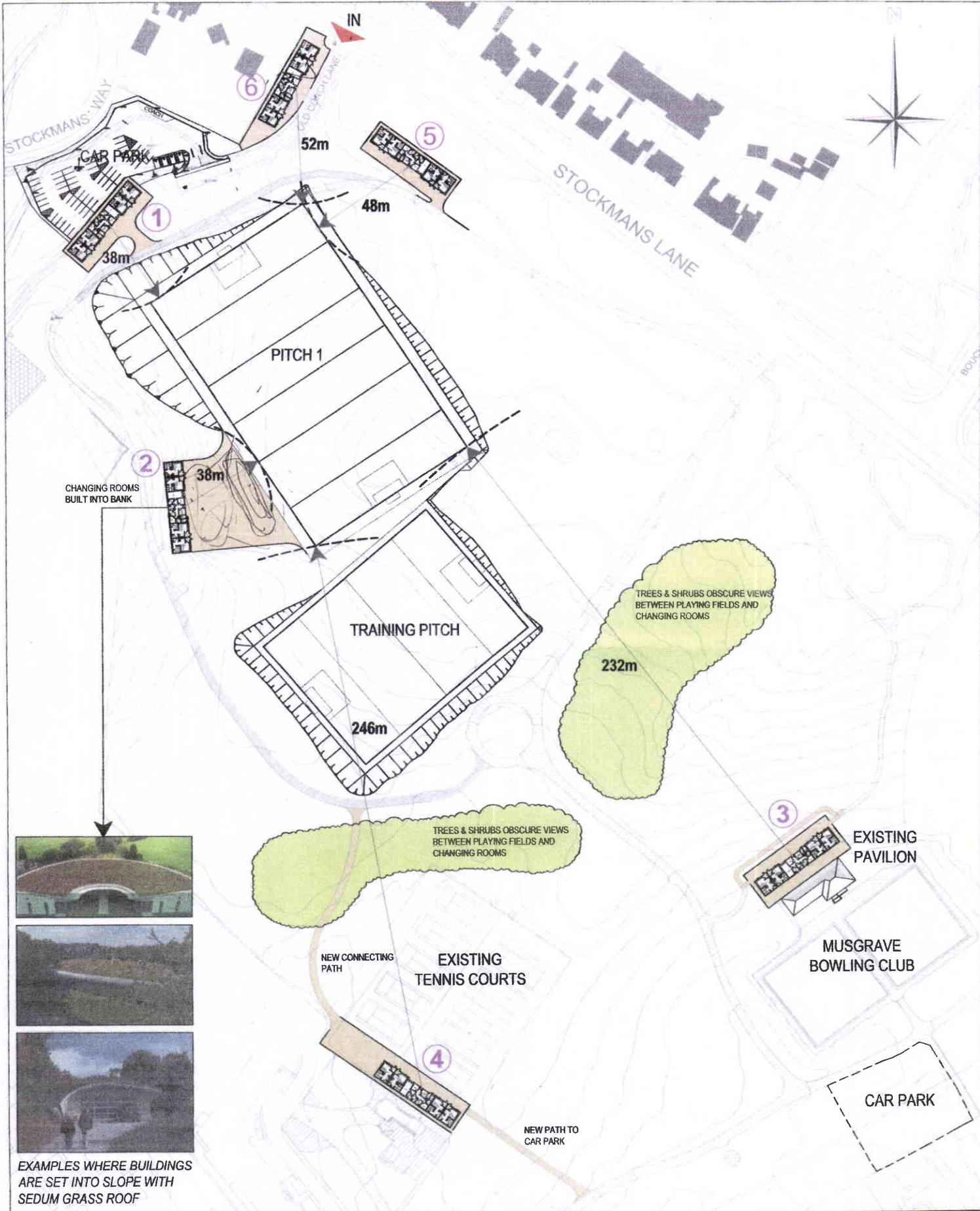
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| Decision Tracking |
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| An update report will be brought to the Committee no later than June 2011. |
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| Documents Attached |
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| Appendix 1 – Outline of Musgrave Park identifying possible locations for a changing facility. |
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EXAMPLES WHERE BUILDINGS ARE SET INTO SLOPE WITH SEDUM GRASS ROOF



SITE PLAN September 2010 SCALE 1:1500
 Cumann Luthchlas Gael Naomh Bríd Béal Feirste
St Brigid's GAC Belfast
 Founded 1998

SITE OPTIONS FOR
PROPOSED CHANGING FACILITY
 AT ST. BRIGID'S G.A.C., MUSGRAVE PARK

Inset Architecture and Planning Limited
 14-16 Skinner Avenue
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 Email: info@insetarchitecture.com



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Belfast City Council

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|---------------------------|---|
| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Improvement Programme - Dog Management Pilot for Orangefield Park |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Rose Crozier, Head of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officers: | Alex McNeill, Park Manager |

Relevant Background Information

Dog fouling and management of dogs in our Parks and Open Spaces has been raised as a serious issue on several occasions both by Elected Members and in response to public consultation. At a recent meeting with local residents from the Orangefield area the issue of dog control was raised again and suggestions made to address the problems. Issues were summarised as follows:

- Dog fouling on recreational areas such as football pitches
- Dogs off leads
- Aggressive behaviour by dogs to members of the public
- Aggressive behaviour by dogs to other dogs.

Subject to approval from the Parks and Leisure Committee, it is proposed to implement a pilot 'traffic light system' to designate specific areas of park for dog use. Appendix 1 is a drawing of the park showing designated areas of use. It is anticipated that the zoning of the area will assist with the control of dogs and provide improved experience for all users who visit the park.

Key Issues

The pilot scheme would be developed with park users including those who currently walk dogs in the park.

Appropriate marketing of the initiative will be undertaken and a range of activities will be organised throughout the pilot to support dog walkers and other park users.

The division of the park into areas for dog use is proposed as a pilot to assess the appropriateness of the approach. The main objectives of the pilot would be:

- To improve the service provision at Orangefield Park
- To develop improved relationships with local residents through consultation, meetings, etc to assure that everyone's needs are being met
- To trial the pilot dog management plan for six months
- To work in collaboration with the Antisocial Behaviour Officer and the Dog Warden Service within the Council
- To report outcomes from the pilot to the Parks and Leisure Committee at the end of the six month period and to make recommendations on a way forward.

Resource Implications

Financial

- It is estimated that signage at entrances and within the Park would incur a cost in the region £8k.
- Promotion of the pilot in local newspapers is estimated to be in the region of £2k.

These costs can be met from existing revenue budgets.

Human Resources

Officer time for consultation meetings.

Asset and Other Implications

None

Recommendations

To approve the implementation of the pilot scheme to manage dogs at Orangefield Park and agree to receive a report on the evaluation of the pilot project after six months.

Decision Tracking

Officer responsible: Alex McNeill, Parks Manager

Actions to be completed by: July 2011

Key to Abbreviations

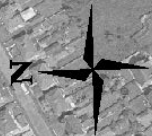
None.

Documents Attached

Appendix 1: map demonstrating the zones of differing dog management within Orangefield Park.

Legend

- ★ Access Points
- No Dogs Permitted
- Dogs on Leash
- Dogs off Leash



Orangefield Dog Management Pilot

Landscape Planning & Development Unit
November 2010

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Belfast City Council

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Shore Road Playing Fields |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officer: | |

Purpose

To consider the legal opinion requested by the Parks and Leisure Committee at its meeting on 16 September 2010 regarding a request by Grove United FC and Malachians FC in respect of the potential development of Shore Road playing fields.

Relevant Background Information

A request was received by Grove United FC and Malachians FC at the end of August 2010 regarding their desire to undertake a development project on the Shore Road playing fields. The clubs jointly have a facilities management agreement for the site.

The details of their request which was for an in principle agreement for a 25 year lease for the current playing fields to assist in their pursuit to obtain funding to deliver their development plan were presented to Committee at its meeting on 16 September 2010. A copy of the report presented is attached at Appendix 1.

The Committee deferred consideration of the report to allow a legal opinion to be sought on whether the council could accede to the request without inviting expressions of interest.

Key Issues

The legal advice indicates that in the normal course of events the council would seek expressions of interest by public advertisement to test if there was any legitimate competitive interest other than that received from Grove United and Malachians.

However if in this case there is a unique income stream available to the club(s) which would benefit the council owned property then the Committee could

consider entering into an arrangement with the clubs.

