



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee.
Subject:	Cherryvale Playing Fields – Proposal to open a coffee shop
Date:	8 August 2013
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Stephen Walker, Departmental Portfolio Programme Manager

1	Relevant Background Information
	<p>The Committee is asked to note that Council has received an enquiry relating to the opening of a coffee shop in the grounds of Cherryvale Playing Fields. The notion of installing coffee shop outlets in parks has been used in other regions in the United Kingdom and has merit. There are a number of examples in Northern Ireland where it has worked well.</p> <p>The proposal refers to the installation of a temporary structure. Appendix A shows an illustration of a typical structure. No business case has been presented and there have been no detailed discussions to date.</p> <p>Whilst the proposal refers to the installation of a temporary structure, the ambition is to have a more permanent structure at some future point. In this matter specific reference is made to the existing former cricket pavilion and the proposed works emerging from the pitches strategy.</p>

2	Key Issues
	<p>There are a number of issues for the Committee to consider at this time:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Cherryvale Playing Fields are well used both for the playing of sports and for casual passive recreation including the use of the playground by families, dog walkers and other casual users seeking to enjoy the open space; it is likely that the provision of such an outlet would be sustainable and enhance the facility for users; this however would need to be subject to further consideration and market research;2. The proposal would require further work in terms of technical issues such as location and planning as well as issues around general management;3. Should the Committee be of the view that there is merit in the general concept it raises a number of policy matters that would require attention:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Would we open up all our parks and playing fields to a coffee shop culture or would we restrict these to certain types of parks for example City Parks and District Parks?• Would we want to pilot the idea and if so where?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would the Council wish to undertake the procurement of these facilities to ensure quality and consistency and then 'rent them out' or would we wish to seek expressions of interest via public advertisement? <p>4. In relation to the specific request placed in front of members at this time, should the Committee wish to accede to the request it would be necessary to seek expressions of interest in order to provide other individuals and interested groups with an opportunity to provide a coffee shop outlet at Cherryvale;</p> <p>5. The members are asked to consider the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1: Refuse the request; • Option 2: Agree to the request for Cherryvale Playing Fields but seek expressions of interest from other potential providers via public advertisement; • Option 3: Agree to a wider review of the issue to enable a pilot project to be put in place through expression of interest covering 4 sites across the city. The pilot would be reviewed after 1 year of operation and recommendations brought to Committee on the business case for such facilities; proposals as to preferred / possible locations; and proposals as to how this might be delivered.
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3	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>There are no financial implications at this time.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>There are no additional human resource implications at this time.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>There are no asset implications at this time.</p>

4	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
4.1	There are no equality implications

5	Recommendations
5.1	The Committee is asked to consider the report and to agree to option 3 as outlined above as the preferred direction on this matter.

6	Decision Tracking
	Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure

7	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8	Documents Attached
Appendix 1 Illustrations of temporary coffee shop outlet	