



Subject:	Woodvale Park – Cultural Celebrations July 2017
Date:	9 th May 2017
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
Contact Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department Mark Turner Community Parks Outreach Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
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 Twaddell and Woodvale Residents Association to hold a week long programme of cultural celebration 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 th July bonfire. They have successfully run this event from 2008, attracting over 1000 people. For the past several years the group has successfully used a bonfire frame as opposed to a beacon. The staging of these events have been approved by the Council on each occasion.

1.2	<p>The group are again intending to design and deliver a cultural event in Woodvale Park commencing on Friday 7th to Tuesday the 11th July 2017. The week long programme is designed around interventions and seeks to engage local youths and community in activity such as soccer tournaments, provided by Live For Sport. The final day will see Woodvale Park play host to a family fun day celebration. The Twaddell and Woodvale residents 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.</p>
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant authority for this event to take place in Woodvale Park in July 2017, subject to satisfactory terms agreed with the Director of City and Neighbourhood Services and on condition that: <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 risks 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	The event organisers will be required to undertake all the necessary risk assessments and to ensure that all health and safety requirements are met.
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 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>
3.6	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>This group has made an application to the Bonfire & Cultural Celebration assistance programme.</p>
3.7	<p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>It is estimated that some staff time will be required at the event. Staffing costs are contained within the existing park budget.</p>
3.8	<p><u>Asset and other implications</u></p> <p>The use of Woodvale Park for the July 2017 cultural celebrations.</p>
3.9	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>Local communities and agencies have been consulted on the proposals.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None