This would require the clubs to develop the business case for the proposal and to provide written proof of funding to enable a decision to be made.

Currently there are no plans to invite expressions of interest for any further development of the facilities at Shore Road playing fields. Therefore to enable the Committee to consider agreeing in principle to enter into a 25 year lease arrangement with the clubs a detailed proposal outlining the business case and the benefit which would accrue to the council property as a result of the development would have to be submitted for consideration.

Resource Implications

None.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee agree to request Grove United FC and Malachians FC to submit a detailed proposal for the development of the Shore Road playing fields (that report to address in particular the sourcing of funding) for consideration within six months.

Decision Tracking

Responsible officer: Director of Parks and Leisure.
Actions to be completed by end December 2010.

Key to Abbreviations

FC: Football Club.

Documents Attached

Appendix 1: Report to Parks and Leisure Committee of 16 September 2010.

**Belfast City Council**

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| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Shore Road Playing Fields |
| Date: | 16 September 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officers: | Stephen Walker, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager |

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to make the Committee aware of a lease request from Grove United FC and Malachians FC in respect of the potential development of the Shore Road Playing Fields and to seek a decision on this matter.

Relevant Background Information

The Committee is asked to note that a request has been received from Grove United FC and Malachians FC in respect of the land at Shore Road Playing Fields. A copy of the letter is attached as Appendix 1.

The letter outlines that the clubs wish to undertake a development project on the playing field site. The development project will, according to the letter, provide permanent state of the art changing facilities, an indoor sports arena and multi purpose rooms for use by the club and the wider community. However, no concept or outline drawing have been provided.

The letter requests that the Council enters into a minimum of a 21 year lease with them regarding Shore Road Playing Fields and subsequently a 25 year lease was specified in order to meet the Sport NI funding requirement. The clubs would need some assurance on this to enable them to approach funding bodies to endeavour to secure funding to deliver the plan.

Key Issues

1. The Committee is asked to note that the Council, where possible, wish to work with clubs such as Grove United and Malachians to improve the facilities.

2. In considering the request as outlined in Appendix 1 the Committee is asked to note that:
 - a) the proposal is at a very early stage; and
 - b) no funding has to date been secured;
3. The Shore Road site is quite small, it is adjacent to a school which has right of access through the site. The entrance to the site is in close proximity to the slip road from the motorway at the Greencastle exit. These factors will combine to limit the development potential.
4. During discussions with the clubs the land adjacent to the site was mentioned. This land is currently leased, on a short term basis, to the Whitewell Tabernacle Church. This land is used as a car park and the Churches possession of it would be protected under the business tenancies legislation. Members are also reminded that this portion of land is part of the corporate land bank under the direction of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee and is not part of the operational holding of the Parks and Leisure Department.
5. The clubs are seeking agreement in principle from the committee to enable them to seek funding for the proposal. However, Members should note that final approval regarding any lease for the site would be a matter for Strategic Policy & Resources Committee under Standing Order 46 (viii).

Resource Implications

Financial

There are no financial implications at this time.

Human Resources

There are no additional human resource implications at this time.

Asset and Other Implications

The implications are unclear at this time.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. Agree, in principle to enter into a lease arrangement with Grove United and Malachians for a period of 25 years subject to receipt of a business plan, sports development plan and appropriate drawings regarding the proposals; the securing of the appropriate level of funding by the clubs to deliver the plan and the securing of the appropriate approvals, including planning and building control and council agreement to making all necessary lands available;
2. In the event of the club securing the necessary funding that the Council enter into an appropriate development agreement with the club in advance of the lease being granted to safeguard the Council;
3. The club be notified of the Committee's decision in this matter, subject to ratification by Strategic Policy and Resources in line with Standing Orders (46 (viii)).

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| Decision Tracking |
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| Officer responsible: Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager Actions to be completed by: November 2010 |
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| Key to abbreviations |
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| Documents Attached |
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| Appendix 1: Letter from Grove United FC and Malachians. |
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**Belfast City Council**

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| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Cliftonville Football Club – Access Arrangements |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure, |
| Contact Officer: | Stephen Walker, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager Ken Anderson, Estates Management Unit, Property and Projects |

Relevant Background Information

At its meeting on 7 November 2006 the former Parks and Cemeteries Services Sub-Committee (copy extract of Minute attached as Appendix 1 to this report) received a report setting out proposals in relation to various arrangements between the Council and Cliftonville Football Club (CFC). The arrangements fell into three categories which were subsequently embodied in the following legal agreements completed on 9 November 2007.

- i) Licence Agreement for contractor's use of Council laneway for 18 months.
- ii) Grant of Rights, in relation to foundations and other structures on Council land.
- iii) Agreement for Easement, relating to potential spectator access and controls.

A fourth item related to the provision of a sewer Wayleave Agreement was subsequently approved by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee although the legal documentation has yet to be signed by Club officials.

The attached map (Appendix 2) shows Cliftonville Football Club's site shaded yellow, and the Council's laneway and adjoining Waterworks site shaded blue.

While items i) and ii) above have proceeded as intended, the Club has to date failed to install a barrier gate at the Waterworks end of the Council's laneway, which had been aimed at separating the Waterworks Park from the spectator access area. It was envisaged the gate would be closed at or around match

times and the Council laneway would be stewarded by CFC officials during this period. The reason for this was to prevent access to/from the ground from the Waterworks and prevent loitering prior to, and post, matches. Without the gate it was impossible to implement the other elements contained in the Agreement.

In late 2009 Council officers were approached by the new management at CFC who indicated they wished to re-negotiate the terms of the Agreement for Easement with a view to operating without the intended gate being installed. Since that time there have been several meetings with Club officials (on one occasion involving Elected Members) and officers have formally written to the Club on a number of occasions seeking their detailed proposals on the operation of the spectator/officials/player access arrangements along the Council's laneway. While the Club have yet to outline their proposals a number of issues have emerged during the intervening months. These include:

- In addition to the spectator/officials/player access along the laneway the Club are seeking use of the Council's laneway by a) an oil tanker for delivery of heating oil to the Club's premises. This was not required before construction of the new stand. b) access along the lane by a 'burger van' operated by a third party, has also been sought on several occasions. c) periodic vehicle / plant access for other purposes.
- Possible lighting scheme along the Council's laneway (nature of installation, responsibility for maintenance and running costs as yet unknown).
- No gates to be installed thus allowing spectators to gather in Waterworks Park pre-match before entry to the Ground and post-match after leaving the Ground.
- No gates to be installed with consequent potential for conflicting uses of the laneway and Waterworks Park by spectators and park users (particularly if used by 'away' spectators – as now envisaged by the CFC).

While solutions may be available to deal with all these issues the initiative lies with CFC to make specific proposals to the Council and to demonstrate that such proposals are based on appropriate consultation with the relevant authorities and the community. A template already exists in the form of the 2007 Agreement for Easement, and officers have invited detailed comments on this from the Club. To date the Club has not taken up the opportunity to make specific proposals but have made ad hoc requests of increasing frequency to allow access for various purposes along the laneway. While the local Park Manager has attempted to accommodate these requests it is noted they are for the benefit of the Club rather than Park users. Access for the 'burger van' also introduces an element of third party commerciality upon which the Club may wish to build a case for further commercial use.

Key Issues

The Committee is asked to note that while Officers are sympathetic to the needs of Cliftonville Football club and have to date facilitated their requests for access

the existing arrangement leaves the Council exposed.

1. operationally in terms of allowing access along the laneway (and potentially, by default, into the Park) when the Park would otherwise be closed. This relates particularly to the winter period when matches may be played on mid-week evenings. Also in winter, Saturday matches would normally finish after Park closing time.
2. Potential for confrontations between spectators and casual park users, particularly on Saturday afternoons;
3. potential third party liabilities;
4. periodic conflict between park users and Club / contractor's vehicles.
5. the creation of unregulated rights of way (potentially of commercial value) over the Council's land.

As the present ad hoc arrangements place the Council at risk it is the view of Officers that the situation should be regularised to ensure clarity of roles and responsibilities.

Resource Implications

Financial

Financial implications have yet to be determined. It is recognised that the Club operates on a semi-professional basis and in order to sustain and develop the Club it generates income from a number of sources among them, ticket sales, advertising and TV rights. The Council may wish to keep this commercial element in mind in any future arrangements with the Club where such arrangements are likely to be to the commercial benefit of the Club or any other commercial organisation/individual.

