

**CANNOCK CHASE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT COMMITTEE**

**8 AUGUST, 2007**

**REPORT OF THE HEAD OF CULTURE AND MAJOR PROJECTS**

**2007 - 08 PROGRAMME – CAPITAL SCHEMES UPDATE REPORT**

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To update Members of the status of work in progress in respect of capital schemes included in the Council's 2007-08 programmes within the Children and Young People Select Committee's portfolio.

**2. Recommendation**

2.1 That Members of the Children and Young People Select Committee note the content of the capital scheme updates in respect of the Council's 2007-08 programmes as outlined in the report.

**3. Key Issues - Capital Scheme Updates**

The comments shown below relate to each project separately, together with an indication of the Division of the Council dealing with that project's implementation. Members should also note that the information in this report reflects the position at the end of the first quarter of 2007-08, (30 June, 2007).

**3.1 Arthur Street Play Area, (Culture & Major Projects)**

The first draft layout designs for this scheme have been prepared and options costed. These will now be used as a basis to consider potential phasing of works, explore additional funding opportunities to enable the entire play area site to be ultimately developed and to also promote debate and feedback at various stages when the future full consultation process takes place.

**3.2 Hawks Green Capital Works – Meadow Way / Hayes Way Play Areas, (Culture & Major Projects)**

The senior and junior play areas at the Meadow Way element of this scheme were opened for public use on 4 May, 2007 and to date have been well received. Soft landscaping to these areas has commenced and should be completed towards the end of the year.

Works on the toddler play area near Hayes Way have now commenced. Progress on this element has been slower than programmed due to the excessively wet period during June. Hence, completion of this phase is now anticipated to be during September, 2007, and will also be followed by appropriate soft landscaping works.

### **3.3 North End Park, Rugeley, (Culture & Major Projects)**

Work has now commenced at this location and is the final stage of the project. This phase includes the provision of a small play area which will be located adjacent to the existing Multi Use Games Area, (MUGA), and is anticipated to be completed during September, 2007, excluding the associated landscaping works provision.

### **3.4 Wolseley Road Play Area, Rugeley, (Culture & Major Projects)**

The final phase of this project is the creation of footpath links that will provide connection from the play area and Eaton Close to Wolseley Road. These works are due to commence during July, 2007.

### **3.5 Old Hednesford Parkland Development Scheme, (Culture & Major Projects)**

The preparation of the park development scheme plan for the entire site is progressing well. This has generated completely new proposed designs and phasing options. As such new consultation has taken place within various relevant Divisions of the Council, Staffordshire County Council, (Highways), Staffordshire Police, (Architectural Liaison Officer), and also Members.

Once this feedback has been collated and plans revised, a further full public consultation event is planned. It is hoped to arrange this event at a location in the vicinity of the development site itself.

### **3.6 Oxford Green Public Open Space Enhancement, (Culture & Major Projects)**

The proposed revised lease arrangements for this site, in particular regarding the length of term and consideration payable are being explored with Staffordshire County Council, (Property Services). To assist in these negotiations other supporting information has also been prepared.

As per a previous Minute of the (then) Culture and Sport Select Committee, dialogue has now commenced with the Chair of the Rumer Hill Residents Association on the current outline site proposals.

### **3.7 New Rugeley Swimming Pool, (Culture and Major Projects)**

The construction of the new Rugeley Swimming Pool is progressing and the old swimming pool at Hagley Park Sports College, Rugeley, has now been fully demolished.

The Rugeley Leisure Centre car park has been remodelled to allow space for the college coaches to deposit and collect students twice daily. The new water, gas and telecommunications services have been connected.

However, due to inclement weather, there has been a five day delay in laying the new foundations. It is not currently anticipated that this will affect the final date of construction completion. i.e. during the last week of March, 2008.

In respect of scheme funding:

- Sport England has awarded £500,000 towards the cost of the construction.
- Rugeley Endowment Trust has agreed to donate £16,000 for a fitness wall in the new multi-purpose room in the Leisure Centre.
- Rugeley Power Limited has donated £2,500 towards the cost of a hoist for disabled / elderly swimmers and this donation will be matched by Sports Match under the Business Sponsorship Incentive Scheme for Sport and Physical Recreation.

### **3.8 Provision of Sports and Leisure Facilities, (Culture and Major Projects)**

Cabinet have recently approved £40,000 to be utilised to commission a feasibility study that will provide a design to RIBA Stage C detail for an athletics track and other sports facilities at Blake Valley Technology College, Hednesford. This quotation exercise has now commenced and the successful design organisation should be appointed by the end of July, 2007.

### **3.9 Cannock Park – Replacement Fencing, (Culture and Major Projects)**

Quotations are currently being sought for work categories that will lead to the replacement of the existing Cannock Park perimeter fencing fronting the main A34, (Stafford Road). These are due to be returned by 20 July, 2007 and will then be subject to evaluation.

Members may recall that a similar exercise previously carried out proved to not be viable. It is anticipated that the revised specifications now being proposed will enable this project to be concluded on this occasion.

