

CANNOCK CHASE DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET

16 NOVEMBER 2006

REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

PORTFOLIO LEADER – CULTURE AND SPORT

HAWKS GREEN CAPITAL WORKS PHASE II - MEADOW WAY / HAYES WAY PLAY AREAS

APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO SPEND

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update Cabinet of progress to date in respect of the plans to refurbish the play areas at Meadow Way and Hayes Way.
- 1.2 To seek approval for permission to spend in relation to these play areas subject to Planning approval.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That Cabinet note the current progress position relating to the refurbishment of the Meadow Way and Hayes Way play areas, collectively known as the Hawks Green Capital Works Phase II.

2.2 That, subject to Planning Control Committee approval and the cost of the project being within budgetary provision, Cabinet grants permission to spend approval for these play areas as outlined in the report.

3. Key Issues

- 3.1 The project to refurbish the existing play areas at Hayes Way and Meadow Way in Heath Hayes was included in the Leaders Speech on 22 February 2006, and as such is included in the Councils' Capital Programme for 2006-07.
- 3.2 The budget provision for this initiative is £284,950.
- 3.3 Quotations are currently being obtained for all aspects of the refurbishment and associated landscaping. Many have already been received, and are indicative that costs will be within budget.
- 3.4 Since this issue was raised as part of the Hawks Green Landscape Master Plan Review on 7 May 2003, there have been a number of consultation events. The last open public event was

held at Heath Hayes Library on 15th November 2005, which was preceded by consultation with both Ward Members and Staffordshire Police. At each stage, plans were revised in line with these consultations.

- 3.5 Additionally, extensive consultation took place during Local Democracy Week, an event held over 3 days at the Civic Centre on 6th, 7th and 9th February 2006. These events targeted user groups of the facilities and provided much useful feedback.
- 3.6 Planning permission is being sought, and will be considered at Planning Control Committee on 25 October 2006, previously refused on 23 August 2006. Subject to this approval, works are scheduled to commence in November 2006. The last works to be carried out will be the final landscaping which, if affected by adverse weather conditions may need to be delayed.

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Section 1

Background

This information is reproduced within the body of the report above.

Section 2

Details of Matters to be Considered

These are also outlined within the body of the report above.

Section 3

Contribution to CHASE

These updated and refurbished community facilities outlined in the report will further support the aim of the Council to develop a healthier and more active community. Features to enhance the feeling of safety and inclusion have been incorporated from guidance and advice provided by Staffordshire Police. The facilities will enable greater use by various age groups within the community.

Section 4

Section 17 Implications

As detailed in the body of the report, consultation has taken place with the appropriate Architectural Liaison Officer from Staffordshire Police, and appropriate recommendations incorporated into the designs.

Section 5

Human Rights Act Implications

There are no identified implications in respect of the Human Rights Act 1998 arising from this report.

Section 6

Data Protection Implications

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

Section 7

Risk Management Implications

Health and Safety aspects are considered very seriously and are taken into account within the scheme designs themselves and also in the procurement of all play equipment, which must conform to approved industry standards.

In general terms, the current risk to the Council is of existing Capital and Section 106 Programme schemes not being delivered within time. This is associated with the reduction in staffing resources currently available, due to the ongoing vacancy of a Parks Development Officer. This report is considering adding a further scheme to the current spend programme.

The outcome of future Planning Applications may also impact on the programme timetable.

Section 8

Legal Implications

Certain aspects of the intended works require planning consent and accordingly no works can be permitted in the absence of planning consent first being obtained.

Furthermore, subject to the value of any contracts for the requisite works anticipated, the Council must comply with its Contract Procurement Rules. Failure to do so could result in the Council being challenged in respect of any contract entered into which could result in considerable delay, unnecessary costs being incurred and a complaint to the Ombudsman.

The Council has approved the requisite refurbishment, associated works and funding. Cabinet approval is however required to expend the funds allocated to undertake and complete the refurbishment and associated works.

Section 9**Financial Implications**

The project to refurbish the existing play areas at Hayes Way and Meadow Way in Heath Hayes was included in the Leaders Speech as a commitment on 22 February 2006.

Following adjustments for the 2005-06 outturn the budget available for this scheme is £284,950 and is to be financed from Section 106 funds.

The estimated phasing of expenditure for this scheme is as follows:

Description of works	Estimated Sum	2006-07				2007-08			
Removal of existing play equipment including ground work preparation	£25,000.00	Spending Profile				Spending Profile			
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
		0	0	£10K	£15K	0	0	0	0
Tarmacadam works to footpath and play areas	£71,200.00	Spending Profile				Spending Profile			
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
		0	0	0	£63k	£8.2k	0	0	0
Play equipment purchase and installation	£123,000.00	Spending Profile				Spending Profile			
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
		0	0	0	£78K	£45k	0	0	0
Landscape Works	£18,000.00	Spending Profile				Spending Profile			
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
		0	0	0	£4k	0	0	£14k	0
Fees & Charges	£23,950.00	Spending Profile				Spending Profile			
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
				£4.79K	£4.79K	£4.79K	£4.79K	£4.79K	0
Ongoing Revenue Maintenance	£23,800.00								
Total	£284,950.00	Total 2006-07		£179,580.00	Total 2007-08		£81,570.00		

The total costs of the scheme will be contained within the approved budgetary provision.

Quotations are still being obtained for certain work packages contained within these schemes.

Orders can only be placed subject to the schemes being delivered within the existing budget.

Section 10

Resource Implications

The implementation of the Hawks Green Capital Works Phase II is being carried out as a priority scheme by the Strategic Projects Section within the Culture and Major Projects Division.

Section 11

Conclusions

That the recommendations at point 2 be approved.

Section 12

Background Papers

Statement by the Leader of the Council – 22 February 2006.

Hawks Green Landscape Master Plan Review - 7 May 2003.

Annexes

None.