Human Resources

No additional human resources employed at this time. The possibility remains that overtime or additional security costs might arise as a result of any arrangements which may be arrived at between the Council and the Club.

Asset and Other Implications

Action is recommended to prevent the development of unregulated rights, particularly of a commercial/semi-commercial nature, across Council owned land.

Recommendations

It is recommended that :

1. the Committee consider the contents of the report;
2. agree that the existing, unregulated ad hoc access arrangements currently in operation are not acceptable;
3. agree that access will not be permitted without a legal agreement from 1st March 2011;
4. agree that this decision be made known to the Board of Directors of Cliftonville Football Club;

5. Agree that officers continue discussions with Cliftonville Football Club with a view to agreeing detailed terms which would be brought before a future meeting of this Committee prior to their reference to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee and incorporation in a suitable legal agreement to be drawn up by the Assistant Chief Executive and Town Solicitor.

Decision Tracking

Director of Parks and Leisure to bring a further report to Committee by 31 March 2011 informing Members of progress made towards formalisation of any arrangements with Cliftonville Football Club.

Key to Abbreviations

CFC – Cliftonville Football Club

Documents Attached

Appendix 1 – Extract from Minute of the former Parks and Cemeteries Services Sub-Committee of 7 November 2006.

Appendix 2 – Map showing CFC Ground shaded yellow and Council laneway and adjoining Waterworks Park shaded blue.

C Community and Recreation (Parks and Cemeteries Services)
1024 Sub-Committee, Tuesday, 7th November, 2006

Cliftonville Football Club

The Head of Parks and Cemeteries Services submitted the undernoted report in relation to the Cliftonville Football Club:

"Relevant Background Information

Cliftonville Football Club has developed plans to provide new facilities at its home ground (known as 'Solitude'). The development includes the demolition of the existing spectator stand on the south east side of the ground and construction of a replacement stand at this location.

In addition the existing spectator access points to 'Solitude' are approached from the surrounding public streets. The redevelopment of the spectator stand includes new spectator access points opening on to a laneway in Council ownership. This laneway currently provides access to the Council's Waterworks site from Cliftonville Road. See attached Appendix 1 showing Council owned lands shaded green and laneway hatched.

Cliftonville Football Club has asked the Council to consider arrangements which can be categorised under the following numbered headings:

1. Temporary arrangements to facilitate its contractor during the demolition and development of the new facilities. These are illustrated on the attached map (Appendix 2) and illustration (Appendix 3) and includes vehicle access to the site and use of part of the Council's land for the erection of scaffolding during construction works. The new spectator stand is located approximately on the area marked 'Terraces' on Appendix 2.
2. Long term arrangements associated with the proposed new spectator stand and associated accommodation. These are:
 - (i) Constructing parts of the foundations for the new stand on Council owned ground. This would be over the entire length of the proposed new stand (approx. 60 metres). The exact extent/width of encroachment is not yet known.
 - (ii) The installation of twelve new window openings in the new stand which overlooks the Council's laneway. The windows are approximately 1 metre square and are located between 4 and 5 metres above ground level.
 - (iii) The installation of (external) window grills on the windows referred to at ii) above. The grills will form a permanent protection to the windows. The grills (and window cills) will overhang the Council owned land.
 - (iv) The installation of club signage above proposed spectator and staff entrances from the Council's laneway. (see also '3' below).

C
1026

Community and Recreation (Parks and Cemeteries Services)
Sub-Committee, Tuesday, 7th November, 2006

(v) The installation of a small number of storm water gullies and associated storm sewers on the Council's laneway to collect rainwater run-off around the proposed new staff and spectator entrances.

3. Long term arrangements to facilitate access for spectators and others to 'Solitude' via Council owned land.

The proposals include new spectator entrance and exit at the north eastern corner of Solitude where it adjoins the Waterworks, plus staff and player access direct to changing accommodation located 'under' the new spectator stand. This access would be via the Council's laneway from Cliftonville Road and Cliftonville FC will undertake to steward supporters and erect a lockable gate at the Waterworks end of the laneway. This gate would be used on match days to ensure all spectators are directed towards the Cliftonville Road and away from the Waterworks site. Cliftonville FC is also proposing that it contributes to the maintenance of the Council's laneway and assists with litter picking on match days.

One result of the above proposals would be that there would be no access to the Waterworks site via the laneway for members of the public at match times. The increased use of the laneway at match times may also have some impact on the householders in Linden Gardens and Cliftonville Street whose dwellings back on to the lane. However the existing access to 'Solitude' will already affect residents in Cliftonville Street.

Key Issues

- Proposals received from Cliftonville Football Club to facilitate construction and operation of new spectator stand at its ground;
- Proposals fall into three categories: i) temporary arrangements to facilitate construction; ii) long term arrangements in relation to the new building structures; iii) arrangements for the direction and supervision of spectators along the Council's laneway from Cliftonville Road to new entrances.

Resource Implications

Financial

The proposals would appear not to contain any additional revenue of capital costs to the Council.

Human Resources

No additional human resources required. Inputs required from Estates management Unit and Legal Services Department in relation to drawing up any formal legal arrangements between the Council and Cliftonville FC.

Asset and Other Implications

The proposals would create rights over Council owned land and as a result would reduce the flexibility the Council (as land owners) have to determine the future use of its own land. An appropriate legal agreement would help regulate the impact on the Council's asset.

Recommendations

1. It is recommended that the Council facilitates the temporary arrangements with Cliftonville Football Club by allowing contractors to use parts of the Council's laneway, subject to an appropriate Licence Agreement being drawn up by the Director of Legal Services for this purpose which would among other things preserve pedestrian access to the Waterworks and allow Council vehicles access to the Waterworks.
2. It is recommended that the use of Council land for the installation of foundations could be accommodated but that discussions be conducted with Cliftonville FC to ascertain if a construction solution not involving Council land is feasible.
3. It is recommended that the installation of the proposed windows, window grills and storm gullies and sewers should be subject to a formal agreement to be drawn up by the Director of Legal Services which would require the blocking up of the windows and removal of the grills at any time, upon the Council's request and would also require re-direction of the storm drainage at Cliftonville FC's expense should the Council require same.
4. No recommendation is made in relation to the installation of Club signage facing on to the Council's laneway and Members are asked to arrive at their own conclusion in this regard.

C Community and Recreation (Parks and Cemeteries Services)
1028 Sub-Committee, Tuesday, 7th November, 2006

5. With regard to future arrangements for spectator use of the Council's laneway it is recommended that the Sub-Committee agrees in principle and that an agreement be prepared to facilitate the club gets to minimise the impact on users wishing to gain access to the Waterworks. If Members do agree to Cliftonville FC's proposals then they should become subject to a formal legal agreement to be drawn up by the Director of Legal Services.

Key to Abbreviations

Cliftonville FC – Cliftonville Football Club”

The Sub-Committee adopted the recommendations.

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ESS

g Club

Pavilion

Stand

Terraces

Solitude
(Cliftonville F & A Club)

Lav

Stand

Club House

New Stand

CLIFTONVILLE DRIVE

CLIFTONVILLE PDE

CLIFTONVILLE PDE

CLIFTONVILLE STREET

CLIFTONVILLE ST

ELIMGROVE STREET

CLIFTONVILLE RD

CLIFTONVILLE AVES

Nursery

LINDEN GARDENS

LINDEN

GARDENS

CHESTNUT GARDENS

Bollards

ESS

Scale 1:1250

SS

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Belfast City Council

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| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Proposal to refurbish Waterworks Park |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officer: | Stephen Walker, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager |

Purpose

The purpose of the report is to inform the committee of a proposal from the Friends of the Waterworks to work up a plan to refurbish the Waterworks Park.

Relevant Background Information

The Committee is reminded that the Waterworks Park is located in North Belfast and is adjacent to the Antrim Road and Cavehill Road. An aerial illustration is attached as Appendix 1.

The park is largely comprised of water; the upper pond has been populated with fish and is popular with local fishermen who have established an interest group within the park. In addition to the water features, the park comprises:

- a multi user games areas at the Antrim Road end, this is managed by the North Belfast Play Forum;
- two playgrounds, one at the lower end and one at the upper end;
- a grass pitch at the upper end of the park which has been refurbished;
- a community garden and temporary community building at the upper end; and
- a second community garden has been established towards the middle of the park.

The facility is well used although it is subject to anti social behaviour and parts of it are described as contested space.

