

Report of the Interim Strategic Director

HICKINGS LANE RECREATION GROUND – FUNDING AWARD1. Purpose of report

To advise the Committee of the success in securing additional funding for work at the Hickings Lane Recreation Ground play area in Stapleford.

2. Background

The play area at this site was identified as high priority for refurbishment in the new Play Strategy, requiring a full refurbishment with new surfacing and a mix of equipment for all ages.

A report to this Committee on 29 March 2018 resolved to allocate £100,000 to support external funding bids for schemes to the play facility at Hickings Lane Recreation Ground, Stapleford and King George's Park, Bramcote. In addition the Committee noted a £18,500 Section 106 allocation from the Whitely Mill site at Stapleford that had to be used at Hickings Lane Recreation Ground.

Using the £50,000 allocated for Hickings Lane and the £18,500 Section 106 money as match funding, a £93,500 bid was made in September 2018 to Waste Recycling Environmental (WREN) for the provision of new play and sports equipment. WREN is a not-for-profit organisation that awards grants for community projects from the Landfill Communities Fund. The Council has been advised that the bid has been successful.

Following consultation on site the replacement of the out-dated Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) was also identified as a high priority together with the play area. The proposed £50,000 bid to WREN was therefore increased to £93,500 to fund the replacement of this MUGA. The application was prepared working closely with Stapleford Town FC who are the main users of the Park and the Stapleford Community Group. Stapleford Town FC have also pledged £1,000 as a partner funding element towards the project. The other funding partner is United Living, the Council's Housing Modernisation Partner who have contributed £2,500.

3. Financial implications

These are detailed in the appendix.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to RECOMMEND to the Finance and Resources Committee that:

- 1. A scheme costing £165,500 be included in the 2019/20 capital programme for the provision of new play and sports facilities at Hickings Lane Recreation Ground, Stapleford with funding as set out in the appendix.**
- 2. An allocation of £8,550 be made in 2018/19 from revenue contingencies to meet the cost of the contributing third party payment to WREN.**

Background papers

Nil

APPENDIX

Financial Implications

The draft capital programme 2019/20 to be presented for approval at Finance and Resources Committee on 14 February 2019 includes £100,000 for work at Hickings Lane Recreation Ground play area as set out in the report to the Leisure and Environment Committee on 28 March 2018. This anticipates that the cost will be met by £50,000 from WREN in association with £50,000 from the Council's own capital resources.

Confirmation that WREN are now to provide funding of £93,500 towards work on the site in conjunction with the £18,500 section 106 funds and the £1,000 and £2,500 from Stapleford Town Council and United Living respectively has provided an opportunity to have an enhanced scheme costing a total of £165,500 to be funded as follows:

	£
WREN award	93,500
Broxtowe B.C. - Pride in Parks	50,000
Section 106 Funds	18,500
Stapleford Town FC	1,000
United Living	2,500
Total	165,500

There are no additional revenue implications from the proposed scheme as provision for the maintenance costs for the site are already included in the Stapleford Parks revenue budget.

A condition of the £93,500 award from WREN is that the Council will need to provide £10,050 in 2018/19 as a "contributing third party payment" to WREN. This is a standard clause with all WREN awards. United Living have confirmed they will contribute an additional £1,500 funding towards this cost leaving a shortfall of £8,550. There is no provision for this with the Stapleford Parks 2018/19 revenue budget. The cost can be met from 2018/19 revenue contingencies of which £12,000 is presently available.