



AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

GREATER BRISLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP 13TH MARCH 2017

Title: Parks and Green Spaces

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RECOMMENDATION

1. Notes the content of the report
2. Notes and actions the support to Eastwood Farm Park – Play Area

1. Parks and Green Space Delivery Programme 2017/18

The Council is making considerable savings over the next 5 years and, as outlined in the new corporate strategy, this will have an impact on levels of investment in parks. It is proposed, therefore, that only those projects fully funded by Section 106, Community Infrastructure Levy or other forms of external funding such as charitable trusts will be included in the 2017/18 parks play and access programmes. This has significantly affected the Parks and Green Space Delivery Programme 2017/18 that had been prepared earlier this year based on NP priorities

Appendix 10a is the new Parks Delivery Programme, broken down into 3 sections;

1. Play projects that now require funding
2. Access projects that now require funding
3. Projects where funding has already been agreed by NPs (s106/CIL/other external funds)

Those schemes which have not been allocated funds by the Neighbourhood Partnership will not proceed unless alternative funding, such as s106, CIL or other forms of external funding, for them is found.

2. Eastwood Farm Park – Play Area

- Eastwood Farm Play area, was built in the 1980s. There are two sites – a children's play area on the upper section and a basketball court on the lower. This park serves a "huge" amount of people, however as it was last updated some 20 years ago it has become run down and inadequate.
- The upper area consists of a metal climbing frame, which becomes too hot for the children in the summer, and a few wooden sprung mounted seats, all of which are unsuitable for children under the age of 2.



- The lower is a tarmaced area with 1 basketball hoop and circular seating arrangement which has also become run-down with broken glass etc, so is now no longer a suitable area for teenagers to play.



- Local residents had become frustrated with this lack of investment and felt that it is time that something was done especially as the site has such potential with surroundings such as a local nature reserve, Eastwood Farm & Beeses Tea Gardens. There is an active conservation group called Friends of Eastwood Farm friends@eastwoodfarm.org.uk which has been working in conjunction with the council for the last ten years in improve this beautiful and unique riverside open space, in a suburb of Bristol, which is mixed residential and light industrial.
- The council was contacted to clarify if development of the site was planned but were informed that as no funding is available for the area it could not be completed. This was not an answer that the residents would accept so they decided that a petition was the best way forward and collected over 200 signatures which was then presented to the

council. At this point the council accepted that something needed to be done and the working group was formed.



- Regular open meeting of friends of Eastwood Farm Play area- including local councillors and council representatives, neighbourhood partnership officer, parks officers and play officers. Monthly meetings since May 2014.

At the March 2012 and June 2012 NP meetings the Neighbourhood Committee was asked to decide if certain green spaces were surplus to requirements.

- part of Newbridge Road Open Space
- Allison Avenue Open Space
- Broomhill Road Park
- Belroyal Avenue Open Space
- Bonville Road Open Space
- Broomhill Road (Emery Road) R/O bank

The Neighbourhood Committee at its meetings decided not be declared the sites as surplus to requirements, and should be retained as green space for recreation.

At the Cabinet meeting In November 2016 it was agreed by the meeting to:

1. That a primary vehicular access over Council owned land from Broomhill Road and an emergency vehicular access from Bonville Road (Marked 1 and 3 respectively on plan no N5954e – Appendix 10c) are authorised to enable access to be achieved to the development land as shown outlined in red on plan no N5954e.
2. To authorise the Strategic Director - Place to approve the terms and authorise entering into agreements for the freehold disposal of Council owned land with a net capital receipt is valued in appendix 2, following the briefing of the Cabinet Member for Place, shown on the attached plan N5954e outlined in red and shown as Nos 1,3 & 4, for the purposes of enabling 300 new homes to be built.

The proposal is for the Brislington East Councillors to draft a letter to the Mayor, Cabinet members for Housing, Neighbourhoods, and Place and the Strategic Directors for Neighbourhoods and Place to request an element of the Capital receipt funding from the sale of land to be used towards the Eastwood Farm Park Play area rather than await two/three years for the CIL to be provided.