In 2008 the council prepared a master plan for the park, this was an aspirational piece of work but was based on the views of council officers and members of the various interest groups involved with the park. A copy of the master plan is attached as Appendix 1.

The park has an active Friends Group which is anxious to work with the council to progress physical enhancement of the park. To do so it has been proposed that the group in conjunction with Groundwork NI work up specific elements of the

master plan, identify potential sources of funding and consider management options.

The intention would be to report back to the Parks and Leisure Committee in the early Spring outlining:

- proposals for the development of the park;
- a funding strategy;
- management issues and options; and

implications for the council in terms of capital and revenue spend and staffing / management issues.

Key Issues

The key issues for the Committee to note are:

1. this approach will be heavily reflective of a community led approach to the development of the park;
2. the work is undertaken 'at risk' by the friends group;
3. it in no way commits the Council to the specific proposals worked up;
4. it in no way commits the Council to expenditure;
5. the process could raise local expectations if not properly managed; and
6. any capital works contained within the proposal would be subject to the council's 'gates' process and would need to be included in the capital programme for prioritisation.

Resource Implications

None.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee give consent to the Friends of Waterworks to prepare development plans for the park.

It is further recommended that the Committee make clear that this permission in no way commits the Council to any of the proposals or to incur expenditure as a consequence of the proposals and that the work is carried out at risk by the group.

Decision Tracking

The Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager will provide a follow up report no later than April 2011.

Key to abbreviations

None.

Documents Attached

Appendix 1: Waterworks location plan
Appendix 2: Waterworks masterplans



Appendix 1

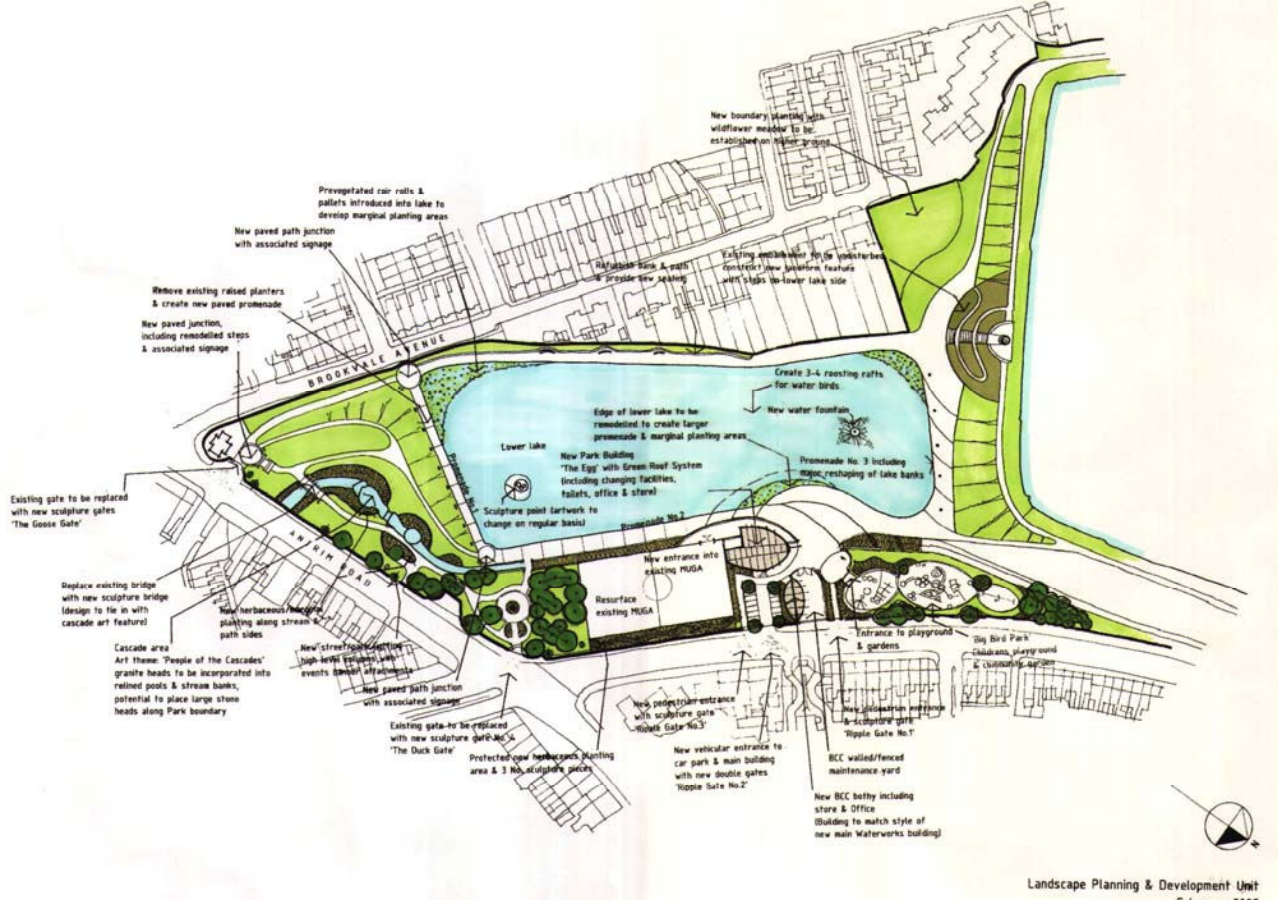
Waterworks Location Plan

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Landscape Planning & Development Unit
February 2008

Upper Waterworks Masterplan



Landscape Planning & Development Unit
February 2008

Lower Waterworks Masterplan

Appendix 2 Waterworks Masterplans

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Belfast City Council

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| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Alexandra Park Improvements through the RCTR programme |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officers: | Paul Barr, Landscape Planning and Development Manager Ricky Rice, Area Manager (North) |

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council support for enhancements to Alexandra Park.

Relevant Background Information

The Committee is reminded that at its meeting on 11 June 2009 it was informed that funding from the Reconciling Communities Through Regeneration (RCTR) programme had been secured in late 2008 and it was agreed that Groundwork NI (GWNI) would work alongside local community representatives and relevant stakeholders in the development of regeneration proposals for Alexandra Park.

RCTR is 'a strategic regional programme aimed at improving tolerance and acting as a catalyst for reducing sectarianism and racism. It aims to achieve this by involving local community and statutory agencies in regenerating local areas, which will eliminate or reduce displays of sectarian and racial aggression.'

RCTR is scheduled to run from October 2008 to August 2011, and has four key objectives to:

- develop 'key skills for peace' and create opportunities for inter-group dialogue, cross community relationship building and networking;
- work strategically with the Peace III clusters;
- build positive relationships at a local level in order to achieve positive change; and
- begin to address contested physical space issues with the aim of regenerating physical spaces and removing the physical manifestations of segregation.

Key anticipated outputs are:

- a 'shared space' strategy;
- networking;

- development of a skills audit and delivery of training/mentoring; and
- an 'iconic' environmental improvement.

These outputs should lead to the following outcomes:

- communities, service providers and elected representatives working together to encourage integrated actions and promote shared space and shared services;
- communities able to take advantage of future opportunities;
- reduced marginalisation and polarisation;
- reduced levels of sectarianism and racism; and
- enhanced skills and experience.

In conveying its consent to GWNI the Council was supporting an engagement process with communities surrounding Alexandra Park, with the aim of improving community relations, building skills and encouraging cross community dialogue around common concerns. The budget for the project includes up to £50k per area for physical regeneration works, which addresses the overall aim of the programme. Within the context of Alexandra Park this would provide an opportunity for some minor investment and regeneration.

The RCTR programme in Alexandra Park has, in addition to the involvement of council officers and staff from Groundwork included, the NI Housing Executive, the PSNI, local political representatives, community activists, local schools and residents.

Current Position

Since the project was approved by the Park and Leisure Committee on 11 June 2009 GWNI has been working alongside a variety of organisations and representatives from the local community to develop proposals for the park on a cross community basis. While participation has been widely encouraged and sought the main participants have been:

- Parkside, Newington and Castleton Residents Association
- Camberwell Terrace Residents Association
- Residents from Dunmore estate
- Residents from Alexandra Park Avenue
- Friends of Grove Park
- North Belfast Community Development Transition Group
- Residents from Tigers Bay.

A steering group was formed and as part of the process it undertook a survey of the surrounding area. Following an analysis of the survey and following discussion it was agreed that the project should focus on the development of a nature trail around the pond, a fishing stand, a seating area and interpretive panels in the upper section of the park and picnic tables, seating and interpretive panels in the lower section of the park (see concept drawing at Appendix 1).

