

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

COALVILLE SPECIAL EXPENSES WORKING PARTY – 10 OCTOBER 2017

Title of report	CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE
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Purpose of report	To update members with regards to Capital Projects within the Coalville Special Expense Area
Recommendations	THAT THE WORKING PARTY NOTE THE PROGRESS UPDATE ON 2017/18 CAPITAL PROJECTS

1.0 2017/18 CAPITAL PROJECTS

1.1 Owen Street Recreation Ground

1.1.1 Floodlights - £779

Concerns have been raised over the sustainability of the floodlights, with 3 main issues being highlighted:-

1. The lux levels are only adequate for the league Coalville Town FC are currently playing in and would be inadequate if they got promoted.
2. The light fittings are outdated and are now becoming very difficult to replace.
3. The lighting columns are now reaching the end of their natural life and 2 potential issues have been identified;
 - a. The bolts that secure the base plates into the ground can deteriorate over time.
 - b. The lower part of the column structure can also deteriorate over time.

The report has now been received from the contractor and officers have met with Property Services to identify a number of options and associated costs. These will be circulated to Members for consideration within the next few weeks. In addition, contact has been made with the Leicestershire FA to identify if there are any funding streams that may be available for such works.

1.1.2 Changing Pavilion Official Opening

Coalville Town Football Club have confirmed the official opening of the new changing pavilion at Owen Street Recreation Ground will take place on Wednesday 8 November. The format for the event is:-

- 18.30 Arrival of guests
- 18.40 Brief tour of new facility
- 18.50 Introduction of VIP guests and a brief background to the new facility and the club in general
- 18.55 Brief speeches from selected VIP's, including the Chair of CSEWP
- 19.00 Photographs and ceremonial ribbon cutting
- 19.10 Drinks and buffet served
- 19.35 Guest shown to their seats in the directors box
- 19.45 First half of game against a Derby County team
- 20.30 Half time refreshments
- 20.45 Second half of game
- 21.30-21.45 Guests depart

All Members of CSEWP are invited to attend the event.

1.1.3 **Radio Transmitter**

Hermitage FM have approached the Council and Coalville Town FC with a view to locating a radio transmitter at Owen Street Recreation Ground in order to broadcast a new radio station aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of those aged over 60. Officers and Members are supportive of the initiative and are working in partnership to ensure the necessary approvals are in place to allow the project to progress.

1.2 **Thringstone Miners Social Centre Training Pitch – £7,431**

Planning approval has been given for both the fencing and the footpath diversion and the Board has been revitalised by the addition of 3 new Trustees and a new Chair. At their AGM, the training pitch project was identified as a priority action for the forthcoming year by the trustees. The next meeting of trustees is taking place in late October / early November where, assuming the football club have delivered what they've agreed to, the progression of the training pitch project will be discussed in more detail.

1.3 **Coalville Forest Adventure Park – Balance £4,814 (S106 funding)**

At the last meeting of the group, it was requested that a funding application be submitted to the Bardon Hill Community Fund in order to deliver the proposed improvements to the Adventure Park. Officers are finalising a bid submission to meet the deadline of 30 October using the outstanding S106 balance to secure an additional £4,814 towards the proposals. The application will be considered on 27 November.

1.4 **Mobile Vehicle Activated Signage - £8,000**

Testing of all columns has been undertaken and all have been approved. Officers were advised initially by LCC that only one supplier could be used for the purchase of units, but this has been challenged by Procurement and a process is now in place to identify a preferred supplier in order to be able to add them onto the procurement system. A unit has been agreed with Members so once the procurement issues have been resolved, the order will be placed.

Officers have also made contact with LCC to arrange for a representative to attend Warren Hills Road to meet with Members to discuss how a MVAS could be installed in that area. In addition, it has been agreed that a speed survey will be undertaken in the area to assess how much of an issue speeding is and to see if there are any further prevention measures that could be considered.

1.5 **Melrose Road Recreation Ground, Park Development - £2,000**

The seating will be installed at the end of September and the planting of the shrubbery will take place in February.

1.6 **Melrose Road Play Hub - £4,000**

The landowner of the wooded area agreed in principle to the installation of a footpath in July. The matter was referred by them to their land agents and an on site meeting followed. However, formal approval in writing has not yet been received despite officers requesting this on more than one occasion. Once received, the work will be undertaken.

1.7 **Coalville Park**

1.7.1 **Play Equipment**

Concerns have been highlighted by residents regarding the quality of play equipment. Accusations were also levied regarding the lack of investment within the park.

Members may wish to note investments which include:-

- Skate Park enhancements
- Surfacing Improvements
- Green Gym

- Young Children's Play Equipment
- Community Garden
- Running Route

That said, the existing play equipment is old and in potential need of upgrading.

1.7.2 **Toilets**

The toilets are vandalised on a regular basis and consequently require regular investment to maintain them. Property Services are currently working on options which may reduce anti-social behaviour and the ongoing costs associated with the damage caused.

1.7.3 **Fields in Trust**

Officers have had discussions with Fields in Trust representatives regarding placing Coalville Park in trust in perpetuity in order to protect it as an open space. This would not necessarily prohibit any development of the area, but if this were to take place then there would be a requirement from the Trust that an alternative location within the vicinity was put in trust to compensate for this.

Fields in Trust currently have an initiative which encourages landowners to dedicate a recreational space as a 'Centenary Field' to commemorate the end of World War 1 centenary and to remember those who lost their lives. The land must have some significance to WW1 and it may be that the Peace Garden meets this criteria. If suitable, this may be another way that NWLDC could celebrate the centenary in 2018.

1.7.4 **Green Flag Award**

Desire has been expressed to obtain the Green Flag Award for Coalville Park. The Green Flag Award is the benchmark national standard for publicly accessible parks and green spaces in the UK. The benefits are that it visibly demonstrates to the local community that a clear improvement has been made to a site and there is a commitment to continually look to improve it further. In addition, it can boost usage, improve marketing, and can assist in obtaining external funding.

If Members are supportive, officers can consider the implications of assessment, considering the points mentioned above and any further improvements or investment that may be required to obtain accreditation. Whilst it is anticipated that the accreditation process will be an action within the 2018/19 Business Plan, officers can feed back to the group with implications in the January meeting so that any investment decisions can be made.

1.8 **Lillehammer Drive**

Following the last meeting of the group, the Leisure Services Manager was advised that the S106 Deed of Variation had finally been signed by both NWLDC and Barratts, and this meant that the MUGA would have to be removed within 6 weeks and the Council would receive the £35,470 commuted sum for the maintenance of open space. However, it transpired following this that not all planning conditions had been fulfilled and the Council were still waiting for a revised landscaping scheme that will replace the MUGA. Both Planning and Legal Services have attempted to resolve this with the solicitors of Barratts who have been unresponsive. Legal Services are continuing to progress to a resolution, and once completed and signed off by Planning, the MUGA will be removed within 6 weeks, the area will be landscaped, and the commuted sum will be received.