

Report of the Strategic Director

PRIDE IN PARKS – PLAY AREA AND PARKS/OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS1. Purpose of report

To update members on the Pride in Parks initiative.

2. Background

A report to the Environment and Climate Change Committee on 1 October 2019 updated members on the Pride in Parks initiative. Funding has been allocated to undertake improvements to the Borough owned play areas that have been identified as high priority sites in the Play Strategy and to the Town and Parish Councils that maintain their own parks and outdoor recreational facilities to enable improvement and renovation works to be undertaken at these sites.

This report details the progress made over the autumn/winter period.

3. Financial implications

The £250,000 initially included in the 2019/20 capital programme has been split with £125,000 allocated to the Borough Council and £125,000 allocated to the Town and Parish Councils. The £125,000 allocated to the Borough Council has where possible been supplemented by funding from other sources in order to produce enhanced schemes as shown in the appendix.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to NOTE the progress on the schemes in the 2019/20 capital programme as part of the Pride in Parks initiative.

Background papers

Nil

APPENDIX

1. Broxtowe Borough Council Sites

There are 4 Borough Council sites identified as high priority in the Borough's Play Strategy for which there is budget provision for schemes in the 2019/20 capital programme. The details are as follows:

(i) King George's Park, Bramcote

Following on site consultation, a successful bid to FCC Environment (formerly WREN) for £50,000 has allowed a much more expansive scheme to be developed than had been originally envisaged. The 2019/20 capital programme includes a scheme to the value of £123,850 with funding of £50,000 from FCC, £24,850 from an insurance settlement and £49,000 from the Council's own capital resources.

Despite very difficult weather conditions the work at this site is now almost complete. The scheme has proved to be extremely popular with equipment for a mixed range of ages and a fitness station. Reinstatement works to the grass areas will be undertaken in the spring when improved ground conditions allow.

(ii) Sherman Drive Open Space, Chilwell

The 2019/20 capital programme includes £30,000 from the Council's capital resources towards replacement equipment and surfacing.

All works have been completed and the site is open.

(iii) Hall om Wong Open Space, Kimberley

The 2019/20 capital programme includes £20,000 from the Council's capital resources for work at this site. A bid has been submitted to FCC Environment for £54,000 using this funding together with a further allocation of £11,000 in the 2019/20 capital programme for access improvements at this site as the Council's contribution. This will facilitate an enhanced scheme at the site including a wider range of equipment for younger children and the creation of a large area of rubber safety surfacing together with path and access improvements. The outcome of this bid is expected in spring 2020 and will be reported to the Committee in due course.

(iv) Hickings Lane Recreation Ground, Stapleford

The 2019/20 capital programme included £165,500 for a scheme to fully refurbish the play area and install a new multi use games area at the site. The cost of the scheme was met from contributions of £93,500 from WREN, £18,500 from Section 106 receipts, £2,500 from United Living, £1,000 from Stapleford Town Football Club and £50,000 from the Council's own capital resources. The work at this site is now complete with a fully refurbished multi use games area and a state of the art play area. All new facilities have been very well received.

2. Town/Parish Council Sites

There are six Town/Parish Councils that manage their own Parks/Recreation Grounds as follows:

Awsorth Parish Council

- The Lane Recreation Ground
- Shilo Recreation Ground

Brinsley Parish Council

- Brinsley Recreation Ground

Greasley Parish Council

- Beauvale Park
- Greenhills Road Recreation Ground

Kimberley Town Council

- Knowle Park
- The Stag Recreation Ground

Nuthall Parish Council

- Basil Russell Playing Fields
- Temple Centre Recreation Ground

Trowell Parish Council

- Trowell Parish Hall

As part of the Pride in Parks project all 6 Town/Parish Councils were asked to consider their priorities for work over financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20.

The Town/Parish Councils were advised on the sort of schemes that the council would consider as favourable. These included:

- Play Area /Skate Park Improvements
- Improvements to outdoor sports /exercise facilities
- Footpath creation/surfacing
- Improvements to sports pavilions (but not Parish Halls)
- Habitat improvements
- Improvement for disabled access parking (but not full car park surfacing schemes)

The Town/Parish Council's also had the option to combine the Year 1 (2018/19) and Year 2 (2019/20) funding as appropriate. Where relevant this is referenced below.

Project Update

(i) Awwsworth

The balance of the Year 1 funding was used as part of a jointly funded project with the English Cricket Board to improve the cricket pavilion at The Lane Recreation Ground. This project is now complete and there was an opening event on Sunday 8 September. There will also be a small scheme to undertake pond improvements at The Lane Recreation Ground in early 2020 utilising the balance of the funding.

(ii) Brinsley

The scheme for the second year of funding is for replacement outdoor gym equipment and an extension to the fenced play area with a wheelchair accessible swing. Work is currently in progress.

(iii) Greasley

The year 2 scheme has seen a second phase of play area improvement works at Beauvale Park.

(iv) Kimberley

The scheme for the second year funding was one to improve the play facilities at Knowle Park with a designated fenced area with rubber surfacing for younger children. This work has been completed and the area is now fully open.

(v) Nuthall

A new outdoor fitness area at Basil Russell was officially opened on Sunday 2 June. Orders have been placed for additional works in the sports pavilion. The Parish Council is looking at options including a basketball court or upgrading the skate park and propose to use the remaining finance towards a potential funding bid. This will require the balance of funding to be carried forward into the 20/21 financial year.

(vi) Trowell

The Parish Council chose to combine the year 1 and year 2 allocations with a scheme to provide new young children's play equipment, outdoor table tennis and a boules court at Trowell Parish Hall. This work has been completed and there was an official opening on Saturday 17 August 2019.

Summary

Parish/Town Council	2019/20 Allocation	Funding Committed	Funding Spent
Awsorth	£16,452.46	£16,452.46	£13,592.96
Brinsley	£17,983.77	£17,983.77	Nil
Greasley	£28,546.58	£28,546.58	£28,546.58
Kimberley	£25,397.59	£25,397.59	£25,397.59
Nuthall	£29,733.34	£29,733.34	£26,060.07
Trowell	£6,886.26	£6,886.26	£6,886.26
Total	£125,000	£125,000	£100,483.46