Landscape proposals have been developed, based on the above design, and meetings have been held with Council Officers, PSNI representatives including the Design out Crime Officer and the Steering Group to consider and agree the proposals and the design layout.

A further community consultation exercise was carried out with a series of public meetings held at a variety of locations including Camberwell Court, Holy Family Youth Club, Currie Primary School, Grove bowling pavilion and

Mountcollyer Youth Club. While the turnout was disappointing the overwhelming view was one of support for the proposed regeneration plans.

At present no funding has been secured for the project. However, an application for £50,000 will be made to the RCTR, in addition, a further application will be submitted to the Alpha Programme for £50,000 to meet the shortfall in the cost, the total cost is estimated at £100,000.

The proposals include:

- Upper section of the park:
 - Nature trail around the pond including clearing the rubbish and shrubbery, installation of seating and a seating area with interpretive panels on the history and wildlife within the park.
- Lower section of the park:
 - A picnic area, seating and interpretive panels on the history and wildlife within the park

This regeneration project will also compliment the Council's proposed refurbishment of the playground at the Lower Alexandra Park and the potential refurbishment of the Upper Playground at a future date as well as the ongoing management and maintenance.

Key Issues

The key issues for the Committee are:

- The Committee previously endorsed the concept at its meeting in June 2009;
- Proposals have now been worked up as outlined above and as illustrated on Appendix 1;
- Funding is yet to be secured;
- Groundwork is seeking funding from RCTR Programme and the Alpha fund to meet the capital cost of the project, estimated at £100,000;
- The Council has been requested to convey its support for the funding applications as outlined;
- Groundwork would also seek consent from the Council to undertake the proposed works;
- Officers from the Landscape Planning and Development Unit and Parks Area Management have been involved with the Steering Group and are satisfied that the proposals are sensitive to the history and nature of the parks; and will have minimal revenue implications.

Resource Implications

Financial

There are no capital or revenue implications for Belfast City Council.

Human Resources

There are no additional human resource implications.

Asset and Other Implications

The project will improve the physical environment of the park, it will enhance biodiversity within the park and it will enhance the community cohesion around the park.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. The Committee agree to support the funding applications and direct the Director of Parks and Leisure to provide a suitable letter as appropriate; and
2. The Committee convey its consent to the Groundwork NI to undertake the necessary work providing adequate funding has been obtained; the necessary approvals have been obtained; and
3. Groundwork NI and or its agents carry the public liability insurance during the undertaking of the works, subject to an appropriate legal agreement being prepared by the Assistant Chief Executive and Town Solicitor.

Decision Tracking

Officer responsible: Area Manager (North).
Actions to be completed by: August 2011

Key to abbreviations

RCTR: Reconciling Communities Through Regeneration
GWNI: Groundwork NI

Documents Attached

Appendix 1 – Concept drawing

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Belfast City Council

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| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Playground Improvement Programme – Update |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officer: | Stephen Walker, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager |

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee regarding the playground improvement programme for 2010/11.

Relevant Background Information

The Committee is reminded that at its meeting on 10 June 2010 it received a report on the playground improvement programme. The Committee agreed that refurbishment be carried out in respect of playgrounds at:

- Alexandra Park (Lower);
- Alloa street;
- Horn Drive;
- Springhill Park; and
- Willowbank.

It is further reminded that at its meeting on 12 August 2010 it subsequently agreed to also include play areas at:

- Carrick Hill; and
- Tyndale

Current Position

In the interim period officers have been preparing drawings in respect of the programme and these have been completed for all sites. In line with the changing focus of the department to engage more actively with the community, officers have held meetings to make people aware of the programme and to obtain a greater degree of ownership and buy in through an improved engagement process. Discussions have been well received.

Drawings have been agreed in respect of the refurbishments at:

- Alexandra Park;
- Alloa St;

- Carrick Hill;
- Lenadoon Park/Horn Drive;
- Springhill Hill; and
- Willowbank Park

In respect of Carrick Hill, work is underway. In relation to Willowbank, work is due to commence in December 2011. Equipment is being procured in relation to Alexandra Park and Springhill.

Discussions are being completed in respect of Tyndale.

It is anticipated that physical construction will commence in the new year and continue through to the end of March depending on weather conditions, as the laying of the surface is weather dependent.

Key Issues

The Committee is asked to note that the refurbishment programme is progressing on schedule. The consultation and engagement has been welcomed by local communities, although it does add to the time scales and requires officer time.

Of particular significance the Committee is asked to note that during discussions with residents regarding proposals for refurbishment, concern was expressed about the levels of anti social behaviour. This was particularly evident in parts of West Belfast. Although the number of reported incidents were low, residents were clear that there was an on going problem of youths gathering in playgrounds at night time and causing nuisance.

There was a general view that physical measures would be required to deter this. Methods suggested included fencing, lighting and in one case the use of CCTV.

Residents clearly stated that investment without adequate security is compromised. In response to this Officers have agreed to enclose the playgrounds at Willowbank, Springhill and Horn Drive in high level fencing. It is proposed that the fencing be 3m high, although some had suggested 6m fencing, and to include a rotor attachment on top to deter youths from climbing over it.

The Committee is asked to note that this level of expenditure, up to £25,000 per site depending on the dimensions and the size of fencing, means that the level of equipment has to be reduced. However, the communities are willing to accept the compromise in order to secure the site and the investment.

The Committee is also asked to note that in these cases planning approval is required as the fencing is over 1.8m, and this may delay construction. However, equipment can be procured in advance and stored as this process is underway.

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| Resource Implications |
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| None. |
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| Recommendations |
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| It is recommended that the Committee note the report. |
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| Decision Tracking |
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| The actions will be completed by the Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager by the end of March 2011. |
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| Key to abbreviations |
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| None. |
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| Documents Attached |
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| None. |
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**Belfast City Council**

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| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Leisure for free pilot scheme |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officer: | Andrew Steenson, Health and Fitness Officer |

Relevant Background Information

Leisure for free is a pilot scheme aimed at improving the health of those people living in areas of high deprivation, through the provision of free leisure centre membership.

The scheme is funded by the Public Health Agency and will provide 200 people with free leisure centre membership for one year, on the basis they attend a set number of times per month.

The aim of the scheme is to increase the physical activity levels of participants to the point where exercise becomes habit. On completion of the scheme, staff will work with each individual to ensure they can continue to participate in physical activity through our Boost leisure discount scheme and existing community programmes.

Key Issues

The scheme will look to improve the health of each participant through the provision of free access to leisure provision and access to a qualified fitness coach. It is anticipated that this programme will be advertised in January and begin recruiting in February 2011.

Selection of areas

It is recommended that this scheme is piloted in four areas across the city so that any differing factors for areas can be identified and considered prior to any possible expansion of the scheme. It is also targeted at areas of high deprivation. This is a core objective of the funding from the Public Health Agency. It also links with the Council's own strategic theme of 'Better support for people and communities' under the areas of 'People are healthier' and 'Inequalities reducing'.

In identifying the areas in which the pilot scheme could initially be offered, the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM) 2010 results were considered. This report highlights the following super output areas as being the most deprived in each of the 4 sectors of Belfast:

| Area | Super Output Area | Places available |
|-------|-------------------|------------------|
| North | New Lodge 1 | 50 |
| South | Blackstaff 2 | 50 |
| East | Ballymacarrett 3 | 50 |
| West | Whiterock 2 | 50 |

Allocation of memberships for this scheme will be split evenly across the four areas listed above.

Recruitment of participants

Information regarding the scheme will be disseminated through Council community centres, elected Members, Healthy Living Centres and community and voluntary organisations in each of the areas identified above. A press release highlighting the scheme will also be sent to each of the local newspapers in the areas identified above.

The information will direct residents to the Belfast City Council website where a complete list of postcodes for each of the identified areas can be found, as only those resident in certain postcodes will be eligible for the scheme. A contact telephone number will also be provided for those without internet access.

Should more than 50 residents register for the scheme in any of the four identified areas, selection of residents will be on a randomised basis. There will also be a waiting list.

Programme overview

Once selected, each resident will be required to attend an introduction meeting with their fitness coach. At this meeting the resident's health will be assessed, in line with our current fitness suite operating procedures. Should the health of any resident be deemed to be at risk, they will not be selected for the scheme and referred to their GP.

