



Agenda Item No. 9

**Horfield And Lockleaze
Neighbourhood Partnership
Monday 23rd June 2014**

Report of: Caroline Hollies, Neighbourhood Partnership Coordinator, Neighbourhood Management, Neighbourhoods.

Title: Section 106 Allocation – The Vench

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Recommendations:

- 1. The Neighbourhood Committee agree the allocation of £50,000 S106 funding**

The Vench - Lockleaze Youth and Play Space

Consultation profile

Groundwork South:

Groundwork South, established in 1986, works through it's three core themes:

1. Youth and Employment
2. Parks and Open Spaces
3. Greener Living and Working

Our aim is to work with individuals, communities and business to benefit the areas in which we work.

Background**CAT process:**

- Groundwork South submitted a business plan to Bristol City Council for 15 year lease under the CAT process
- Proposal to maintain the site for the children and young people of Lockleaze throughout this period
- Proposal to introduce new equipment to the adventure playground
- Plan to work with local agencies and businesses to provide new services from The Vench
- Lease automatically reverts to Bristol City Council following any issues

S106 funding:

- 8 April: An informal meeting of the Horfield and Lockleaze Neighbourhood Partnership (NP) agreed to support the allocation of £50,000 of the devolved S106 funding to the Adventure Playground for the Council to commission Groundwork to undertake repairs and additions to the current structures, in consultation with local children and young people. Work to be completed in time for the school summer holidays, with a celebration opening event organised by Groundwork, hopefully to tie in with other community events, and give the opportunity for consultation on any further development.
- 8 May: At a meeting with Council officers, Groundwork were asked to submit a document outlining the proposed consultation process to an additional formal meeting of the NP on 21 May – called to formally ratify the decision at the meeting on 8 April.

- 21 May: The councillors at the meeting asked for further information re: costings of the proposed consultation exercise for the next formal meeting on 23 June.
- Week beginning 26 May: Costings provided by Groundwork
- 6 June: revised report for NP meeting requested
- 11 June: revised report sent to BCC

Groundwork South's aims for The Vench:

We aim to make The Vench our base in Bristol, allowing us to work in partnership with the local community to develop services for the benefit of all.

Groundwork will:

- Provide employment for local people including:
 - Caretaker/Building Manager
 - Project staff
- Provide opportunities for local business
 - Delivery through the on-site café
- Provide training for local people
 - Gardening and landscaping
 - Catering and hospitality
 - Building management

**Groundwork South's achievements:
Centre Management**

Learning outside the classroom has long been recognised as a beneficial and stimulating activity for students of all ages and abilities. We manage eight training education centres demonstrating our experience in managing properties for community based activities. We also run and facilitate activities in school grounds, local parks, or in a range of locations that will inspire young people to explore their local environment and open up a whole new learning dimension. Examples include:

- ✔ **Iver Environment Centre** - a unique 2 acre wildlife garden and resource centre where visitors can enjoy a range of innovative learning experiences for a range of ages and abilities;

- ✔ **West London Floating Classroom** - equipped to undertake a range of activities to inspire young people;
- ✔ **Colne Valley Park Centre** - situated within 43 square miles of woodland, meadows, river and farmland, an ideal venue from which to study and explore the ecology of the regional park;
- ✔ **Woodmill Activity Centre** (Partnership) - a converted mill surrounded by parkland on the outskirts of Southampton where we use Forest Schools' techniques to teach children from early years to key stage 3.
- ✔ **Energy Youth Centre, Eastleigh**, working with partners providing open access and targeted sessions for young people, Employability support, Drug and Alcohol support and Personal relationship support. Support with Housing and homelessness and intermediary support with CAMHS and Children's Social Services

Experience – Youth & Community Provision

Groundwork has an operational team currently based in the centre of Bristol with the capacity to manage Lockleaze Youth & Play space. This team has been operating in Bristol since 2010 and has delivered a wide range of programmes benefiting the people of Bristol including:

- ✔ **The Future Jobs Fund Programme** – (2010 – 2011) Funded by DWP, Groundwork employed and trained over 150 unemployed young people aged 18-24 yrs. Recruited from the most disadvantaged wards across the West of England, Groundwork formed Green Teams to deliver community improvements to local green spaces across the city;
- ✔ **Choices programme** – (2011-2012) Delivering the community element of LPW's alternative education programme for 15-16yr olds across Bristol;
- ✔ **Community Learning Courses** – (2013-2014) Delivering courses in volunteering and wider family learning in disadvantaged areas of Bristol in partnership with Bristol City Council;
- ✔ **L2 Horticultural Apprenticeship Programme** (2012-2020) – delivering a landscaping contract of work for Bristol City Council with a team of local apprentices in partnership with The Landscape Group;
- ✔ **Supporting Community Groups across Bristol** with capacity building and local events funded by numerous corporate sponsors including Marks & Spencer's, Tesco, Britvic and Cadbury's.

