

Belfast City Council

Report to: Parks and Leisure Committee

Subject: Ormeau Park and Falls Park – Welcome Art Signs

Date: 13 March 2014

Reporting Officer: Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure

Contact Officer: Lynne McCreery Community Parks Outreach Manager

Cailín Lynn, Community Parks Project Coordinator

1. Relevant Background Information

Council Officers have been approached by Eleanor Wheeler, former Artist in Residence with Belfast City Council to install two pieces of art work one for Ormeau Park and one for Falls Park. The Pieces are 'welcome' signs for each of the parks; (see appendices 1 and 2).

Wheeler has been working with two Educational Resource Centres in Belfast; Park School, Ravenhill Road, and St Gerard's School Upper Springfield Road, since September 2012.

Pupils from both schools worked together in four joint workshops and completed a site visit to both parks. Both Schools completed the remainder of the project working separately within their own park and schools.

The project ended in June 2013 with a celebration and presentation involving all years from both schools.

This project was funded by the Shared Education Programme and took place over the period of one school year.

2. Key Issues

The focus of these workshops was to encourage the pupils of Park School

and St Gerard's to consider shared space and their local area. The project included practical sessions introducing the children to drawing, design and ceramic tile making.

Park School backs directly onto Ormeau Park and utilises the Park for lessons and school activities, they are also very involved in an annual cross country run and work closely with the Park Manager and outreach team.

We propose that this art signage is installed in the Ormeau 2000 Playground. This is an area used extensively by families and children, including those who attend Park School. The wall separating the playground from the adjacent recycling yard would be a perfect location for local art and could be developed in the future to host more community art projects.

The suggested location in Falls Park would be on the Wall of the Falls Park Bowling Pavilion facing the car park.

Galvanised steel frames have been made by the artist for both pieces of art. The pieces are approximately 8ft x 4ft each and made of high fired glazed ceramic to ensure the pieces are weather proof.

The steel frames will be attached to the wall. The frames aid the hanging of the art pieces, limiting damage and unnecessary drilling into walls. Each tile that makes up the art work is installed on the frames after it has been hung, therefore should the panels need to be removed in the future, each tile can be detached individually and relocated.

3. Resource Implications

Financial

Property and Projects Department will install the works at a cost of approximately £400.

Human Resources

There are no assets or other implications attached to this report.

Asset and Other Implications

There are no assets or other implications attached to this report.

4. | Equality Implications

There are no equality implications.

5. Recommendations

It is recommended that Committee grant authority for these art pieces to be installed in Ormeau park and Falls Park.

6.	Decision Tracking
	All actions to be carried out by Community Parks outreach team, Lynne McCreery and Cailín Lynn.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8.	Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 Photograph of art piece, Ormeau Park Appendix 2 Photograph of art piece Falls Park
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