Those residents selected to participate in the scheme will be required to attend the leisure centre a minimum of 4 times a month during the first 4 months. This will increase to a minimum of 6 times a month during the next 4 months and up again to a minimum of 8 times a month during the final 4 months. Each month the participants will be required to meet with their fitness coach for a follow up assessment.

Monitoring and evaluation

In order to assess the feasibility of rolling this scheme out to other areas across the city a robust monitoring and evaluation framework will be developed.

The activity of all participants will be collected and reviewed on a weekly basis to ensure attendance targets are being met. Each participant will also complete a Health Related Quality of Life questionnaire every month which will be analysed for any changes in perceived health, self-esteem and attitudes towards

physical activity. The findings for each area will also be compared to identify any trends or variable which may have an impact on the future development of this scheme. Factors such as proximity to provision, type of provision available and attitudes towards physical activity will need to be considered as part of the evaluation for this scheme.

Quarterly reports will be provided to the Public Health Agency, in line with the terms and conditions of funding. A final evaluation report will also be brought to Committee for their consideration.

Resource Implications

Financial

The Public Health Agency will provide £24,000 funding to cover the cost of memberships. There are no additional financial implications

Human Resources

There are no additional human resource implications

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee approve the areas selected for the pilot of this scheme

Decision Tracking

Evaluation report will be brought to Committee by April 2012
Officer responsible: Andrew Steenson, Health and Fitness Officer

Key to Abbreviations

None

Documents Attached

None

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Belfast City Council

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Summer Fun Days 2011 |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officer: | Alice Blennerhassett, Marketing Officer |

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the series of fun days held during 2010 and to present proposals in respect of 2011 and the future of the scheme.

Relevant Background Information

The Committee will be aware that the council has held a programme of activities and fun days in parks for children over the summer for a number of years.

By way of background during the 1980s the former Parks Department organised a range of summer activities for children in the form of summer schemes in parks. These events ran for many years. In the late 1990's summer fun days were introduced as an alternative to summer schemes. The aim at that time was to streamline the summer schemes which were increasing in cost and increasingly difficult to manage and deliver.

The fun days provide activities for children aged 5 – 12 years and are held in a number of parks across the city. The underlying purpose of the events, in addition to providing fun activities for children, is to promote the parks and encourage local residents to take part in the fun days and to take ownership of their parks.

Initially fun days were held in 9 parks, over the years this has increased to 14. Appendix 1 provides a list of the parks where fun days are currently held. A typical event would include bouncy castles, face painting, climbing tower, street entertainers, games and sports.

Attendance numbers at the events can vary and are influenced by factors such as the weather or indeed other alternative forms of entertainment or recreation. Appendix 2 provides the estimated numbers at each event over the past 6 years.

The budget allocation for the fun day programme has remained relatively constant at around £30,000. However, inflation and the increase in the number of venues has effectively meant a reduction in real terms.

Key Issues

While the Council wishes to continue to hold such events it is important that they are kept under review from time to time. Within that context the Committee is asked to note the following points:

- We wish to continue to provide a range of local events in our parks and open spaces to encourage positive use and to promote their value.

Numbers attending

- In general while the number of children attending such events has remain constant and relatively high in some locations, in other locations the numbers are low or have reduced. For example the numbers at South Link, Dunville Park, Ulidia Playing Fields, Tommy Patton Memorial Park and Grove Playing Fields are 75 or less – see Appendix 2.

Cost of provision

- The budget for the fun days has remained fairly static for a number of years now leaving little opportunity to further develop and expand each fun day.
- In 2010 the total cost of providing 14 fun days was in the region of £30,000. The average overall cost per child to attend a fun day is £10.18. However this varied from £5.25 to £49.18 per child in 2010 depending on the number attending.
- At those venues where the average attendance is 75 or less the cost is between £24.26 and £49.18 per head.

Anti Social behaviour concerns

- In a small number of locations there has been reported anti-social behaviour. Of particular concern in 2010 was an incident at Dunville Park which led to the cancellation of the event after only 45 minutes due to concerns regarding the safety of the children themselves and those providing the entertainment.
- In addition, at Springhill Millennium Park the climbing tower was damaged and bricks and bottles were thrown at entertainers at the end of the event whilst they were leaving the venue, although the event itself passed off without incident.
- Owing to the incidents above the providers have expressed concern about the re-occurrence of similar incidents, Members will be aware that these providers are brought in by the Council to provide the entertainment on our behalf.

Alternative forms of entertainment

- The Council provides a range of similar events and summer schemes across the city through the Parks small grants' scheme, leisure services, community services etc and there may be an issue around the duplication of events in some locations.
- The fun days have been in operation for over 10 years with only minor adjustments to the programme and format. Owing to limited resources there has been little opportunity to vary the programme of activities and consequently the Fun Days may have lost some of their initial appeal potentially contributing to a drop in numbers in some areas.

It is proposed that the scheme is reviewed to establish:

- continued need;
- a revised content and approach to refresh what has been generally viewed as a successful project;
- the most appropriate locations;
- an appropriate level of funding; and
- governance issues

Until the review is completed in consultation with communities and other council providers of events it is proposed that on those sites where numbers have been low that the fun days are withdrawn to enable the resources to be allocated to enhancing events at other venues. This would mean reducing the number of fun days to nine and terminating the fun days at:

- Alderman Tommy Patton
- Dunville
- Grove Playing Fields
- South Link;
- Ulidia

Resource Implications

Financial

The cost of providing the Fun Day programme in 2011 is estimated at £30,000.

The cost of a review of the future of the scheme would be in the region of £5,000.

Human Resources

There are no additional human resource implications.

Asset and Other Implications

The use of events in parks and the organisation of programmes and activities is an integral element in the promotion of our parks and open spaces.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. agree to continue to fund the fun day scheme;
2. agree to reduce the number to 9 in 2011 and retain the budget in line with option 2 above; and
3. agree that officers undertake a review to inform the future of the scheme after 2011.

Decision Tracking

All actions to be completed by the Marketing Officer by October 2011.

Key to abbreviations

None.

Documents attached

Appendix 1: list of summer fun day locations

Appendix 2: chart of average numbers attending 2008-10

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List of Summer Fun Day Locations

1. Drumglass Park,
2. Dunville Park,
3. Ballysillan Playing Fields,
4. Grove Playing Fields.
5. Lenadoon Park
6. Marrowbone Millennium Park
7. Ormeau Park
8. South Link,
9. Springhill Millennium Park
10. Tommy Patton Memorial Park
11. Ulidia Playing Fields
12. Victoria Park,
13. Waterworks,
14. Woodvale Park

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Belfast City Council

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Proposed event: The Greater Belfast Invitational Cup Easter 2011 |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officers: | Lynne McCreery Park Manager |

Purpose

To inform the committee of a request from Youth Soccer Tournaments NI to hold a soccer tournament at several Belfast City Council Playing Fields (17 pitches) and to seek committee approval for the event to proceed.

Relevant Background Information

The Committee is asked to note that the council has received (September 2010) a request from Youth Soccer Tournaments NI to host a soccer tournament over 2 days using a number of Belfast City Council facilities. It is proposed to hold this tournament on Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd April 2011. It is anticipated, at this time, that the four venues will be Boucher Road, Strangford Avenue, Ormeau Park, and either Blanchflower Stadium or Victoria Park playing fields. However, Members are asked to note that, depending on the suitability of the venues at that time, it may be necessary to use other sites.

The tournament is being planned by Youth Soccer Tournaments NI on the back of the success of the Christopher Shaw Cup Tournament which this year saw 32 teams participating. The Christopher Shaw Cup has grown significantly since its inception in 2003 with only four teams participating. The tournament was held in memory of 12 year old Christopher Shaw who was passionate about football and who died as a result of a road traffic accident.

Due to the success of the Christopher Shaw Cup, the organisers are proposing the Greater Belfast Invitational Cup as an annual event to be held in the style of the Milk/Foyle Cup.

The Greater Belfast Invitational Cup has the potential to attract teams from England, Scotland and Wales to join the many local Belfast teams who have been supporting the Christopher Shaw Cup event for a number of years. The final will be hosted by Cliftonville Football Club at Solitude on Sunday 24 April 2011.

Organisers have informed officers that there has been interest from approximately 82 football teams ranging from under 10s through to under 18s. It is proposed to charge an entry fee of £80 per team to cover the cost of the tournament.