Consultation profile:

In order to effectively meet the requirements of the communities in which we work and the users of our sites, Groundwork has developed a tried and tested public consultation method which gives an effective voice to children and young people ensuring that their play meets their needs.

Phase 1

Initial mapping of ideas and aspirations, phase 1 allows freeform design from young people in order to map the big ideas of our young people. We will undertake a process which enables young people regardless of age or ability to exhibit their ideas for consideration. This will include:

- **Plasticine modelling**

We enable young people to design their ideal play equipment, without boundaries. This enables us to find out what is important to young people. Recognising that not all designs are possible this process allows us to identify themes in the thinking of young people, for instance a significant proportion of young people designing equipment with aspects of swinging means that we will need to implement some provision which allows for this in the finished product. Models are photographed and annotated using an iPad allowing us to hold an accurate record of the designs.

- **Drawing and Painting**

Similar to above young people are able to design their ideal play equipment which we will use to identify broad themes in the required action of the equipment or the aesthetic theme to be used in first stage designs.

- **Activity mapping**

We will ask children and young people to take part in a mapping exercise which will allow us to find out which aspects of play are most important to them including swinging, sliding, climbing etc which will influence the proportion of each aspect represented in the first stage design.

First Stage Design

Using the information providing in the Phase 1 consultation, we will produce outline designs of play equipment in order to provide visual cues for second round consultation.

These designs will be shared with Bristol City Council prior to second round consultation with service users in order to ensure that designs also match the local authorities aims for the site.

Phase 2

Following this initial design phase we will undertake a second round of consultation in order to gather comments on whether our design matches the aspirations of the young people using the site.

In order to do this we will provide copies of the design for young people to draw and annotate with descriptors of the aspects they do and don't like. In addition we will set up a 'Diary Room' where young people can record their feedback to us in video format.

Should more than 85% of respondents be positive about the design then this will be passed to Bristol City Council for agreement. If not then we will return to the First Stage Design phase in order to redesign based on these comments and return for further consultation.

Second Stage Design

Using the initial design a Groundwork Landscape Architect will produce a final design with schedule of works to be supplied to contractors for implementation.

Groundwork will tender works requiring a minimum of three competitive tenders be returned and will select the contractor which provides best value.

A Groundwork Landscape Architect will project manage the build, undertaking quality management and ensure that all snagging is completed before the equipment is open to the public.

Opening event

Once complete we will hold a launch event for this new equipment in order to attract young people to experience the outcome of their input in to the consultation and ensure that the maximum impact of this new development is achieved.

Costs of consultation exercise:

Item	Cost
First stage consultation resource	100.00
First stage consultation planning	192.65

First stage consultation	213.98
First stage design	800.00
Second stage consultation resource	50.00
Second stage consultation staffing	213.98
Second stage design	800.00
Project management & CDM	1850.00
Launch event resource	400.00
Launch event planning	142.65
Launch event staffing	213.98
Total	4977.23

How we propose to involve children and young people in the consultation process:

We will work with LPW to access young people in their existing sessions, both undertaking consultation and publicising a specific consultation event which will happen immediately before/after an LPW session and be staffed by Groundwork. We will also publicise consultation through all schools with a relevant age and geographical catchment inviting young people to our targeted consultation events. We will hold three events at varying times in order to allow the maximum number of young people to attend. All staff attending consultation will be DBS checked.

At our session we will offer other activities including sports and games which will attract young people to be involved and will offer buffet food to young people.

When:

Subject to funding being approved on Monday 23 June, the earliest we could start the consultation process would be the third week in July – week beginning 21 July and start of the summer holidays.

Length of consultation:

First round consultation preparation 2-3 days

First round consultation 1 week

First round design 1-2 weeks dependant on consultation results

Second round consultation preparation 2-3 days

Second round consultation 1 week

Final design 2 weeks

Project build dependant on design, estimate 3-4 weeks