



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee.
Subject:	Request from Ballynafeigh Orange Hall Management Committee for a floral display in Ormeau Park
Date:	15 September 2011
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure.
Contact Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure.

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	<p>The Parks and Leisure department has received a request from the Ballynafeigh Orange Hall Management Committee for a floral display in Ormeau Park (overlooking the Ormeau Road) during the summer of 2012, to mark the 125th anniversary of the Ballynafeigh Orange Hall and Reading Room.</p> <p>The Orange Hall is the second oldest public building in Ballynafeigh and only St Jude's Parish Church is older. The Hall secretary has informed the council of the importance of this anniversary for their members and the community in Ballynafeigh who support the Orange Hall.</p>

2	Key Issues
2.1	The design of the proposed floral display is of an orange lily depicted in the centre of the display, with lettering at the top reading 'Ballynafeigh Orange Hall'; each side of the lily would read 1887 – 2012 and along the bottom edge; '125 th Anniversary'. There will be no flags symbolised in the bedding display.
2.2	The location of the flowerbed overlooks the Ormeau Road from an elevated position within the park. (approximate size = 24ft wide x 12ft high).
2.3	This particular flowerbed was used previously to mark the centenary of the 'Girl Guides' organisation in 2010.
2.4	Ballynafeigh identifies itself as a 'Shared Neighbourhood' and community workers there have agreed to informally ascertain the thoughts of the local Ballynafeigh communities (signed up to the Shared Neighbourhood principle and supported by the council and NIHE) on the proposal - this is still underway.

Comment [WU1]: Not sure if there is a policy on this but I'd be inclined to restrict this type of planting to centenaries or very significant local anniversaries otherwise you'll be swamped with requests?

2.5	Conversations are ongoing with Parks operational management in terms of the “planting plan” for the 2012-13 year and with Ballynafeigh Community House to help gauge community views on any likely impact of the request. The Community House staff have indicated their full support for this proposal.
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3	Resource Implications
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3.1	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>There are no additional financial implications surrounding this proposal. It is normal practice that this flowerbed is planted out bi-annually with seasonal bedding plants as part of the planned maintenance programme and this is allocated from the Ormeau Park revenue budget.</p> <p>The design of the proposed floral display does not impact on the normal amount of bedding plants required to fill this flowerbed. No specialist plants or materials are required to complete this display.</p>
3.2	<p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>There are no human resource implications. The design of the proposed floral display does not impact on the normal amount of labour (man hours) required to plant this flowerbed.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>

4	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
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4.1	<p>See key issues (sections 2.4 and 2.5 above).</p> <p>The council is committed to the promotion of good relations in the city, including the celebration of cultural diversity. The local Ballynafeigh Orange Lodge is an active member in the wider Ballynafeigh community network and Ballynafeigh Community House is fully in support of this proposal. A simple floral display of this type would represent an official acknowledgement of the role of the local Orange Hall in the community over the past 125 years.</p>
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5	Recommendations
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5.1	<p>The Committee is asked to note the request from Ballynafeigh Orange Hall Management Committee and grant approval subject to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - final agreement of the design detail with Parks management; and - agreement with Ballynafeigh Community House that the proposal would not have any adverse community relations impact in the area.
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6	Decision Tracking
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Stephen Stockman, City Park Manager, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Services Manager to complete actions by Summer 2012.	
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7	Key to Abbreviations
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8	Documents Attached
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Appendix 1: Letter from Ballynafeigh Orange Hall	
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