Key Issues

As many of the leagues will have completed their fixtures by this time, there are no block bookings beyond 31 March 2011 therefore no club will be disadvantaged by holding this event. However, experience suggests that owing to winter postponements some local leagues may use this period to catch up with any backlog of fixtures. The ability to provide this extra capacity would be restricted if this event is permitted.

As with all such events, health and safety issues with regard to the holding of the event will be addressed through the preparation of an event management plan by the organisers to the satisfaction of Council officers.

Resource Implications

Financial

Loss of potential revenue for the pitches used by the leagues each Saturday would be in the region of £760.

Potential revenue from this tournament is £2,600 over the two days. However, the Committee is asked to note that the organisers have made application to another Council Department (Development) for funding to off set the cost of using facilities.

As outlined below £1,500 will be required to meet the additional staffing costs.

Human Resources

It is estimated that the event will require 4 members of staff to cover and clean the facilities over three days at a cost of £1,500.

Asset and Other Implications

Early consultation with the football leagues and council officers will take place to minimise any disruption to the leagues on Saturday 23rd April 2011.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Committee give consent to Youth Soccer Tournaments NI hold a football tournament from Friday 22nd to Saturday 23rd April 2011 subject to the completion of an appropriate event management plan to the satisfaction of Council Officers.

Decision Tracking

All actions will be completed by Lynne McCreery, Parks and Cemeteries Park Manager, by 30 April 2011.

Key to abbreviations

None.

Documents Attached

Appendix 1: Request from Event Organiser.

Proposal for The Greater Belfast Invitational Cup for Easter 2011

Newmill youth F.C have been running the Christopher Shaw cup starting this cross community tournament with 4 teams in 2003 using council facilities has grown each year with 32 teams taking part in 2010. The Christopher Shaw cup was set up after the tragic death of Christopher in a road traffic accident aged just 12 years old who loved life and his passion was football. His manager at that time was Joe Kerr one of our committee members and consulting with Christopher's parents held the tournament in Christopher's memory.

Of the back of the Christopher Shaw Cup the committee decided that there was potential for a milk cup / Foyle cup type of tournament could be held in Belfast so in 2009 Youth Soccer Tournaments N.I. was formed and from 6th - 8th April 2010 we held our first greater Belfast invitational cup at the Queens playing fields (the dub) with 32 teams from all sides of our community and from outside of Belfast and Darlington F.C. from England taking part we had 4 age groups u12 u14 u16 and u18 taking part running of 5 pitches. The first year was a great success with 100% positive feed back from teams ,coaches and spectators saying "great competition" "when is the

next one” the tournament was “well run” and “this is what Belfast needs”

In 2011 over the Easter period 22nd and 23rd April we hope to hold our competition over 4 council parks Boucher road (3 pitches) will be the hub for the tournament providing a park and ride to Strangford (3 pitches) Ormeau embankment (6 pitches) and Cherryvale (3 pitches). We would like Belfast City council to support us, and our vision is that in 3 to 5 years Belfast will be on the map as one of the best football tournaments in the country if not in Europe with teams travelling from England, Scotland and Wales and further a field as well as our local teams with the finals being held at Solitude home of Cliftonville f.c. on the 24th April 2011

Our committee is made up of 4 people John Gibson (treasurer) Joseph Kerr (chairman) and Sean Templeton (events organiser) with over 30 years football managerial experience between us and we have travelled to tournaments within the UK and even to Holland to give our teams as much football experience as we can provide, Patrick McDermott (secretary) with over 20 years experience working with Euro Sport Ring one of the biggest soccer tournament organisers in Europe who organise tournaments in the UK, Ireland and across Europe but

none in our capital city Belfast. You may be thinking Mullusk would be an ideal place to hold such a tournament with the amount of pitches Mullusk have to offer however through our experience we found that the teams like to play competitive football at different venues from what they play at week in and week out as it lifts spirits and creates excitement in the teams taking part in tournaments and the majority of the teams play at Mullusk.

We at youth soccer tournaments N.I. want to give our young and old people a chance to play exciting competitive football against teams from other towns and cities which they would not usually play in their own city without having to pay large amounts of money to travel to other tournaments outside of Belfast in today's financial climate.

Your friend in sport

John Gibson

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Belfast City Council

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Drive in Old Time Gospel Rally at Boucher Road Playing Fields |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officer: | Stephen Stockman, Area Manager (South/West) |

Purpose

To seek Committee approval for a 'Drive in Old Time Gospel Rally', at Boucher Road Playing Fields from 19 – 24 June 2011. This is a 6 day event from Sunday-Friday and Monday- Friday 8.00pm - 9.00pm and Sunday 8.30pm - 9.30pm.

Relevant Background Information

The proposed event is being organised by the William Tyndale Memorial Free Presbyterian Church, Donegal Avenue, Belfast. The event was successfully conducted in June 2010 and has been planned to take place as an extension of an ongoing outreach programme within the surrounding area of the church located on Donegal Avenue.

A 'drive in' style rally has been chosen as a cost effective way of communicating in an informal relaxed environment without the need for expensive accommodation and facilities off site.

The location is regarded as being convenient for residents of the local area and other church friends from neighbouring areas to attend.

Key Issues

As with all such events, health and safety issues with regard to the holding of the events will be addressed in the event management plan by the organisers and to the satisfaction of council officers.

Other parts of the site are used in the summer for hurling and Gaelic football. It is not proposed to cancel any Gaelic games to accommodate this event. Users will be advised of the event. Hurling will be moved from the nearby pitch to elsewhere in the site to reduce the risk of balls reaching the car park area.

Resource Implications

Financial

It is proposed to charge the organisers £40 each evening.

Human Resources

There will be no human resource implications as the event will be stewarded by Church Members.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee grant authority for the 'Drive in Old Time Gospel Rally' at Boucher Road from 19 – 24 June 2011 subject to satisfactory terms being agreed with the Director of Parks and Leisure and on the condition that :

- (i) the event organisers resolve all operational issue to the council's satisfaction;
- (ii) an appropriate legal agreement, to be prepared by the Director of Legal Services, is completed; and
- (iii) the event organisers meet all statutory requirements including entertainment licensing.

Decision Tracking

Responsible officer: Area Manager (South/West). Actions to be completed by the end of June 2010.

Key to abbreviations

None.

Documents Attached

None.



Belfast City Council

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Go Belfast Awards 2010 |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officer: | Mark Challis, Zoo Manager |

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with information regarding Belfast Zoo's short listing as a finalist in the category Visitor Attraction of the Year for the 2010 Go Belfast Awards.

Relevant Background Information

In 2007, the Zoo won the Go Belfast Visitor Attraction of the Year Award.

2009 represented a memorable year for the Zoo. Not only was it the Zoo's 75th Anniversary, as well as some key animal breeding successes and new arrivals, we also opened the new visitor centre and entrance, undertook some major marketing campaigns (including the elephant angel search), and we recorded our highest ever visitor numbers, of over 304,000.

Already in 2010, we have recorded our best ever visitor numbers in a single month (over 70,000 in August), and visitor numbers to date are performing well, suggesting that over 300,000 for the calendar year will be achieved again.

Current context

The Zoo has been selected as a finalist in the category Visitor Attraction of the Year at the Go Belfast Awards.

A gala awards dinner will be held in the Europa Hotel on Friday 26 November 2010.

It is proposed to reserve a number of seats for Zoo and Parks staff, and Members, at the event. Each shortlisted finalist is given one complimentary place at the event. The Ulster Hall and Continental Market have also been shortlisted, and it is intended that the attendance of relevant officers and members representing these facilities will be considered by the Development Committee at its meeting at 10th November 2010.

Key Issues

Members are asked to note the following key points:

- The Zoo has been selected as a finalist for the 2010 Go Belfast awards;
- The awards gala dinner takes place in the Europa Hotel on Friday 26 November 2010.
- Permission is sought to reserve places at the dinner for the Parks and Leisure Committee Chairman and Deputy Chairman, and two officers.

Resource Implications

Financial

Each ticket costs £125 +VAT per person, 1 ticket has been issued free of charge so the total cost would be £375 + VAT. These costs can be accommodated within the zoo's revenue budget.

Human Resources

There are no human resources implications apparent at this time.

Asset and Other Implications

While media relations surrounding the awards will be managed by Go Belfast, there is clearly considerable marketing benefits to the Zoo in being a finalist.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- i) note the contents of this report; and
- ii) approve that the Chairman and Deputy Chairman or their nominees and two officers attend the awards dinner.

