



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Reverend Robert Bradford Memorial Park Community Boards
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

In November 2010, South Belfast Alternatives (SBA) were approached by the PSNI to work with a group of twelve young people in the Donegall Pass area who were engaging in ASB and risk taking behaviours.

All twelve young people were disengaged from statutory/community youth provision, they felt disconnected from their community and had little respect for others and the impact of their behaviours.

In January 2011 the group made a commitment to stop certain behaviours/incidents of ASB and a ten week programme was developed to reconnect the group with their local community through history and art.

A local resident facilitated four sessions on the history of the Donegall Pass area. Blaze FX facilitated workshops in which the group gained skills in modern graffiti art, at first as sketched images which were viewed by their parents, other residents, community representatives, PSNI and SBA management committee.

The group of young people not only learned about their area, but also gained new creative skills. The result of the engagement was the development of four timeline community boards (see appendices 1, 2, 3 and 4);

- Ormeau Baths

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gasworks and Rose Cottage • The Somme • A modern representation of what part they play in community life today (Donegall Pass Young Men) <p>Council officers have been approached by SBA to request that the four community boards created by local young people to be installed permanently in the MUGA area of Robert Reverend Bradford Memorial Park (RRBMP).</p> <p>From 2012 parks management or council officers have been working with SBA and BELB Youth Club to improve facilities at RRBMP (see appendices 5 and 6; parks improvements) which included;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resurfacing of MUGA - £12,000 • New multi-sports goal posts - £8,000 • Line marking - £250 • Newly installed panelled fencing - £2,500 • Night time engagement programme - £1460 (members are asked to refer back to a committee paper submitted to December 2012 committee named <i>Pilot Night Activity Programme – Donegall Pass</i>)
--	--

2.	Key Issues
	<p>Council officers have been working with SBA regarding the installation of four community boards in the MUGA area of RRBMP.</p> <p>Having reviewed the content of the boards, there were concerns raised over symbols that appear on one of the Boards (Donegall Pass Young Men) and following consultation with the local community and the young people and it was decided that board, containing the symbols be hung elsewhere in the community (wall on entrance to Pine Street) and that the request to the Council be for the remaining three boards to be hung in the MUGA with the addition of a newly created 'Welcome' sign produced by children from the local youth club.</p>

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> Property and Projects Department will provide in-kind installation of this art work at a value of approximately £400.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> If necessary Property and Projects Department will acquire approval for installation of art work on boundary walls.</p>

	<p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>It is anticipated that these community art boards will have a limited life span due to the materials used and the effects of outside elements over the years.</p>
--	---

4.	Equality Implications
	There are no equality implications.

5.	Recommendations
	<p>It is recommended that committee grant authority for;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The three remaining boards and 'Welcome' sign to be installed in RRBMP in collaboration with Property and Projects and South Belfast Alternatives.

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

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	<p>SBA – South Belfast Alternatives</p> <p>RRBMP – Reverend Robert Bradford Memorial Park</p> <p>MUGA – Multi Use Games Area</p> <p>PSNI – Police Service of Northern Ireland</p> <p>ASB – Anti Social Behaviour</p>

8.	Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1 Ormeau Baths Community Board</p> <p>Appendix 2 Gasworks and Rose Cottage Community Board</p> <p>Appendix 3 The Somme Community Board</p> <p>Appendix 4 Welcome Community Board</p> <p>Appendix 5 Before Improvement Works</p> <p>Appendix 6 After Improvement Works</p>