



AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

St George Neighbourhood Partnership 11th December 2012

Report of: Denise James, Area Environment Officer, Environment and Leisure.

Title: PARK INVESTMENT PLAN, S106 FUNDING RELEASE REQUEST

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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Neighbourhood Committee agrees the proposed projects, funded through S106, identified by the Environment Sub Group, at their meeting on Tuesday 18th October, and that £21,610 is being requested for allocation to these projects - **See appendix 1.**

That the Neighbourhood Committee notes that the costs are approximate.

That the Neighbourhood Committee notes that the proposed projects once approved by the Neighbourhood Committee, will then be progressed by the relevant Parks officers.

Background

1. The St George Neighbourhood Partnership (NP) Committee agreed St George Parks Investment Plan at the Neighbourhood Partnership meeting on 6th December 2011. The Neighbourhood Committee requested that further work was carried out by the Environment Sub Group to develop a schedule of projects across the NP area. These works to be carried out jointly by the Area Environment Officer and Environment Sub Group.
2. The NP requested that a volunteer 'resident champion' to help move the projects forward and report on a regular basis to the Environment Subgroup.

3. The Area Environment Officer has been working closely with the Friends of Troopers Hill, local community groups and residents from around Rodney Road Playing Fields, as well as the 'resident champion'
4. The proposed projects were discussed at the St George Environment Sub Group meeting on Tuesday 18th October 2012.
5. The Neighbourhood Committee is asked to note that delivery of prioritised schemes will depend on officer capacity. Councillors will be kept informed of timescales and the progress of schemes will be updated within the Area Coordinators report at Neighbourhood Partnership meetings.

PROPOSAL

1. **Plummers Hill Playing Fields** – Requests have been received by local residents at Neighbourhood Partnership Public Forums, for S106 investment for their local playing fields. It is felt that any investment into the playing fields would encourage the local community to make more use of this valuable open space. The Area Environment Officer is working closely with local residents, to encourage them to start up a Friends of group. The main user group currently comprises mainly of Dog Walkers. The local residents are keen for this space to be used and enjoyed by the whole of the community, and feel that the items requested will allow users to both play and relax. Once the friends of group is formed, it is hoped to encourage them to take part in more community events. **See appendix 1**
2. **Troopers Hill Field** – This is a well used field by local residents, dog walkers and also local community in particular users as a safe walking route to Summerhill School. There is currently a tarmac path which runs from Malvern Road entrance and adjacent to the woodland area into Troopers Hill. The proposal is for the construction of a tarmac path between the Malvern Road entrance through to Summerhill Terrace entrance. **See appendix 1**

3. RISK ASSESSMENT

1. There are no main risks associated with these projects. The Area Environment Officer will work closely with all interested parties to ensure that the projects are delivered to approved council standard.

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

1. It is not expected that there will be any adverse impacts to any equalities community from this investment decision.

REVENUE

1. The revenue implications of investment are taken into account through the way in which the Council allocates S106 income. Therefore there are no additional revenue implications for this spend proposal.

Appendix 1

St George East & St George West NP- S106 Funding Approval Request

Location – Troopers Hill Field

Spending Priority	Objective	Scope of work
SG1 – To establish a network of safer walking routes between spaces.	Construct a 1.5m wide tarmac footpath to link up the existing footpath. User groups do not have a permanent footpath which up Malvern Rd entrance to Summerhill Terrace This route is popular with users as a safe route both their local school and Summerhill This footpath will improve access for all user groups.	Supply and install 1.5 m wide tarmac, timber edged footpath and also supply and install 1 x metal seat

Appendix 1 continued

St George East & St George West NP- S106 Funding Approval Request

Location – Plummers Hill Playing Fields

Spending Priority	Objective	Scope of work –
<p>CP3 – Enhance the use of green spaces for play and general recreational use.</p> <p>SG9 - To take action to address the issue of dog fouling on green space. The NP will also support any local or national campaigns on the issue and work with BCC to increase visits from Dog Wardens. Children should be able to play safely in all green spaces without the risks presented by dog mess.</p>	<p>To improve the area for users to relax and enjoy the natural environment. This space has had little or no investment in recent years. The two entrances are not clearly marked. The main user group are dog walkers, but local residents also use the spaces for informal kick abouts and for children to run around. There is currently interest from local residents and users to form a Friends of Group, who wish to make this green space more attractive and more user friendly for the local community.</p>	<p>Supply and install the following features:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1 x set of mini goal posts3 x seats2 x dual use litter & dog waste bins1 x parks notice board