

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of Planning and Development (Introduced by the Executive Member (Economic Development and Public Service Reform))	Executive Member Decision	9 th February 2021

Play Area Improvement at The Hawthorns

Purpose of Report

- To obtain Executive Member approval to draw up grant agreement to award £23,254 to Eccleston Parish Council.

Recommendation(s)

- To approve the grant award.

Executive Summary of Report

- Section 106 funds have been collected and allocated to make improvements to the Hawthorns and play areas across Eccleston. Eccleston Parish Council have undertaken local consultation and developed plans to improve the existing play space at the Hawthorns (design attached). The provisions of the design meet the obligations contained within the S106 agreements and the Ward Councillors have been consulted on the proposal with no objections being raised.
- Approval sought to award funding of £23,254 to Eccleston Parish Council to fund the cost of the improvements.

Confidential report Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No
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Key Decision? Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No
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Reasons for Recommendation(s) (If the recommendations are accepted)

- Local residents and Ward Councillors have been consulted and the proposals meet the obligations contained within the S106 agreements.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

- None

Corporate Priorities

- This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all	√	A strong local economy	
Clean, safe and healthy homes and communities	√	An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area	√

Background

8. The scope of the scheme which has been agreed with local residents by the Parish Council includes the removal of existing springies, bins, benches, play panels and surfacing and the supply and installation of see saw, swing, spring mobiles, seats, wetpour surfacing, painted running track and path graphics. The total value of the works priced by play contractor Wicksteed is £23,254. The provisions of the design meet the obligations contained within the S106 agreements and the Ward Councillors have been consulted on the proposal with no objections being raised.
9. A total of £14,888.36 in Section 106 contributions from application reference 16/00359/FUL has been allocated to amenity greenspace / landscape improvements at the Hawthorns. It is proposed to transfer £6,254 of this allocation to the Parish Council to cover the cost of new pathways.
10. A total of £17,000 in Section 106 contributions from application reference 13/00156/FULMAJ has been allocated to improving playgrounds / play area equipment and safety surfacing in Ecclestone. It is proposed to transfer the whole amount of this allocation to the Parish Council to cover the cost of new play equipment and safety surfacing.
11. The resident consultation has been undertaken by Ecclestone Parish Council, who are also responsible for the management of the site, therefore it is considered that the grant transfer to the Parish Council is the best way to implement the proposals.
12. As the grant monies are to be transferred before the works are undertaken, a grant agreement will be required. Legal have a precedent agreement used previously that can be adapted. The grant agreement will require the works to be completed to an agreed specification and to the satisfaction of the Open Space Strategy Officers.

Implications of Report

13. Clauses inserted into the grant agreement will ensure that the works are undertaken to the satisfaction of Parks and Open Spaces Officers and that the obligations contained within the Section 106 agreements have been complied with. This is to ensure that we aren't in breach of the covenants contained in the S106.
14. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

Finance	√	Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal	√	Integrated Impact Assessment required?	
No significant implications in this area		Policy and Communications	

Comments of The Statutory Finance Officer

15. The figures contained within this report for both S.106 income and expenditure are consistent with those reported within the Capital Monitoring. The S.106 funding has been received and this is an appropriate use against the relevant conditions.

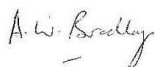
Comments of The Monitoring Officer

16. Detailed instructions in relation to the obligations on the Parish Council will be required for the grant agreement. The report properly highlights the need for such an agreement given the grant is being given in advance of the works, this will best manage the risk and provide a contractual basis for any recovery should it be necessary.

Jonathan Noad
Director of Planning and Development

Report Author	Ext	Date
Simon Forster	5574	9 th February 2021

Following careful consideration and assessment of the contents of this report, I approve the recommendation(s) contained in Paragraph 2 of the report in accordance with my delegated power to make executive decisions.



Dated 17.02.21

Councillor Alistair Bradley
Executive Member (Economic Development and Public Service Reform)