



Belfast City Council

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| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | ‘Anglers Cabin’ – Waterworks Park |
| Date: | 24 February 2015 |
| Reporting Officer: | Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officer: | Stephen Walker, Departmental Portfolio and Programme Manager |

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| 1. | Relevant Background Information |
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The Committee is reminded that at its meeting in March 2013 it was informed of proposals to locate a storage container at Waterworks Park adjacent to the top pond. Members will recall that this pond has been populated with fish and is well used by local fishermen. The purpose of the container was to provide a facility for storage of the boat and a shelter from rain.

The cost of the container was £30,000 with the funding provided by the Department for Culture Arts and Leisure. A copy of the report from March 2013 is attached as Appendix A. Members are asked to note that the proposal excluded heating, water, power and sewage. There had been conversations at the time with the Fishermen and it had been suggested that there was an opportunity to construct a storage area within the proposal for a pavilion to service the natural turf pitch adjacent to the top pond. However, this suggestion was declined.

The Fishermen have now requested:

1. The Council provide power to the facility; and
2. Provides access to the toilet facilities in the changing pavilion.

Officers had previously been in discussion with the fishermen regarding the provision of a generator. Health and safety concerns have resulted in this proposal being withdrawn.

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| 2. | Key Issues |
| | <p>There are several issues for members to consider:</p> <p>a. <u>Provision of electrical supply to the container</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The fishermen's group has referenced the ongoing construction of the pavilion adjacent to the top pond and have asked that the electrical supply be extended to the container. Members are asked to note that the council only has approval from NIE to bring an electrical supply into the pavilion; to connect up to the container would require a separate application to NIE; 2. Council has not consented to the provision of an electrical supply to the container, as previously noted the container was not intended to have service connections; 3. While officers have not fully investigated issues or costs associated with the provision of an electrical supply to the container, this would require upgrading to a substation adding significant cost; 4. There is no provision in estimates for this work to be carried out. <p>b. <u>Access to toilet facilities at the proposed changing pavilion</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Members will be aware that the use of changing pavilions is incorporated into the hire fee for use of facilities such as pitches; 2. There may be a question of equality of access should the Council grant the group sole access; 3. If the facility were to be opened up for wider use there will need to be a full time attendant on duty; 4. There are a number of changing pavilions across many of our sites none of which are opened to the public or indeed teams using our pitches who have not required the changing pavilion; 5. There is currently a portable toilet on site for the use of the fishermen <p>In relation to the request for service provision to the 'Anglers Cabin' the Committee may either a) decline the request; or b) instruct Officers to undertake a scheme which will provide water; power; drainage and sewage disposal for the facility subject to the securing of corporate funding.</p> <p>In relation to the access to the pavilion, the Committee has several options;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decline the request; 2. Consent to the request and incorporate responsibility for opening and closing the facility to the Fishermen through a variation to the existing management agreement at no cost to the Council; 3. Defer consideration to enable a discussion with the Good Relations Unit around the potential equality issues around it and the implications city wide; |
| 3. | Resource Implications |
| | <p><u>Financial Implications</u></p> <p>The financial implications of the proposed works are not known at this time.</p> |

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| | <p><u>Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no additional human resource implications at this time other than staff time from within existing resources.</p> |
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| 4. | Equality Implications |
| | <p>There may be equality issues connected with this proposal in relation to access to groups and users other than the fishermen.</p> |

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| 5. | Recommendations |
| | <p>In line with the previous Committee decision it is recommended that the Committee decline both requests.</p> |

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| 6. | Decision Tracking |
| | <p>None</p> |

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| 7. | Key to Abbreviations |
| | <p>None</p> |

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| 8. | Documents Attached |
| | <p>Appendix A – Copy of March 2013 Committee Report</p> |

