



Subject:	Woodvale Park – Cultural Celebrations July 2016
Date:	10 May 2016
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director of City and Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director Paula Irvine Community Parks Outreach Manager

Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The Council has received a request from Woodvale and Cambrai Youth and Community Association to hold a week long programme of cultural celebrations in Woodvale Park. The group have previously been an active participant on the bonfire programme for a number of years. In 2007 they were involved in the design of the Bonfire Beacon as an alternative to the traditional 11 July bonfire. They have run successful events since 2008 with around 1,000 people attending these events annually. For the past several years the group has successfully used a bonfire frame as opposed to a beacon. The staging of these events was approved by the Parks and Leisure Committee on each occasion.
1.2	The group are again intending to design and deliver a cultural event in Woodvale Park commencing on Wednesday 6 July 2016 and finishing on 11 July 2016. The week long programme is designed around interventions and seeks to engage local youths and community in activity such as midnight soccer. The final day will see Woodvale Park play host to a family fun day celebration. The community association are seeking permission to construct a framed bonfire within the park and to stage associated community activities as part of their ongoing efforts to transform bonfires within the wider locality.

2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>It is recommended that the Committee grants authority for this event to take place in Woodvale Park in July 2016, subject to satisfactory terms agreed with the Director of City and Neighbourhood Services and on the condition that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The event organiser ensures that all health and safety requirements are met to the Council's satisfaction, including an event management plan, risk assessments and public liability insurance. 2. The event organisers meet all statutory requirements including entertainments licensing
3.0	Main report
3.1	<p>Positioning of the bonfire</p> <p>Due to the poor condition of the bonfire beacon frame for several years now the fire has been contained within crowd control barriers and positioned on a 6 inch bed of sand. This has proved safe and effective and will be the method used this year again. The bonfire will be positioned on the old tarmac tennis courts with the surface being protected by the thick layer of sand before the fire is erected.</p>
3.2	<p>Risk Management</p> <p>As reported in previous years, there are issues of risk with such an event that will be carefully reviewed. The organisers of the proposed event at Woodvale Park will be required to liaise closely with the Council and the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service.</p>
3.3	<p>As with all such events, health and safety issues with regard to the holding of the event will be addressed through the preparation of an event management plan by the organisers to the satisfaction of Council officers.</p>
3.4	<p>The event organisers will be required to undertake all the necessary risk assessments and to ensure that all health and safety requirements are met.</p>
3.5	<p>Benefits of the proposal</p> <p>There is local support for the proposal to host this event, with a commitment of up to 50 local volunteers to supervise the event. These volunteers are trained in stewarding</p>

	<p>techniques and officially accredited by the Open College Network. Through the organisation of this annual programme and event the community have demonstrated effective partnership and collaborative working with statutory and community agencies. The provision of beacons and the frame in the past has proven to demonstrate that communities can take responsibility for managing bonfires and conducting events in a responsible manner.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.6	<p>The group has requested some financial support from the department. In the past departmental budgets have supported the purchase of safety control equipment such as crowd control barriers, first aid provision and chemical toilets. It is estimated that £3000 may be required to support the event. This amount can be accommodated within the existing departmental budgets.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u></p>
3.7	<p>It is estimated that the event will require 3 members of staff to assist the event volunteers and ensure the safe and effective management of crowd control at the event. Staffing costs is estimated at £300.00 and will be absorbed within the existing park budget.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p>
3.8	<p>The use of Woodvale Park for the July 2016 cultural celebrations</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p>
3.9	<p>Local communities and agencies have been consulted on the proposals</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
4.1	None