

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

COALVILLE SPECIAL EXPENSES WORKING PARTY – 3 APRIL 2019

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	1. THAT THE WORKING PARTY NOTE THE PROGRESS UPDATE ON THE 2018/19 CAPITAL PROJECTS 2. THAT THE WORKING PARTY NOTE THE 2019/20 CAPITAL PROJECTS

1.0 2018/19 CAPITAL PROJECTS

1.1 Thringstone Miners Social Centre Training Pitch – £7,431

An AGM of the trustees was held on 5 March where the football club were served notice from the Board of Trustees having accrued significant debts to the centre, although they will be allowed to continue to use the facility as a user group as long as they pay in advance for their bookings. Consequently the focus of the trustees is now to get additional trustees and volunteers engaged so the facility can continue to deliver functions and events without relying on the football club. Once done, attention will then turn to the training pitch development as a priority. It is proposed this project be carried forward into 2019/20.

1.2 Coalville Forest Adventure Park – £14,614 (£4,814 S106 funding and £9,800 external funding)

Work at the site is now completed with the exception of updated information boards and signage, and the installation of waymarkers to supplement the newly formed jogging circuit. It is anticipated all work will be completed prior to summer. It is proposed this project be carried forward into 2019/20.

1.3 Melrose Road Play Hub - £4,000

Provisional agreement has been reached with the legal representatives of the Squire De Lisle to enter into a Permissive Footpath Agreement. A request has been made by NWLDC officers to slightly amend the agreement in order to protect the councils investment, and approval needs to be given for the design of waymarkers to be sited adjacent to the footpath. Once finalised, the agreement will be signed and the path installed. It is proposed this project be carried forward into 2019/20.

1.4 **Coalville Park Green Flag Award**

All park improvements have been undertaken. In addition to this a 'Friends of Coalville Park' group has been formally constituted and they have set up social media sites and an email address. The Green Flag application was submitted in January and an assessment took place in late March, with the outcome being formally announced in July. The application was underpinned by a Management Plan which included a costed improvement plan. The improvement plan will be presented to Members at the meeting to consider investments into the park for 2019/20. It is proposed that any improvements be carried forward as projects into 2019/20, including the extension of the park into the field at the rear of the site.

1.5 **Lillehammer Drive**

A meeting with residents was held in January to discuss the proposed landscaping schemes for the former MUGA area. However, it was evident that creating an open space was not the wish of the residents due to the potential ASB issues it would cause. Consequently it was agreed that consideration would be given to allowing the area to become part of the school, ideally as a nature area or community garden that could be used as part of the children's development and that could be periodically opened up to parents and other members of the community so they could see what work had been undertaken.

Unfortunately, there are a number of covenants imposed upon the land which dictate that it must be retained as public open space, and these would not allow it to become part of the school whereby public access to the area would be significantly restricted. It is possible that these covenants could be lifted following negotiation and agreement with Barratt's, although there is the risk that as part of this they may request back some of the S106 money attached to the transfer, specifically that element directly associated to the maintenance of the open space. In addition, it is highly likely that if Barratt's do agree to the request, they will insist on NWLDC covering all legal costs which will need to be funded through Coalville Special Expenses.

However, at present, an impasse has been reached as residents are adamant they do not want an open space provision and, therefore, the area remains locked off and it isn't landscaped.

Members are requested to consider whether they would like officers to open negotiations with Barratt's with a view to having the existing covenants lifted, accepting the risk that an element of the S106 contribution may need to be repaid to Barratt's and that if agreement can be reached, legal costs would have to be covered. It is proposed this project be carried forward into 2019/20.

1.6 **London Road Closed Cemetery - £4,500 (£2,250 CSE and £2,250 external funding)**

Work is now completed with the exception of the installation of the new seat and litterbin, and the lectern and associated interpretation panel. It is anticipated all works will be completed by summer. It is proposed this project be carried forward into 2019/20.

1.7 **Hanging Baskets**

At the last meeting of the group, it was requested that officers bring back proposals for hanging baskets to be sited throughout Coalville town centre. As reported previously, the cost of a hanging basket would be £70. In addition, it is anticipated that none of the existing brackets would be suitable for supporting the weight of the baskets and, therefore, new ones would be required. It is expected that the cost of installing a new

bracket would be around £110. The total cost would be dependant on how many baskets would be required.

Members should note that hanging baskets would have to be placed on private properties throughout the town. Consequently, approval would need to be sought from the owners, not all of whom may agree, and this will need to be underpinned by a legal agreement that will highlight who takes responsibility, liability and ownership for the brackets and baskets. Therefore, it is assumed that this could take a considerable amount of time and there may not be a uniform approach to the baskets with a number of buildings not having them, and with those in situ possibly at different heights.

Funding has been made available to the district through the High Streets Community Clean Up fund and it has been agreed that a proportion of this can be allocated to flower presentations within Coalville. The funding has to be spent prior to the end of March 2019 and officers are currently working up proposals to have flower towers at various locations throughout the town centre. The plan of where towers will be located will be presented at the meeting and Members are asked to consider if they feel this would be an adequate approach for 2019 to offset the need for hanging baskets.

1.8 **Bardon Play Area**

A request has been received from a Member for consideration to be given to upgrading the Oval Play Area in Bardon. Officers will present pictures of the area at the meeting for consideration and that any improvement works be carried forward as a project into 2019/20.