### **3.10 New Tennis Court, Ravenhill Park, (Environmental Services)**

Works to the tennis court have been delayed due to the inclement and extreme weather conditions for the time of year. However, practical completion has now been achieved and a formal official opening ceremony was held on 21 July, 2007.

**REPORT INDEX**

Background	Section 1
Details of Matters to be Considered i.e. Options Considered, Outcome of Consultations etc.	Section 2
Contribution to CHASE	Section 3
Section 17 (Crime Prevention) Implications	Section 4
Human Rights Act Implications	Section 5
Data Protection Act Implications	Section 6
Risk Management Implications	Section 7
Legal Implications	Section 8
Financial Implications	Section 9
Human Resource Implications	Section 10
Conclusion	Section 11
List of Background Papers	Section 12
Annexes to the Report:	None

**Section 1**

**Background**

This information for each project is reproduced within the body of the report above.

**Section 2**

**Details of Matters to be Considered**

The individual project updates to be considered are also outlined within the body of the report above.

**Section 3**

**Contribution to CHASE**

The additional and refurbished community facilities outlined throughout the report will further support the aim of the Council to develop a healthier and more active community. These facilities will enable greater use by local residents and local schools and colleges.

**Section 4**

**Section 17 Implications**

Where Planning Permissions have been granted or Planning Applications are required or pending, consultation is required with the appropriate Architectural Liaison Officer from Staffordshire Police.

**Section 5**

**Human Rights Act Implications**

Where there are pending Planning Applications, it is imperative that the Council adheres to its Policies and ensures that all applicants and others entitled to address the Planning Control Committee have a 'fair hearing' as required under Article 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998.

**Section 6**

**Data Protection Implications**

There are no identified implications in respect of the Data Protection Act.

**Section 7**

**Risk Management Implications**

Each project is required to have an individual Risk Assessment associated with it.

In general terms, the current risk to the Council is of schemes not being delivered within time, this being related to the size of the programme and the level of staffing resources currently

available for scheme implementation. The outcome of future Planning Applications may also impact on the programme delivery timetables.

## **Section 8**

### **Legal Implications**

All projects once embarked upon will result in the Council entering into contractual relations for such projects to be completed. The Council will be subject to various contractual obligations and liabilities and accordingly, it must ensure that it is in a position to discharge all contractual obligations. Failure to do so may expose the Council to possible claims.

For certain projects the Council will be required to comply with its tendering process. This is to ensure that any contract awarded is awarded through a process that is transparent and free from any allegation of bias or favouritism.

The Council is under a legal obligation to ensure that it complies with its own Contract Procurement Policy, EU Regulations on Procurement (where applicable), other relevant statutory provisions and contract principles when offering and awarding contracts.

Failure to comply with our own Policies, EU Regulations and other legislation relating to Procurement could render any offer and award of contract unlawful thereby causing delay and possible claims for contract damages.

Moreover, all projects must be approved and authorised by the Council. Officers' actions must remain within the remit of the approval/authorisation given by Council in respect of each specific project.

**Section 9****Financial Implications**

The table below gives details of the budgets and expenditure for programmed and committed schemes referred to in this report:

Scheme	Total Scheme Budget £	Spend to 31.03.07 £	2007-08	
			Approved Budget 27.06.07 £	Actual @ 11.07.07 £
<b>Committed Schemes:</b>				
<b><u>General Fund</u></b>				
Rugeley Swimming Pool	4,246,500	324,366	3,854,210	113,612
Ravenhill Park – Tennis Courts	41,000	0	41,000	0
Blake Valley Technical College	2,100,000	0	1,400,000	0
<b><u>Section 106</u></b>				
North End Park	62,510	43,023	19,480	663
Wolseley Road Play Area	110,300	77,778	32,520	663
Hawks Green Capital Works (Meadow Way / Hayes Way)	288,250	154,496	109,950	78,614
	Total Scheme Budget £	Spend to 31.03.07 £	Programmed Budget 27.06.07 £	Actual @ 11.07.07 £
<b>Programmed Schemes:</b>				
<b><u>General Fund</u></b>				
Arthur Street Play Areas	23,480	0	23,480	0
<b><u>Section 106</u></b>				
Relocation Arthur Street Play Area	84,830	0	84,830	0
Cannock Park	53,150	80	53,070	0
Old Hednesford Parkland Development Scheme	94,980	2,904	92,080	690
Oxford Green Public Open Space Enhancement	21,270	0	21,270	0

The £40,000 for a feasibility study at Blake Valley Technical College was approved to be met from the existing project budget.

Those schemes identified as being programmed are subject to Cabinet approval although it should be noted that some preliminary expenditure has been incurred.

There is an element of £23,800 within the Hawks Green (Meadow Way / Hayes Way) scheme for ongoing revenue maintenance approved in the report to Cabinet 16th November 2006.

**Section 10**

**Resource Implications**

The implementation of the majority of these schemes is being carried out by the Strategic Projects Section within the Culture and Major Projects Division. The remainder being dealt with via Environmental Services.

**Section 11**

**Conclusion**

That Members consider the contents of the update report, and note the current position in respect of each individual scheme.

**Section 12**

**Background Papers**

None in the context of the report.

**Annexes**

None.