Decision Tracking

None required.

Key to Abbreviations

None.

Documents Attached

None.



Belfast City Council

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Intention to Seek Tenders for the Procurement of Supplies and Services |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officer: | Agnes McNulty, Parks Services Manager |

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek delegated authority for the Director of Parks and Leisure to issue, receive, evaluate and award tenders for the supply and delivery of top-dressing for grounds maintenance and the supply of fruit and vegetables for Belfast Zoo.

Relevant Background Information

The Committee will recall that on occasion it has received reports which seek delegated authority to issue, receive, evaluate and tenders in respects of Parks and Cemeteries. Members at times have expressed concern that contracts are being extended owing to procurement issues. To address that issue a review of all existing tenders was carried out and those tenders which are due for renewal in 2011 have been identified. The following contracts are due for renewal in 2011:

- The Supply & Delivery of Top-dressing Sand/Supply and the delivery & application of Topdressing Sand/Verti-draining of Sports Pitches (Expires March 2011) and
- The Supply of Fruit & Vegetables to Belfast Zoo (Expires September 2011)

Key Issues

The Committee is asked to note that the following tenders are due to expire during 2011 and require a new tender process to be carried out to enable the service to be continued:

- the Supply & Delivery of Top-dressing Sand and the Supply, Delivery & Application of Topdressing Sand. There is no requirement at this time to

include the verti-draining element as the Parks Section has purchased two verti-drainers and is able to undertake this function in-house;

- the Supply & Delivery of Fruit & Vegetables to Belfast Zoo.

It is intended that the tenders be for a period of 1 year with the option to renew on an annual basis for a further period of two years. Officers have been advised to allow a minimum of six months for tender preparation and award of contract in each procurement exercise.

The Committee is asked to note that the tenders will be evaluated on both cost and quality and the contracts will be awarded to the most economically advantageous tenders.

Resource Implications

Financial

The cost of these contracts has been provided for within the revenue estimates as outlined below.

| Category | Indicative Costs/Annum |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Topdressing Sand | £75k |
| Fruit & Vegetables | £120k |

Human Resources

There are no additional human resource implications.

Asset and Other Implications

The procurement of the above services will enable staff to maintain the sports pitches to a high standard whilst the procurement of supplies is an essential requirement for the operation of the Zoo.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee approves the proposed tendering exercises and authorise the Director under the scheme of delegation to award the successful tenders.

Decision Tracking

All actions will be completed by the Parks Services Support Manager by October 2011.

Key to Abbreviations

None.

Documents Attached

None.



Belfast City Council

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Support for Sport Development Grants |
| Date: | 11 November 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks & Leisure |
| Contact Officer: | Claire Moraghan, Sports Development Officer |

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the decision taken by the Director of Parks and Leisure under delegated authority regarding Support for Sport small development and hospitality applications received during October 2010.

Relevant Background Information

Members will be aware that delegated authority was given to the Director of Parks and Leisure for Hospitality and Development applications requesting up to £3,000 and £1,250 respectively – including a one off equipment grant of £250.

Current Context

The Director and relevant officer met on Monday 1 November 2010 to discuss Small Development applications and Hospitality applications under delegated authority.

The Small Development applications are listed in Appendix 1.
The Hospitality applications are listed in Appendix 2.

Detailed applications are held in the Parks and Leisure Department and can be forwarded to Members on request.

A copy of each application will be available at Committee

Resource Implications

Financial

The table below indicates the amounts allocated from the 2010/2011 budget.

| Area | Total available | Allocated to date | Proposed allocation for September | Remaining after allocation |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Small Development | £120,000 | £59,826 | £6,546 | £53,628 |
| Hospitality | £31,000 | £24,885 | £2,300 | £3,815 |
| <u>Human Resources</u> N/A | | | | |
| <u>Asset and Other Implications</u> N/A | | | | |

Recommendations

That members note the content of this report with regard to Support for Sport development and hospitality applications.

Decision Tracking

Sports Development Officer to arrange the award of all Support for Sport Small Grants by 30 November 2010.

Key to Abbreviations

None

Documents Attached

Appendix 1: Small Development Applications November 2010
Appendix 2: Hospitality Applications November 2010.

Appendix 1 Support for Sport development applications November 2010

| ID | Club/Organisation | Activity details | Amount Requested | Recommendation and reason | Breakdown |
|--------------------------------|---|---|------------------|---|---|
| D-533-11 | Team Sables Basketball Club | Division One Mens Basketball League | £ - | Do not support application was for equipment which club have already received | Do Not Support |
| D-534-11 | Up and Runners | Training of Coaches Coach to attend UK Athletics Level 2 | £ 225 | To support up to a maximum of £225, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs. | Coach Education: £300 Total: £300-75%=£225 |
| D-535-11 | Northern Ireland Civil Service Archery Club | British Record Status Archery Open Competition on 5 March 2011 at Indoor Tennis Arena | £ 1,000 | To support up to a maximum of £772, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs. £228 already awarded from previous application this financial year. | Facility Hire: £1029 Total: £1029-75%=£772 |
| D-536-11 | Woodvale Cricket Club | Indoor Cricket Tournament. Aiming for between 65-100 participants aged 15-30+ at Shankill Leisure Centre starting January 2011. | £ 1,000 | To support up to a maximum of £1000, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs. | Facility Hire: £1083 Trophies/Medals: £250 Total: £1333-75%=£1000 |
| D-537-11 | Sandy Row Falcons Cheerleaders | To promote cheerleading in all areas by inviting local schools, community centres & youth clubs to demonstrations put on by the girls and encourage new members. They hope this will encourage other groups to set up cheerleading opportunities. | £389 + £250 | To support up to a maximum of £292 not representing more than 75% of the total running costs + £250 Equipment Grant | Coaching Costs: £120 Facility Hire: £80 Marketing materials:£45 Certificates:£144 Total: £389-75%=£292 + £250 Equipment Grant |
| D-538-11 | Grosvenor Youth Project | Starting a new section for beginners 10-12 years old at Whiterock Leisure Centre 26 Nov-9 Feb. | £1000 + £250 | To support up to a maximum of £773, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs + £250 Equipment grant | Coaching Costs: £720 Facility Hire: £210 Medals: £100 Total: £1030-75%=£773+ £250 equipment grant. |
| D-539-11 | Upper Ardoyne Juniors Football Club | IFA Level 2 Coaching Award for 2 coaches. | £1000 +£250 | To support up to a maximum of £900, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs + £250 equipment grant. | Coach Education:£1200 Total: £1200-75%= £900 +£250 equipment Grant |
| D-540-11 | Beechmount Harriers | An Introduction to Athletics for 9-18 years olds at Mary Peters track November-April and also training up junior members with coaching qualifications to help lead the programme. | £932 +£250 | To support up to a maximum of £782, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs + £250 equipment grant. | Coach Education:£690 Facility Hire: £552 Total: £1242-75%= £932 +£250 equipment Grant |
| Total Amount allocated to date | | | £59,826 | Total amount allocated this month | £6,546 |
| | | | | | Overall Total |
| | | | | | £66,372 |

Appendix 1 Support for Sport development applications November 2010

| Committee Date |
|----------------|
| 11/11/10 |
| 11/11/10 |
| 11/11/10 |
| 11/11/10 |
| 11/11/10 |
| 11/11/10 |
| 11/11/10 |
| 11/11/10 |

Appendix 2 Hospitality Applications November 2010

| ID | Club/Organisation | Title of event | Preferred Venue | Guest Information | Recommendation | Reason |
|--------------------------------|---|--|-----------------|---|----------------|--|
| H-69-11 | Northern Ireland Civil Service Archery Club | NICS Stafford Shoot (British Record Status) | The Ozone | Up to 96 competitors. 2 Judges and a Tournament Organiser | £ 500.00 | Meets criteria |
| H-70-11 | Belfast City Marathon Ltd. | Deep RiverRock Belfast City Marathon was set up in 1982 by Belfast City Council and Athletics Northern Ireland. The event takes place on the first bank holiday in may every year. There are five events to suit all abilities, genders and backgrounds. The event will help raise the profile going into the 30th year. | City Hall | 150 people including; board members, organizing management team, major sponsors, previous prize winners and local athletes. | £ 1,800.00 | Meets criteria |
| Total Amount allocated to date | | | £24,885 | Total amount allocated this month | £2,300 | Overall Total £27,185 Amount remaining £3,815 |

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