

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 25 MARCH 2014
title: VILLAGE AMENITIES GRANT - QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLAYING FIELDS PROJECT
submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: MELISSA THORPE, REGENERATION PROJECTS OFFICER

1 PURPOSE

1.1 This report provides Committee with a progress report on the Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields project which was granted funding through the Village Amenities Grant Fund.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives - The grant programme supports a broad range of community objectives set out in the community strategy.
- Corporate Priorities - This grant programme supports the Council's priorities to sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley, to help make peoples lives safer and healthier and to protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of the area.
- Other Considerations – None.

2 BACKGROUND

2.2 On 12 November 2013 Members received an update on the progress of projects that had been granted funding through the Village Amenities Grant Fund.

3 ISSUES

3.1 Members will recall that issues had arisen with one of the large capital projects at Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields.

3.2 Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields Charitable Trust was approved a grant of £10,000 towards the cost of a new MUGA, Youth Shelter & Green Gym at Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields in Whalley.

3.3 At the time the Trust were in the process of completing an application to become Entrust registered, which would enable them to draw down the necessary match funding to enable the project to proceed. This had delayed the project start date.

3.4 Members agreed that Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields Charitable Trust should be given an additional five month period beyond October 2013 in which to claim their grant funding due to the size of the project and its significance to Whalley.

3.5 At the time of writing this report, we are awaiting further details from Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields Charitable Trust as to their anticipated completion date for the project.

3.6 We are aware that a feasibility study has been completed for the project, however this report is dealing with the capital elements of the project relating to the provision of a MUGA, Youth Shelter & Green Gym.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – Funding for the award of the grants is in place. There is an ongoing staff resource needed to ensure proper use of the grant scheme.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – Issues depend on the particular nature of the grant.
- Political – No implications identified.
- Reputation – No implications identified.
- Equality & Diversity – No implications identified.

5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

5.1 Confirm that due to its size and significance to Whalley that the large capital project of Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields Charitable Trust be given an additional three month period beyond March 2014 in which to submit details of the scheme progression and proposed completion date.

MELISSA THORPE
REGENERATION PROJECTS OFFICER

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for Melissa Thorpe, extension 4424.

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