

- 3.2 Members should also be aware that the Development Committee agreed that the council would make three other applications to the NITB TDS, for conference facilities at the Waterfront Hall, for the relocation of the Belfast Welcome Centre (BWC) and for Belfast Titanic/Maritime signage.
- 3.3 Depending on the success of the 4 projects and thus the total potential council funding commitment, a further process of review of ongoing support for the 4 projects may be required.
4. Equality and good relations implications
- 4.1 The provision of an enhanced playground at the zoo will provide improved play facilities to a greater number of visitors, of a wider age and ability range than is currently available.
5. Recommendations
- 5.1 Members are asked to consider supporting the application to the NITB TDS for an enhanced playground facility at the zoo, and to agree in principle to meeting the council contribution from the council's capital programme for the purposes of this application.
- 5.2 Any commitment by the council would be subject to the zoo project being awarded the TDS grant funding, and subject to further consideration of priorities depending the success of the 3 other council applications for TDS funding."

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

Fields in Trust Challenge - Update

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 10th February, 2011, it had been advised that the National Playing Fields Association (Fields in Trust) had launched the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge. The challenge was an officially endorsed legacy initiative to mark the two landmark events scheduled to take place in the United Kingdom in 2012, that is, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012 Olympics. The programme aimed to permanently protect 2012 playing fields in communities all across the country ensuring access to outdoor sport, play and recreation both now and for future generations.

Subsequently, at its meeting on 9th June, 2011 the Committee had considered a number of sites and based on Legal Services advice only two sites had been considered eligible to participate in the initiative and were subsequently nominated, that is, Orangefield Park and Lagan Meadows. A "Save a Space for Me" online campaign

had been launched in October, 2011 encouraging people to support their outdoor spaces to be protected as part of the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge. Over 20,000 people had shown their support for the Parks, with over 10,000 web visits recorded on the day of the launch alone. It had been a close contest but in the end Orangefield Park had won by three votes from Lagan Meadows.

The Assistant Director advised the Members that work would now proceed with Fields in Trust and the Council's Legal Services and Estates Units to draft the deed of dedication. There were estates and legal issues which would have to be considered by Fields in Trust and the Council as a result of Orangefield being part of the Connswater Community Greenway Project and flood alleviation scheme which would result in significant work to the park with funding from the Big Lottery. The Council needed to ensure that entering into a deed of dedication at this time would not compromise its ability to deliver the necessary development work in the park required by the aforementioned scheme.

It was envisaged that a number of events would be arranged to engage the local community in celebrating the dedication and that that work would be done in consultation with the East Belfast Partnership Board as part of the Connswater Community Greenway programme. A further report on the events would be submitted to the Committee in due course.

The Committee noted the information which had been provided and agreed that a deed of dedication be drafted, subject to the legal and estates issues being addressed.

Closures for Public Holidays and Maintenance 2012/2013

The Committee considered a report which provided information in relation to proposals in respect of the opening/closing times and dates due to public holidays and maintenance agreements during the forthcoming financial year for Council-owned facilities which fell under the remit of the Parks and Leisure Committee, that is, the Cemeteries and Crematorium sites and offices and Leisure Centres.

The Committee approved the closure arrangements in respect of the facilities outlined.

Quay Vipers Motorcycle Rally – Boucher Road Playing Fields

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1. Relevant Background Information

- 1.1 The Council has received a request from Mr Michael Montgomery on behalf of Quay Vipers Motor Cycle Club to secure the Boucher Road Playing Fields site to hold their annual rally/festival from Friday 10 August to Sunday 12 August 2012 (inclusive). This event has been running for**